

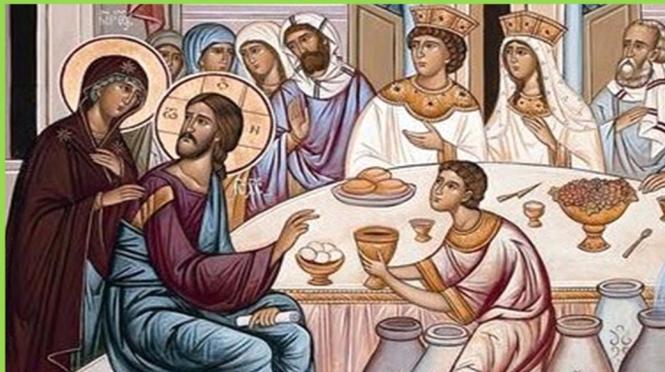


# St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery Weekly Newsletter



## Our Gospel Assembly

In this week's Gospel assembly, we heard how Jesus performed the first of his miracles when he changed water into wine during a wedding at Cana. This reading challenges us to think about how Jesus makes things new, different and better. It is also important that the wine didn't just stay in the jars to be looked at. It was enjoyed by all the people at the wedding. We, too, are called to use our goodness to benefit others.



### Prayer

Dear Lord,  
Thank you for teaching us through the miracles you performed.  
Help us to be changed by you, and to live as people changed for the  
better by your love.

**Amen.**



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been a great week in school! It may have been fresh outside, but seeing the sunshine once again has been really positive for everyone.

I have been into several lessons this week and been so impressed by the quality of the learning taking place. As a school, we are focusing upon supporting all of our children to be independent, self-regulated learners. I have seen children in several classes really thinking about how to do different tasks, making choices, tweaking ideas; this has been evident in both their learning in class and their choices outside on the playground.

As parents we can all help our children to develop in both self-regulation and independence. Asking questions to empower children to think for themselves and allowing them to try to do something before stepping in can help them to develop their problem solving skills and be more confident. It can also help to encourage and enable our children to attempt tricky things that are out of their comfort zones as we know this can really help them to experience a sense of achievement and capability. Perhaps you could try and think of one thing that could help develop your child's independence.

My very best wishes to you all. I hope you have a lovely weekend.

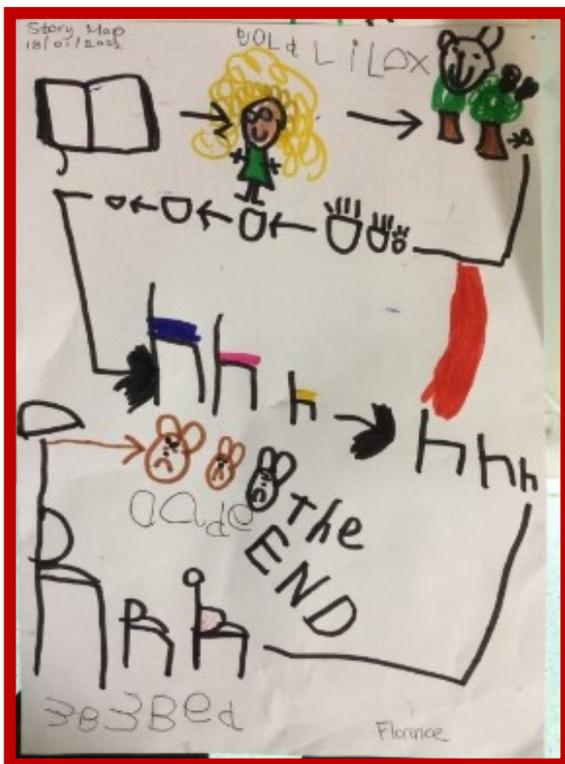
Mrs Moore

Headteacher

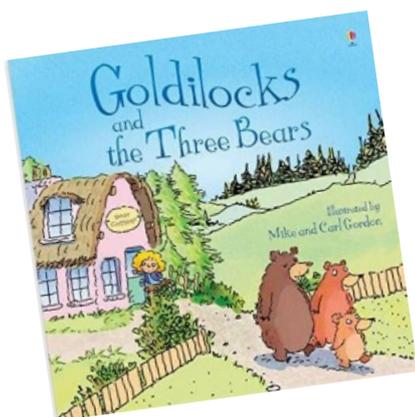
## Learning in Nursery and Reception This Week

### Fairytales, Patterns and Castles

This half term in the Early Years our topic is Once Upon A Time. We have already started exploring a range of traditional tales, focusing on the characters, setting and plot.



