



Welcome to Reception!

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are so incredibly excited to welcome our lovely new children and their families to our Reception Class. All of our learning will be play based, fun and engaging with your child's needs at the centre of all that we do.

In this, our first newsletter of the year, parents can find an overview of all the interesting learning your child will be completing this half term. As you can see, we're going to be very busy! Each half term parents will get a newsletter with all important information for that term.

We always start this term by most importantly getting to know the children with lots of fun and games. We pride ourselves on making our children feel welcomed and cared for quickly. We take time to learn our routines and class rules before we start settling into our curriculum learning.

Once our children are comfortable and confident, we begin our assessments for Maths and English. These are done through interactive games on ipads along with the use of real objects and pictures. We also complete our communication screening that is rooted in playful tasks to engage communication. If your child requires support in any area this will be identified quickly and shared with that child's parent.

If you require any further information about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak with us or arrange an appointment for a chat.

Muddy Monday's

This year we are jumping for joy because we are continuing 'Muddy Monday's' at St John's.

Every Monday ALL Reception and Nursery children will be accessing the curriculum in our outdoor area for the whole day. Children can come to school wearing weather appropriate clothing including their P.E kit. It is really important that if it is a cold, rainy day, children wear a coat with a hood, gloves and hat. Alternatively if it's a hot and sunny day children must wear sun cream and a sun hat.

It is recommended that children bring wellington boots or waterproof shoes on this day to keep their feet dry. You can leave these at school so long as they are clearly labelled with your child's name.

We would like to thank you in advance for your support in our marvellously muddy venture.

Home Learning:

At the start of term we will set homework, this is to be completed over the term in the homework book.

Children only complete one activity each week, they do not need to be completed in any order.

Homework to be handed in on Monday's and returned Tuesday

Home Reading

Once children have started their Phonics learning children will begin to have reading books.

There is a school requirement that your child reads at least 5 times a week.

It is important to share a comment in the reading diary to let staff know how your child is reading at home.

Their reading book will be changed once a week on a Tuesday.

Children will be read with at school throughout the week. Please ensure your child brings their reading folder with them to school everyday.

Diary Dates

Monday 7th September 2026— Bring a photo of your child as a baby

Friday 18th September 2026 8.15-8.45am Tea and Toast Meeting

Wednesday 23rd September 2026: Reception Phase 2 Phonics Workshop for parents 3.15-3.45pm

Wednesday 30th September 9.00am Blessing of the backpacks service with Rev Liz.

Friday 9th October—Reception Flu immunisation

Thursday 22nd October—Come to Class in your PJ's for our nocturnal day.

Thursday 22nd October— St Johns Firework Event



PE

PE lessons will take place on **Monday and Wednesday**. We are asking that children come to school dressed in their PE kits on PE days. Please ensure your child is wearing no jewellery on these days.

Monday will also be an outdoor P.E session to be included in our 'Muddy Monday' learning.

PSHE:

This term we will focus on settling into school, new routines and welcoming new friends.

Our PSHE lessons are based around looking after our classroom environment, sharing fairly with friends and learning how to regulate our emotions and learn how to respond to the emotions of others.

Expressive Art and Design:

Children will be learning new songs and rhymes linked to their daily routine, as well as remembering some of our favourite Nursery Rhymes.

We will be exploring new art techniques and using tools to craft.

Safer scissors use will also be promoted this half term so children will be given frequent opportunities in using scissors to cut and shape.

We will be making lots of Art using natural materials such as leaves, sticks and clay.

Mathematics:

In Maths, we start our power maths journey in Reception.

Power Maths follows our Mastery approach giving children a deeper understanding of Number.

This term children will:

Recognise the pattern of the counting system using numbers to 5.

Sorting groups and comparing quantities.

Subitising amounts to 5.

Learning how to find one more and one less to 5.

RE:

In Religious Education, children will be learning about God and why His name holds such importance for Christians.

The children will do this by listening to stories from the Bible such as 'The Creation Story' and 'The Story of the Precious Pearl'.

Added to this the children will take part in preparations for Harvest Festival. During this time we will talk about giving thanks to God for all he has made for us.

We will also practise prayer and becoming familiar with special prayers throughout the day.

Understanding of the World:

We will be learning all about our past! We will learn how we will grow and change over time, we will learn to use language accurately to describe artifacts from the past and talk about how families change over time.

We will look at our family and home communities. We will learn about people who help us in our communities such as police officers, fire fighters, doctors, dentist and nurses.

We will also explore seasonal change as the world around us changes to Autumn and investigate differences in the sea-

Phonics:

Children will begin their Phonics journey this half term.

They will start to recognise Phase 2 letters and sounds.

Learn to hear and say the sounds in simple words through segmenting and blending practise.

Recognise and read tricky words I, the, her, go, no, to, into, she, we, he, me, be, of.

Children will be given reading books to practise some of these skills at home.

English:

Learning will be based around the story Peace at Last.

Children will be starting to use print to convey meaning writing shopping lists and labelling pictures.

We will ask children to listen and form letters linked to the sounds they can hear in simple words.

The children will also follow instructions to make space themed crispy cakes to enjoy with a hot chocolate for our Nocturnal PJ day too.