



Spring 2024

Happy New Year!

Happy new year to you and your families! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas. Mrs Elkins and I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks for the many good wishes, cards and gifts we received. The children have settled back into school beautifully. It's been lovely to hear them sharing their Christmas news.

Last week we completed our 'Christmas' RE topic. We have moved onto 'People who help us' and then we have 'Lent' and 'Holy Week' to follow as we journey towards Easter. We have begun our topic on 'Winter' and will begin 'Lost and Found' soon. We will also be comparing life in the past and be working on a Gruffalo themed topic with a trip to Twycross Zoo (Date TBC!) to see the animals and explore the Gruffalo trail!

Prime Areas		
Personal and Emotional Development	Communication and Language	Physical Development
We will be continuing to work on ensuring that the children feel happy and secure in the setting. The children will be developing the confidence to make decisions for themselves and make their needs known. They will be able to take a more active role in their learning journey. Friendship groups that have been made will be grown and developed and we will be encouraging the children to solve small disagreements between themselves.	The children will continue to be encouraged to speak in sentences, sharing news and asking for help. As well as listening and responding to ideas expressed by others, the children will also be encouraged to answer 'how' and 'why' questions about what we experience and learn through our topics.	We will continue to practise our fine motor skills by cutting, sticking, rolling and stretching. We do this using Lego, play dough, threading, sand, marbles and building and model making materials. We will start to use these fine motor skills to form our letters more accurately.

Other areas			
Literacy	Maths	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
We will continue to build on our phonics and reading skills in our daily phonics lessons. We will be using our skills to improve our sentence writing and will work on our finger spaces and the use of capital letters and full stops.	We will be continuing our subitising skills and will look closely at numbers 6-10. We will keep practising 1 more and 1 less and will begin to learn doubles and bonds to 10. We will explore mass, capacity will begin to look at 3D shapes.	We will be learning about the season of winter and will be exploring habitats in the Antarctic during our topic based on the book 'Lost and Found'. We will experiment with ice and melting and learning some simple map skills. We will learn a story from the past and will compare it to our world now.	We will continue to produce different artwork, exploring a variety of materials, tools and techniques. In music sessions, we will listen to different types of music and explore how they make us feel.

Reading

Reading is a huge part of our EYFS curriculum in Reception and is our main homework focus. The children are working so hard during phonics sessions and their confidence is growing all the time. Please ensure you hear your child read at home as often as you can (ideally 5 times a week!) and sign their diary after you have heard them. It's also really important that you send their reading books in each day so that they can be heard read in school too. Just a reminder that reading books are changed every Friday. They will be given a FFT shared reader (which we will have read that week in school every day) and another book which is a bit more challenging. If you need any help with the reading, please ask!

Class Library

We will be starting a class library soon which will allow the children an opportunity to borrow books for you to read to them at home. We will update on Tapestry when this is due to start!

Dates for your diary

Please see the main school newsletter and website for whole school events and updates that will occur. If you have any difficulty accessing this, please let us know.

Wednesday 31st January – Heights and Weight Check

Friday 29th September – Whole School Mass – Candlemas

Sunday 4th February – Family Mass – 9.30

Tuesday 27th February – Reception, Year 3 and Year 6 Class Mass

Sunday 3rd March – Family Mass – 9.30

Monday 4th / Tuesday 5th March – Parents Evening

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day – More info to follow!

Thursday 14th March – Teeth Survey

Wednesday 20th March – Whole School Mass

Thank you for your ongoing support. I think you will agree that the children have made fantastic progress so far and I can't wait to see how much further they will go this term!

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me at
michelle.smith@allsoulsschool.co.uk

Mrs Smith

Class Teacher

Mrs Elkins

Teaching Assistant