



St Charles RC
Primary School



Reception
Newsletter
Autumn 2023

Welcome

Welcome back to a new Autumn term. I hope your children are feeling positive about coming to school now that they have settled in. We hope that you have all had a wonderful Summer and are feeling as refreshed and excited about the new academic year as we are! In class, we have all settled into a new routine and are getting used to our new environment. Well done Reception! If you have any queries about your child or about the year ahead, please pop in and speak to us, we're always happy to help.

Outdoor learning:

The children have access to the outdoor area, even when it is raining. Please can you ensure that your child has a pair of wellies within school and place their name within their wellies and please leave them on the blue trolley outside their classroom. Forest school/outdoor learning wellies should be kept in school throughout the year and please do check their sizes occasionally.

PE:

Lessons take place on Friday afternoons. Children come to school in their PE kit. Your child will need a white T-shirt, blue shorts and pumps. As the weather is so unpredictable, you might want to keep your child's pumps at school on their peg and send them in outdoor shoes to avoid getting wet feet to and from school. As we are also doing Forest school on the same day, we will use our school stock of outdoor over clothes to cover the PE kit your child is wearing. If the weather is cold, please feel free to send your child in navy blue tracksuit bottoms or leggings.

Reception fund

We would greatly appreciate if all parents could contribute to our Reception class fund. Parents are asked to contribute £30 for the full reception year (£5 per term) and return in cash. The money enables us to purchase craft materials and new resources to enhance your child's learning opportunities. Many thanks for your support with this, the money is very much appreciated. We will keep you updated with what we have purchased.

Book Bags

Please can we ask for book bags to be brought in everyday as we will put any letters, information, reading books and homework into the clear folder and then into your child's book bag. We also ask that only one key ring be attached to the book bag. Otherwise they do not fit into the trays and this prevents other children accessing their trays too.

Reading books

Reading is crucial in Reception and we ask that you read regularly with your child at home to really foster their love of reading! In school, they will read their individual books, sounds and words with both a teaching assistant and their class teacher. In addition to this they will take part in a daily guided reading session during their Phonics lesson. Please ensure that you sign their reading diary on a regular basis so we can keep track of where they are up to. Please try and read for 15 minutes per day and send your book back each Wednesday as this will support your child in their reading progress more than in any other way.

Google Classroom

Please log into Google Classroom through the RMunify portal, this is a secure way of accessing the Google Classroom app. Instructions for logging on can be found on our school website [here](#). (Trying to log on through the Google Classroom app will not work). We use this app to share homework introduce the children to online learning.



Curriculum

RE Focus: In RE, we begin the year with learning about God's beautiful world and how special we are to be a child of God. We also learn about Jesus and how Mary and Joseph were chosen to be his parents. During Advent, we celebrate Jesus' birth and the Nativity.

Topic: We are all enjoying learning about *People who help us*, both in and out of the school environment. We cover the whole of the curriculum in each term but during this topic we place a strong focus upon Personal Social and Emotional Development and think deeply about how we can use our gifts to help others. During our topic, we will be looking at the various professionals in our communities who actively take care of our children and their families. This will vary from our wonderful caretakers and caterers in school, to the people of the blue light services. Within each small subtopic there will be lots of learning such as, when we look at hospitals, we will look at what bodies are composed of (bones, muscle, blood, organs etc.), how they function and how we can take care of ourselves.

After the half term holiday, we will be thinking about *Where would you like to go and how could we get there?* This will be strongly focusing on the geography side of Understanding the World and will explore transport and places. Children will also be encouraged to think deeply about *Where in the world is beautiful?*

We attempt to follow the children's interests as much as possible so each year the topics might lead us in a slightly different direction. Who knows where it will go this year!

English: In English, we use a number of high quality texts to support our learning in English and these are based upon our half termly topic. Some of them are old favourites, others are more modern.

Funny bones

You're all my favourites

Guess how much I love you

Keeping safe

Red Riding Hood (stranger danger)

He Bear She bear Dr Suess

The Jolly Postman

I love you Blue Kangaroo

Pumpkin soup

Owl Babies

The Train Ride

Diwali by Saviour Pirotta

Let's Celebrate

Whatever Next

The Journey to Bethlehem

Reading

The key to the teaching of reading is practice and repetition. The children will learn to read individual letters by saying the sounds for them and then blending sounds into words, so that they can read short words made up of known letter-sound correspondences.

