Meet The Teacher

Reception 2022-23

OUR CLASS

STAFF

Class Teachers: Mrs Fletcher (Mon, Tues and Thurs) and Mrs Turner (Weds, Thurs and Fri)

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Hills and Miss D

Mrs Wignall will lead our Forest School Lessons on Fridays.

PPA

Classroom teachers are released from their timetable for Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA). In our class we cover between us and Mrs Sturgess will teach music.

Children

20 children: 9 girls and 11 boys. Classroom organisation is a mixture of adult led sessions and child initiated learning (discover and do). During discover and do the children are able to choose from learning inside or outside and can flow between the two. Adult led sessions incudes a mix of whole class, group, paired and individual teaching. There is an emphasis on children working with each other in creative and varied ways as often as possible. Therefore groupings are flexible and will change to reflect the work being undertaken.

Curriculum, Timetable and Year Plans

Please see the attached timetables, Curriculum Year Plan and Curriculum Newsletter for Autumn. You can also find this information on the website: <u>Allsaints.herts.sch.uk</u> - <u>Curriculum</u>

Expectations & Behaviour

As you can see from the curriculum plans, there is a lot to work through and expectations are high. Each child is expected to 'try their best' in every aspect of their school life, including class-work, behaviour and attitude to others. They are also expected to follow the school's values.

As a class we regularly discuss class rules and our values are displayed on our classroom wall. We follow the school's Positive Relationship and Behaviour Policy; the policy is available on the website.

Other class rewards we use include...

Two daily phonics stars – rewarded with a sticker for fantastic effort.

Two weekly stars of the week chosen for reflecting our values. Perks include sitting on special chairs and helping with special jobs.

Class fill a jar challenge – work together to fill our class jar with coloured gems, when it's full reward with a class treat.

Parent Handbook

There is a comprehensive 'Parent Handbook' prepared each year with information about:

- Home/School Communication (PLEASE read the fortnightly Newsletter!)
- Parent Consultations (Pupil Reviews)
- School meals
- Uniform
- Dropping off/collection arrangements
- Breakfast Club
- After School Clubs
- Punctuality and Attendance (including Holidays in Term Time)

You can find it here: Allsaints.herts.sch.uk - Parents

Helping your child at home

Daily Reading: Encourage your child to read to you or another available person **every day** in order to share in the book(s) they have brought home, <u>even if they are a fluent reader!</u> Listen to them read, or read together (taking it in turns, or you reading to them), and then discuss the book/section together. This ensures that your child has fully understood what they have read and not simply 'listed' words on a page.

All children are given a book to read at home. This will be from a specific book band (matched to phonics stage). Within the band/section, children have free choice or if they're struggling may be guided to choose something they might like. The children will also be able to choose a book from our class library to enjoy with you (you can read this one to them).

Choosing the same book to read again is OK! In fact, in the OFSTED Reading Framework (2021), they reiterate what teachers have known for a long time: re-reading of a text improves accuracy and fluency which leads to stronger comprehension (think about how children love to hear the same stories, play with the same toy, or do the same thing over and over again when very young...). Of course, variety is also good...

In our class, books are changed weekly on set days, please ensure your child has their book bags with them everyday.

We aim to listen to every child read regularly on their book change day once a week.

Phonics:

We use the Twinkl Phonics Scheme for our daily lessons in class. Of those we've trialled and used, it provides us with the best range of activities, interest and support for your child. Please remember to practice phonic sounds daily at home – reading books will be linked to the sounds covered so far.

On Fridays, we will be sharing an information sheet with you about the phonics your child will learn the following week. Your child will also bring home an activity booklet to support the learning they have done in class.

Homelearning Tasks: optional challenges will be shared on Tapestry throughout the year – please check regularly.

Keeping in Touch

We use a range of things in school to keep you informed:

- Tapestry (EYFS)
- SchoolComms (the main email system)
- Fortnightly Newsletter from Mr Asher (sent out by email and on the website PLEASE READ!)
- Twitter and Instagram (new for this year please bear with us while we get used to it!)
- Pupil Reviews (termly Parent Consultations)

Please let us know if you need help, support or if there are changes at home (life is busy, but we know children can be affected by even small things at home). **You can get in touch:**

- Collection time in the afternoons at the class door (Drop off in the mornings is not the best time, but leave a message with the member of SLT on the gate and we'll get back to you as soon as we can)
- Through the school office
 - Telephone 01279 836006 Mrs Hatch/Mrs Perryman or Miss Kimberley will let us know to get in touch or pass on the message
 - o Email: admin@allsaints.herts.sch.uk

If you need to speak to **Mr Asher**, he is often on the gate in the morning, or you can contact him through the school office.

For help with Special Educational Needs, **Mrs Moore** is available:

- senco@allsaints.herts.sch.uk
- Telephone: 01279 836006

Uniform & PE

Please see the school website for the full <u>uniform policy</u>. Non-uniform days are held throughout the year – see the Newsletter for when. Some children may have adaptations made to their uniform in line with their particular needs – this will be agreed with parents individually.

PE takes place on Mondays

Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit (named!) on Mondays.

School PE Kit is:

- Plain navy shorts
- Sky blue t-shirt (or polo shirt in KS2) with school logo (optional)
- Plain black or dark trainers
- Navy/black track suit or joggers (no hoods for tops)

For Health & Safety reasons, children should remember to tie long hair up. We actively discourage wearing jewellery (including earrings) on PE days – children will be required to remove any jewellery before participating in PE lessons.

Trips and Upcoming Dates

Local walk to Dorringtons – Autumn term

Visits from local community members to talk about their jobs – Spring term

Train trip to Pets corner

We are always helpful for parent volunteers for: reading, gardening, cooking, general help! If you are able to help please let us know!

Useful E-mail Addresses:

Mrs Hatch/Miss Kimberley, School Office: admin@allsaints.herts.sch.uk – for general and wider school information and to inform school of or give reasons for absences.

Mrs Perryman, Finance: <u>finance@allsaints.herts.sch.uk</u> – for school meal payments, after school clubs, breakfast club, trips and medical needs.

Mrs Moore, SENCO: <u>senco@allsaints.herts.sch.uk</u> – for support with Special Educational Needs, Mental Health and Wellbeing

Safeguarding / Welfare Support: <u>dsl@allsaints.herts.sch.uk</u> – for concerns about safeguarding or welfare support (such as holiday meal vouchers).