

## Class 1 Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2024

Hello and welcome back! We hope that you all had a lovely summer (which now feels like a distant memory)!!! We have had a great first week back. The children have settled in brilliantly. Despite a few wobbles (which is totally understandable and expected), it hasn't taken long for the children to settle down to the routines and activities. They have all been brilliant and I'm really excited for the year ahead.

During the week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> September, I will be carrying out a Baseline assessment with all of the children. This will be where the children will do some fun activities on an I-Pad.

The reception baseline is an age-appropriate assessment of mathematics and literacy, communication and language. It is clearly linked to the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage

I will teach phonics on a Monday morning but will then be out of the classroom for the rest of the day. I will be in school, but this will be my non-contact time. Miss Bradford will be leading the class and teaching them the planned lessons on the timetable.

### **Show and Tell:**

You have all hopefully received the show and tell timetable for this half term. There is also one displayed in the window.

Children may bring in one or two items/toys from home to show to the rest of the class and talk about them. Items linked to our learning would be great but if it is something that is not, that is also fine! We want to build the children's confidence at speaking in front of the group and to develop their speaking and listening skills. I have started with the children who have been at Holy Trinity as an early learner so that our new children can get more of an idea of what show and tell entails. The children absolutely love this time of the day. If they aren't confident to talk in front of the class, or are feeling a bit worried, we are more than happy to support them. I realise that on the Show and Tell timetable it says that you may want to bring a memory stick in. However, we can now no longer allow this but you can email me anything or send it to me via Dojo.

**Reading:** I have sent reading diaries and an appropriate school reading book. These may be wordless picture books to begin with but once your child learns more phonemes, when they are ready, they will then start on our book bag books. Wordless books build the confidence of early readers and of reluctant readers. A wordless picture book encourages a child to use their imagination to retell the story again and again inspiring a love of books and art. Apologies if your child has a book they have already had, however it is always good to look at books over again and talk about different things each time. As I stated on Dojo, book change day will be a Tuesday but please let me know if you feel like you need a different book before then. A week is a good amount of time to have a book so that the children become really familiar with it and build their confidence in talking about it or making up their own stories. They can also predict what might happen next, sequence the events and talk about the characters and how they might be feeling. There are suggestions in the back of the books that you can also try at home.

**Book Bags:** Please make sure your child brings their book bag, reading book and reading diaries daily. We will put any letters in them, so please try to check them regularly too. We do try to check them, but if you could help with this that would be fab. It is best to hand any money/slips over to an adult at the door in a morning in case they get lost or forgotten about.

**Water Bottles/Snack:**

Please could all children bring a filled water bottle in daily. Children have a free access to this throughout the day. Children will be offered a fruit/veg snack daily (mid-morning), as well as milk if you have applied for this via Cool Milk. (Please see Mrs Beddoe if you need assistance with this.) If you would like your child to bring in a **small healthy snack**, please ensure these are in named container. Please no NUTS as we do have allergies in school.

**Outdoor Learning:**

Our Outdoor Learning session is a Friday morning. We are very excited that Miss Farnsworth is going to be leading this. Children need to come to school on a Friday in outdoor learning clothes. This can be joggers, leggings, t-shirts, jumpers etc. Waterproofs and all in one suits are great but as long as your child has appropriate outdoor clothing on for all weathers, they will be fine! It is a good idea to bring wellies on a Friday. We are happy for them to be left at school.

If children are coming to school in their own wellies, they will also require a **pair of indoor shoes please**. As the weather starts to get colder, children will need hats, gloves and scarves. As there are a lot of us in the class, we will try and keep these in the children's individual trays but if you could name them, that would be really appreciated.

**Naming Belongings:**

I have already seen that lots of the children's cardigans and jumpers are named. THANK YOU! I have started to train the children to hang them on their pegs when they aren't wearing them, but you can also imagine that I've picked up a few already from different areas of the classroom!!! Please can you ensure that ALL belongings are clearly named. It is a huge help, and we really appreciate it!

