



Spring 2025

Happy New Year!

Happy new year to you and your families! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas. Mrs Elkins, Mrs Zita 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 now moved onto 'People who help us' and then we have 'Lent' and 'Holy Week' to follow as we journey towards Easter. We have also begun our topic on 'Lost and Found'. We will be looking at the traditional tale Little Red Riding Hood and after Easter we will cover a story from another culture.

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 begin 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 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 also be learning about a story from a different culture	We will continue to produce different artwork linked to our topics, exploring a variety of materials, tools and techniques. In music sessions, we will listen to different types of music, explore how they make us feel and clap along to the beat.

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. I can't stress how important it is to get into a good habit with reading at home. 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!

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 29th January – Reception and Year 6 heights and weights

Sunday 2nd February – Whole School Celebration Mass

WB: 3rd February - Book Fair Week (further details to follow)

Sunday 2nd March – Whole School Celebration Mass

Wednesday 5th March – Ash Wednesday Mass

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day (further details to follow)

Tuesday 11th March – Nursery and Reception Trip to Ash End Farm

Wednesday 19th March – Reception, Year 3 and Year 6 Mass

Sunday 6th April - Whole School Celebration Mass (Blessing of crosses made in school)

Wednesday 9th April – Whole School End of Term 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

Mrs Zita

Teaching Assistant