



Autumn 2024

Welcome to Reception!

It has been lovely to welcome your children into school. They all look so smart! They have impressed us with how well they have settled and are showing us that they are very much ready to learn! We are looking forward to getting to know your child and working with you in the year ahead.

This term, once our Baseline Assessments are completed, our first topic will be 'Oi, Frog!'. Other topics will include 'Patterns', 'Autumn' and 'Whatever Next'. In RE, our units will be Creation, People Who Care For Us, Baptism and Advent.

Prime Areas		
Personal and Emotional Development	Communication and Language	Physical Development
This is a key focus area for the first half term. We will be working on ensuring that the children feel happy and secure in the setting. We will explore the environment and meet the different adults who make up our school community. The children will be developing the confidence to speak to their peers and familiar adults and will be making new friends.	Initially, we will assess the children's language skills. We can then support where necessary. We will be encouraging the children to speak in sentences, share their news and ask 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 begin to practise our fine motor skills, cutting, sticking, rolling and stretching. We do this by using Lego, play dough, threading, sand, marbles, building and model making materials. This will help us to hold a pencil and begin to use it to write letters and then words.

Other areas			
Literacy	Maths	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
This term the children will commence their formal phonics sessions*. The children will be introduced to four phonemes (sounds) during the week and will consolidate on Friday. We will learn how to write the phonemes as they are taught. We will do class reading as part of the session. The children will also have a reading book to share at home.	This term, we will begin to explore numbers. We will initially be focussing on sorting and patterns. We will then learn in depth all about numbers 1-5 and will focus on subitising and composition of number. We will also explore shapes.	We will be looking at the changing seasons and exploring Creation and our beautiful world. We will also explore 'Space' in our 'Whatever Next' topic.	We will be producing different artwork, exploring a variety of materials, tools and techniques. In music sessions, we will explore instruments and how they work and will learn new songs and rhymes.

* The school's Systematic Synthetic Phonics (SSP) programme is Success For All Phonics, from Fischer Family Trust (FFT)

Tapestry

Your child's learning journal will be on Tapestry. This will be used for observations and learning and also for updates and key information. It is a really useful tool. If you haven't already done so, please complete the permission slip. Once this is done, you will receive access. If you need a replacement, please let us know. If you need any help using it, again please ask. We are more than happy to help. Feel free to upload anything from home for us to see such as if you are attending a family celebration, or your child gets a swimming certificate. If they learn to ride a bike without stabilisers or another achievement, whatever it may be, we would love to see it! By doing this, we can celebrate their achievements, from home, in school too 😊

Reminders

- Please can you make sure that all uniform is **labelled with your child's name**.
- Your child will need a book bag that needs to be in school every day. This will be particularly helpful when we start sending books home soon.
- Please can you send a labelled water bottle in each day.
- Black PE pumps will be needed every Tuesday. Please leave them in a bag on your child's peg.
- In Reception we go outside in all weathers. Please can you leave a pair of wellington boots in school and make sure that your child wears a coat appropriate for the weather.
- If you haven't already done so, please can you fill in the media consent form that has been emailed out as soon as possible.

Weekly Fund

We ask for a voluntary donation of £1 per week to help us to enhance our learning and provide your child with more experiences. This is completely voluntary and there is absolutely no obligation. A box will be left outside the reception classroom during drop offs to leave your donation in, if you are able to. Over the last year, we have been able to replace broken toys and enhance our small world area in the classroom because of this.

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.

Monday 23rd September - Phonics workshop for parents (more details to follow)

Monday 14th October – Reception, Year 3 and Year 6 Mass

Sunday 24th November – Reception Welcome Mass

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

Thank you for your ongoing support. We are very excited for what is to come. It is going to be a wonderful year!

Mrs Smith

Class Teacher

Mrs Elkins

Teaching Assistant

Mrs Zita

Teaching Assistant