**Dojo:** Please keep your eye on dojo for updates about weekly learning and day to day messages. You may also contact us via Dojo private message if you need to ask us anything or please do approach us when we are around.

**Drop off:** The door is open for drop off from 8:35pm and a member of staff will always be available to welcome children in. We ask to aid transition and develop independence, that parents/ carers say goodbye at the door. However, we understand if you need to come in and we will support the children to separate as seemingly as possible.

**Collections:** We release the children from the main office door officially at 3:15pm, however we tend to open slightly before to accommodate parents who have older siblings at other schools. Please don't think you are late if you arrive and we are already dismissing!

Please let us know directly if someone different will be collecting your child. We do operate a password system, but this is often not needed if we have seen individuals before.

Below is an overview of some of the things that the children will be doing this half term.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or queries about anything, then please do not hesitate to phone/email:

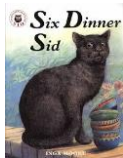
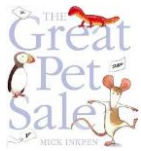
[j.johnson-cooper@southwellholyltrinity.org.uk](mailto:j.johnson-cooper@southwellholyltrinity.org.uk) or message via dojo.

Thank you to all of those that attended the welcome meeting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September. We hope that this provided you with lots of useful information. Mrs Thompson will send out the PowerPoint with all of the information, but again; if you have any questions please don't hesitate to come and ask.

Miss Johnson-Cooper & Miss Bradford

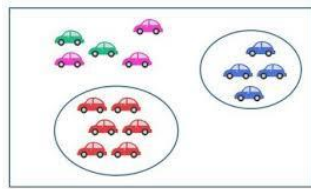
### English

I will begin by carrying out a Baseline assessment on the children. The communication and literacy part of this will assess children's listening skills, their vocabulary and letter sound knowledge. We will talk about our weekend every Monday and draw pictures with annotations. We will also be doing lots of name writing practice and making sure that the children have a comfortable and appropriate pencil grip. Anything you can do at home to aid this is much appreciated. We will look at stories related to our topics such as 'The Great Pet Sale' by Mick Inkpen, 'Mog the Forgetful Cat' by Judith Kerr and 'Six Dinner Sid' by Inga Moore.



### Maths

I will begin by carrying out a baseline assessment on the children. This involves children counting out objects, recognising numbers and continuing a shape pattern. There is no pressure to practise any of these things at home as the Baseline is where they are at, as they start school. We will then start our White Rose units of work which include: Matching, sorting and comparing and talking about measure and patterns.



### Phonics

We will start our Read Write Inc scheme of phonics and begin to teach the first set of phonemes. Children will learn the sound letters make, the phrase that goes with this to aid the letter formation and we will practise orally blending words. We use Fred frog who speaks in 'Fred talk'. For example: Fred saw a c-a-t. What did Fred see? We will be holding a phonics workshop (date TBC) which will go into much more detail about how we teach phonics at Holy Trinity. This will be via teams and we would love as many of you as possible to join us.



### RE

This half term, we are focusing on Creation and how we can care for our wonderful world. We will think about how we can care for animals and also thank God for our food. We will also do this in our Harvest Service.



### PE

Monday PE we will focus on gymnastics with Mrs Haxton-Gregory or Miss Bradford. This will be in church. Josh our lovely coach from ACE Sports, will do PE on a Thursday afternoon and will focus on playground games and multi-skills,



### PSED

HeartSmart - Get Heart Smart. Children will learn about different emotions, what they look like and how they make them feel.



### TOPIC

We will learn about different pets and how to care for them. We will also learn about our local area by thinking about our homes and what buildings and shops there are in Southwell.



### Expressive Arts & Design

We will learn about self-portraits and create our own by colour mixing and thinking about facial pictures. We will explore vocal sounds in music.



### Outdoor Learning

This half term our outdoor learning theme is looking for signs of Autumn. We will explore a local nearby green area and identify different trees. We will also survey our local area for fauna and flora.

