

Acorn Class Newsletter



Welcome to Acorn class!

I hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and are looking forward to your child's first term at school. This newsletter will give you an overview of what is happening in Acorn class and will be sent out at the beginning of each term.

In the first two weeks of term we will concentrate on getting the children used to the new routines and surroundings of school life. During this time, myself and Mrs. Witthuhn will be making on entry assessments of your child's learning. Following this we will move onto the topic of 'Marvellous Me', where we will be doing a series of fun and exciting activities involving all areas of the EYFS curriculum. As is the ethos of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, we follow the children's ideas and interests and all our activities allow the children to play and explore through active learning.

I update our class page on the school website every week- please look on there for pictures of what the class has been up to, what we are learning that week and also information and reminders for the following week.

Mrs Marsden

P.S Don't forget to bring in the 'Magical Me' boxes given out on transfer day. Each child will be given a chance to share their box throughout the first 2 weeks of term. We will then send them home for you to keep. ☺

What we are learning this term...

Topic (Understanding of the World)- This half term's topic is 'Marvellous Me' which allows us all to get to know one another. Initially, we will be focusing on our own likes and interests and finding out about each other's families. Following this, we will look at the world we live in focusing on our school, our home, our village and our country. We will also be exploring the 5 senses in this topic and taking part in a few experiments to explore the different senses further! Our role play area is a home corner, which links in with our work on our homes. We try to incorporate ICT into our topic sessions where we can. As with all EYFS topics, we follow the children's interests and therefore this topic may take on a journey of its own!

Literacy- This term literacy will focus on phonics. After the first two weeks, we will begin our daily phonics sessions, introducing a letter sound every day and then moving the children to blending and segmenting these letters to read and write words.

The letter sounds we will focus on this half term are:

s	a	t	p	i	n	m	d	g	o	c	k
ck	e	u	r	h	b	f	ff	l	ll	ss	

I will be doing a Phonics Session for Acorn class parents on Monday 24th September to give you more information about how Phonics is taught at All Saints, and how you can help at home. It will begin at 3:30pm in Oak classroom and a crèche will be provided in the hall for the children.

Alongside this, we will focus on pencil grip and letter formation. We will have daily 'Finger Gym' sessions and challenges which focuses on building up our finger muscles to ensure we hold our pencil and form our letters correctly. This term's focus will be writing our names and we encourage the children to practise this every morning as part of the beginning of day routine.

Maths- Our work in Maths will include some recording but will mainly involve mental and practical activities. This year we are having more of a focus on 'number sense' and therefore celebrating one number at a time (to 20) during our maths session. The children will be working on counting, matching numerals to sets and then simple addition, including finding one more of a number. They will also be looking at 2D shapes, patterns and measuring height this half term.

What we are learning this term continued.....

Expressive Arts & Design- Art lessons will link to our topic and focus on using different techniques and materials to produce self-portraits, collages and pattern printing this half term. The children will take part in the weekly music session with Dr Noble-Jamieson on Monday afternoons, where we will be focusing on beat and tempo.

Physical Development- Our physical development (P.E) lessons will take place on Monday mornings. Our P.E sessions will be taught by Tom Bigg, our sports coach for the school and for the first term we will be focusing on multi-sports skills. Please can you make sure that your child's P.E kit is named and be brought in for the first Monday back. We keep hold of the P.E kits for the term and send home at half term to be washed. Please can you make sure that trainers are included in your child's P.E kit as we will be doing P.E outside when the weather is good.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- Our circle time sessions (PSED) will focus on 'New Beginnings', where we will talk about feelings and how to manage them. We will also take time to talk about routines and rules of the classroom to help the children get settled into school life. We will be also be introducing our school's Learning Behaviours and our R.E scheme called the Emmanuel Project.

Show & Tell Schedule

Show & Tell will take place on Friday afternoons. This is a chance for your child to bring in something special to share with the class. I have allocated children per week to share their object, so please ensure your child brings their show and tell only on their allocated date.

Friday 21st September	Lawrence, Peggy, Emilia & Flora
Friday 28 th September	Isabelle, George, Inès, & Magdalena
Friday 5 th October	Harry, Arthur, Neive & Luke
Friday 12 th October	Phoebe, Rex & Persephone
Friday 19 th October	Millie, Molly & Sam

READING BOOKS

For the first few weeks, we will be asking the children to pick a book from our class reading area. Once we have started learning our sounds, I will begin to send home reading books along with reading records.

Medication- If your child requires medication, please can you provide us with a care plan and the medication for us to keep in school.

Gilly & Ziggy- Our class toys will begin their adventures and go home with 2 children at the weekend in the next few weeks. We decide who takes them home by picking names from a pot.

Learning Journeys- A letter will be sent home next week asking you for your permission and email addresses so we can add you to our Tapestry account. This will allow you to access your child's Learning Journey online.

The Lawshall Mile- This year, All Saint's have decided to take part in a new initiative to get all the children more active and boost energy levels at the beginning of the school day.

Acorn class will be taking part in this on Wednesday and Friday mornings after we have taken the morning register.

Morning Routine- At the beginning of the day, the children are encouraged to put their belongings on their peg, write their name and pick their lunch choice on the interactive whiteboard as independently as possible. Once they have completed this they can choose one of the following options:

- Pick a book and sit a read it on the carpet
- OR sit at a table to do some colouring, puzzles or finger gym activity.

Once they have settled at either of these options, then this is your time to leave. Please be aware that I do not want any of the children playing with any of the other toys when they come in. I know that this may have been the routine at preschool and nursery but I have explained to the class that now we are in big school we have to do some learning before we can have some 'busy time'. I would really appreciate your support with this.