Once they can read simple words, they will learn to read simple phrases and sentences made up of words with letters that they have learnt and where necessary, a few exception words such as we and I.

You will see their confidence build as they re-read these books multiple times, their fluency and their understanding and enjoyment. Do not worry if your child memorises the words or uses the pictures to help them, they are both brilliant skills that help them become more confident readers.

Writing: The muscles in your children's hands are still forming and developing. Activities in class during independent play will contribute to their hands strengthening and help them to write and form recognisable letters in lower and capital form. Through an improved knowledge of phonemes (the sound a letter makes) and corresponding graphemes (how a sound is written) their spelling will become more accurate.

Maths: In Maths, the curriculum is split into number and shape, space and measure. The children will learn how to use positional language to describe compare two objects and where an object is located. They will measure the length and capacity of common classroom objects and name 2D and 3D shapes. They will compare the value of numbers learn to recall addition and subtraction bonds to 5.

I hope this is helpful for you to join in and follow our learning. Please let us know if there is anything you need to know that might not have been covered. We are here to help.

Many thanks for all your support and cooperation.

Mrs. Holt, Mrs Mottram and Mrs Hamer

Autumn diary dates

<u>SEPTEMBER IS THE MONTH OF WELLBEING</u>	<u>OCTOBER THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY AND BLACK HISTORY MONTH</u>	<u>NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS</u>	<u>DECEMBER IS THE MONTH OF ADVENT</u>
<p><u>Week 1</u> Mon 4th Children start school</p> <p><u>Week 2</u> Weds 13th Whole School Welcome Mass (9.15am in school - All welcome)</p> <p><u>Week 3</u> Weds 20th Y6 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 21st Y2 Class Assembly (All welcome) Y4 Go outside residential</p> <p><u>Week 4</u> Weds 27th Y5 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 28th Y3 Class Assembly (All welcome) Fri 29th McMillan Coffee Morning and raffle after assembly</p>	<p><u>Week 5</u> Weds 4th Y4 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 5th Y1 Class Assembly (All welcome) Sun 8th Mass led by Bishop John 2pm</p> <p><u>Week 6</u> Mon 9th Parent Drop in – after school in classrooms Tues 10th Mrs Starkie Day Fri 13th Charity Raffle – The Christie/McMillan</p> <p><u>Week 7</u> COMMUNITY WEEK Weds 18th Mini Vinnie Harvest Assembly (9.05am in hall - All welcome)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HALF TERM 20th OCT – 30th OCT</p>	<p><u>Week 1</u> Mon 30th Children start school Weds 1st Feast of All Souls Mass (9.15am in church - All welcome) Thurs 2nd Y5 Class Assembly (All welcome)</p> <p><u>Week 2</u> Weds 8th Y2 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 9th Y6 Class Assembly (All welcome) <u>Week 3</u> Thurs 16th Parents evening – in school Fri 17th Harpers Army charity cake sale and raffle after assembly Sun 19th Whole school Mass at St Charles 11.15am</p> <p><u>Week 4</u> Weds 22nd Y3 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 23rd Y4 Class Assembly (All welcome) Flu Jab Whole school Jolabokafloð celebration</p> <p><u>Week 5</u> Weds 29th Advent Mass (9.15am in school - All welcome) Christmas Markets 3.30pm Thurs 30th Whole school Panto – Treasure Island</p>	<p><u>Week 6</u> Weds 6th Nursery Christmas Show 10am Reception Christmas Show 2pm Thurs 7th Reception Christmas show 10am Nursery Dress show 2pm Fri 8th KS1 Christmas show 2pm</p> <p><u>Week 7</u> Mon 11th KS1 Christmas show 10am Tues 12th KS2 Christmas show 10am Weds 13th Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Thurs 14th KS2 Christmas show 2pm Fri 15th EYFS Party day</p> <p><u>Week 7</u> CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WEEK Mon 18th KS1 Christmas Party Tues 19th KS2 Christmas Party Weds 20th Christmas carol service (2pm – in church) Thurs 21st Non-uniform day/Toy Day FINISH at 1.30pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS 21st DEC – 8th JAN</p>

Websites

Please look at the following:

Teach your monster to read

This is a free site if played on a lap top or computer and is only a small one off fee if you download the app on a phone or ipad. It costs £4.99, but is a great tool and lots of fun. Teaching children and providing invaluable practise at phonics, which is in keeping with the way and order it is taught in school.