In Reception, we have been enjoying the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. After creating an amazing story map as a whole class, the children have loved making their own story maps. Some of us have even added our own labels and sentences!

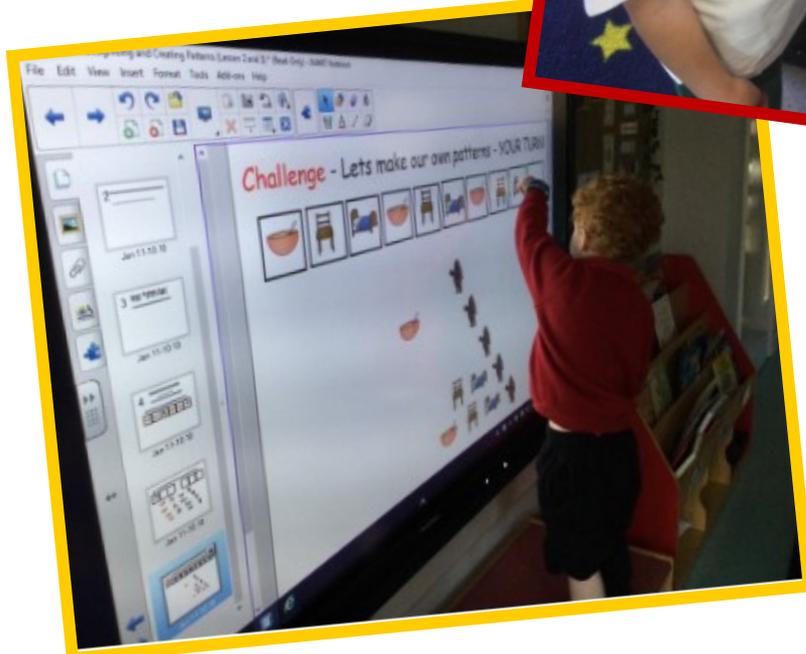




This week in Reception, we have also been discussing the difference between fiction and non-fiction, specifically looking at castles. The children shared their favourite stories that feature a castle, as well as their own personal experiences of visiting a castle. During child-initiated learning, we have been making castles through drawing and junk modelling, as well as designing our own repeating patterned shield.



Reception have working hard in Maths this week and learning about repeated patterns. The children have been spotting patterns in the environment, as well as making their own. We loved using the interactive whiteboard to complete some Goldilocks themed repeating patterns, as well as attempting to make our own patterns to challenge the teachers!



In Nursery this week, the children have continued to enjoy their learning on our topic 'Once Upon a Time'. We have made our own castle in Nursery. The children sponge painted bricks for the walls and created their very own flags! The children also created a lovely display for our theme. They chose their favourite characters and coloured them and cut them out. They also brought their favourite fairy tale story for show and tell and told all their friends about it!





In Maths this week we have been learning all about shapes. The children have been busy extending their learning during CIL time and making shapes. They even created a wonderful train that featured lots of shapes that they traced and cut themselves. It has been a wonderful week of learning !



## Maths News



Our pupils enjoy maths lessons and they also love helping other people. We thought it would be a great idea to combine one of our favourite subjects with the chance to support a worthwhile charity. On Friday 4th February, we will therefore be joining in with the NSPCC National Number Day 2022. As well as taking part in lots of exciting number-related activities throughout the day, pupils can also wear non-uniform with a maths theme to raise money for the NSPCC. You could wear something with a number, shape or pattern on it.



Donations can be made to the NSPCC through the School Gateway. (We are *counting* on you all!)

## P.E. Reminder

All pupils are expected to wear the correct PE uniform and all items must be clearly labelled with their name.

Please note for health and safety reasons:

- All hair must be neatly tied back and off the face.
- Ear-rings must be small plain studs (these must be removed during all sporting activities).



As a reminder the school PE uniform as stated on the website is:

- Plain white Tshirt (with or without school logo but no other logos)
- Red Shorts
- Optional for cold weather: Plain dark tracksuit bottoms and sweat-shirt for outdoor use,. Must be black, navy, or green without logos
- Plain Trainers with non-marking soles for KS2 all year round (KS1 and Reception - Summer Term Only)
- KS1 and Reception - Black plimsolls for indoor games (optional)
- Red drawstring bag (clearly labelled).