



# All Souls' Catholic PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Year 4 – Spring Term Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

### Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and a very happy start to the New Year. Thank you all for the cards and very generous gifts; they were all very much appreciated.

### Autumn Term's Highlights

The whole class settled into Year 4 very well last term and made a really strong start to the school year. Thank you to all of you who came along to our recent Open Evening. It was so rewarding to watch the children share their learning with you, talk you through their books and show you around our classroom environment – they were so proud, as I am, and I hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! We covered many different topics throughout the curriculum last term. Here are some of our highlights:



- ✓ Studying Flotsam by David Wiesner in English

- ✓ Becoming brilliant mathematicians

- ✓ Celebrating our faith and the faith of others in RE



- ✓ Investigating which liquids damaged our teeth the most (involving a rather smelly experiment with hard-boiled eggs!) and a practical (and messy!) demonstration of the digestive system in Science



- ✓ Making musical instruments in Design & Technology

- ✓ Studying the Vikings in History, and learning all about the Weather in Geography

- ✓ Creating our own Still Life paintings using watercolours

- ✓ Learning how to play the Ukulele

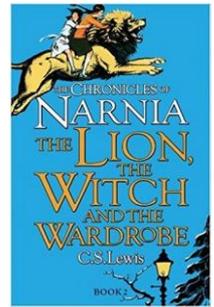


.... And lots more!

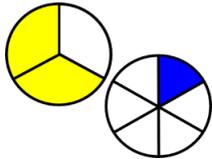


## Spring Term Curriculum

- English: Our new book this half term is *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* by C.S.Lewis. We are already hooked into this classic piece of fiction and the children have been busy using their reading, writing and grammatical skills to produce some fabulous work!



- Maths: Our first unit is Fractions – and I have been so amazed by their super listening skills, eagerness and increased independence and resilience in lessons! They are enjoying learning new things as much I am teaching them. We also have decimals, measurement, data and shape all to come! It is really important that your child's times

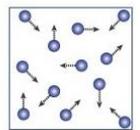
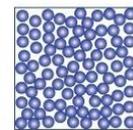
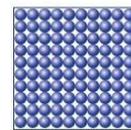


tables and related division facts are secure as this is an aspect of maths that provides the foundations to many other areas. Any extra practice at home would be of great benefit!

- RE: After completing our Christmas unit, we are now learning about the Baptism, Presentation and Transfiguration of Jesus, and using these to explore our school's mission statement: Christ is our Light.

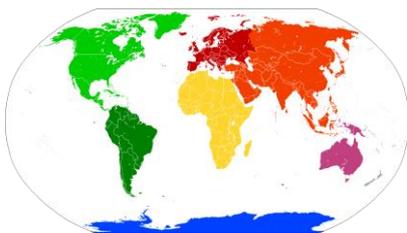


- Science: States of Matter - What are solids, liquids and gases and what process do they need to go through to change matter? Year 4 will be finding this out as well as exploring 'Living things in their habitats' in their following unit.



- Geography: Comparing Continents – learning the seven continents, surrounding seas and increasing our map skills

- History: The Stone Age to the Iron Age – going right back in history to note the changes in British history throughout this period in time.



- Art: We will be using the batik technique to decorate cloth using wax and dye

- DT: Pizza



- PE: Swimming and Dodgeball



- Music: We need to get our singing voices ready for our Easter play – it will be here before we know it!



*NB: Like all good plans, there is likely to be some variance as the term progresses. This will be updated as and when necessary:*

### Key Information

The Year 4 timetable will be a busy one again this term. There are a few changes to the timetable that require your attention. Here are the details of these changes as well as a recap of some important things that will remain the same:

P.E: This term Year 4 will go swimming on Tuesday afternoons so it is really important that the children have the relevant kit for this every week. They will also need an indoor P.E. kit on Mondays when they will be doing their other PE lesson with Mr Youson.

Homework – Weekly homework will continue to be set on a Friday and due in the following Friday. This consists of a four minute times tables challenge and the practising of their weekly spellings. It is also really important that children are reading regularly at home. Their Reading Record should be kept up to date to accurately reflect this and be brought into school every day with them and to be signed on a Monday. It has been great to see that Year 4 is a class of keen readers. They clearly enjoy reading, both quietly and to the whole class. Developing your child's reading is vital to their education and will continue to benefit them this year.

Clubs: Many of you have already signed children up for school clubs; if you have not yet done this and would like to, please return the form as soon as possible as some clubs have limited availability. All Souls' offers a great range of extra-curricular opportunities and I think it would be great to see Year 4 take full advantage of this.

### Important Dates

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January** Piano Assembly (9am)

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February** Family Mass

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February** Ash Wednesday Mass (9.30am)

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February** Teacher Training Day

*\*Half Term: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February– Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February \**

**Tue 27<sup>th</sup> & Wed 28<sup>th</sup> February** Open Evening

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March** Family Mass

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March** St. Patrick's Day Coffee Morning

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March** Family Mass

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** Easter Play

*\*Easter Holiday: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April \**

*\*Please stay up to date with dates for your diary and any changes that may occur by regularly checking our school webpage.*

Finally, if you are not currently receiving the weekly newsletter from the school via email, then please contact the school office to keep up to date with everything that is happening at All Souls'. Also, please visit our class blog to follow what we have been up to in Year 4 in more detail. This will be updated on a weekly basis and can be found on the school website or at <http://www.allsoulsschool.co.uk/category/year-4-blog/>. I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching Year 4 so far and am really looking forward to what the rest of the school year holds. As always, should you have any questions, comments or concerns, please make no hesitation in arranging to come into school to discuss them with me.

Kind regards,

Jo Hartwell

Dawn Fox

Year 4 Class Teacher

Year 3 and 4 Teaching Assistant