



St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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12th January 2024

Dear Parent,

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year. Thank you once again for the generous gifts you gave to the Reception team for Christmas.

This term, we will continue to work within the Revised Early Years Foundation Stage Framework 2021. The main emphasis will continue to be on learning through carefully structured and child-initiated play activities whilst at the same time gradually introducing additional adult led structured sessions to provide a broad and balanced learning experience for each child.

Our topic for the first half of this term will be 'All Around the World' in which the children will learn about winter, different countries and global environmental issues. In the second half of this term the topic will be 'Out of This World' in which the children will learn about Space.

In Reception the children are not given weekly homework activities but we highly recommend that you support your child to practice their phonics and reading on a daily basis. Research has shown that reading and sharing a book regularly with your child will have a greater impact on their ability to blend and decode. When sharing a book together, we suggest that you talk about the story, and give your child the opportunity to predict and deduce meaning from both the words and pictures.

Please continue to provide your child with a named bottle of WATER. You can choose if you would like to send in a snack with your child (fresh fruit only) although fruit snacks are provided daily by school. We will be introducing a rolling snack time system. The children will choose themselves if and when they wish to have a snack and a drink. All adults will encourage the children to do this but will also be encouraging them to make an independent choice.

PE will continue to be taught on Tuesdays mornings. Please ensure that all items in your child's PE kit are named.

Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

This term as part of our PSHE curriculum, your child will be taught about goal setting and how to set and achieve realistic goals. They will also be talking about their dreams and ambitions, and how to overcome challenges. After the half term break, the focus will switch to being healthy. Pupils will learn about the importance of a healthy diet, keeping clean, regular exercise and keeping themselves safe.

Children will be introduced to, and be asked to reflect on, the following key values through our weekly assembly programme: Courage, Love, Creation, Resilience, Determination, Hope, Friendship and Curiosity. In addition, children will learn about the importance of Easter in the Christian calendar and some of the key Easter traditions.

Headteacher
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As always, we will be encouraging the children to think about others and this term, they will be taking part in Red Nose Day to raise money for Comic Relief.

One of the highlights in our Spring Term calendar is our International Week. During this week children across the school have the opportunity to learn about different cultures, countries and traditions. They learn about the importance of respecting and valuing others and that they are part of a bigger world. We usually have a different focus each year for this week and this year our focus will be artists from across the world alongside learning about a given country and its traditional foods.

We will also have a Curriculum Day linked to Chinese New Year on Wednesday 7th February and you will be able to attend a dance performance by the children at the end of the school day.

Please also continue to ensure that your child has a named, warm, waterproof coat in school at all times. Wellies are optional and can be kept in school.

As always, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to come and see us before or after school or make an appointment through the school office.

We are really looking forward to all the exciting activities in the term ahead.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bayliss, Mrs Charlesworth and Mrs Lane