Meet The Teacher

Year 4

2022-23

OUR CLASS

STAFF Class Teachers: Mr George

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Croft

We will also have PE lessons from a Sports Coach through Kitteridge All Sports, and Mrs Wignall will lead our Forest School Lessons (when it's our turn!).

PPA

Classroom teachers are released from their timetable for Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA). In our class this is covered by Mrs Walton on Friday.

Children

30 children: 10 girls and 20 boys. Classroom organisation is a mixture 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 - 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 have developed a Class Charter, which will be 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 positive behaviour certificates and being asked to support the teacher by handing out resources.

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) or section of the library (for those beyond specific phonics teaching). Within the band/section, children have free choice or if they're struggling may be guided to choose something they might like.

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 on a weekly basis or as appropriate for the child. As children progress through the reading levels, it is common that they require longer to read a book and this is absolutely fine. Additionally, if they finish a book more frequently then we can change them as required.

We aim to listen to every child read regularly, at least once every 2 weeks with either Mr George or Mrs Croft.

Phonics / Spelling: Children will have weekly Spelling tests. These will take place on a Wednesday and the children will be given the words as part of their Home Learning.

Times tables: Times tables will be a specific focus this year. The children have their statutory Times Tables check in June. In order to prepare the children for this, they will be having a weekly Times Tables check on a Friday. Additionally, our main focus in Maths in the second half of this term will be on improving and learning rules for the different times tables. If your child could access Times Tables Rockstars whenever possible for additional practice at home then this would benefit and support their learning.

Home learning Tasks: Home learning will be set on a weekly basis and will be set for the children on a Thursday and will be expected to be completed by Monday. It will be sent home with the child who will have stuck the sheet in their Home Learning book. If there are any issues with this, please let me know as I wouldn't want any child to be worrying about not having completed this in time.

Keeping in Touch

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

- 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)
- Google Classroom (Y1-Y6) / Tapestry (EYFS)

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
 - Email: admin@allsaints.herts.sch.uk
- Google Classroom although we don't check this regularly and it is 'public' to the class...

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:

- <u>senco@allsaints.herts.sch.uk</u>
- 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 Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning. In the second half of this term, we will be going swimming but additional information relating to this will be sent out closer to the time.

Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit (named!) on these days and with a bottle of water.

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.

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).