



St Charles RC
Primary School



Reception
Newsletter
Summer 2024

Welcome

A warm welcome back to everyone. We hope that you have had a great Easter and are all ready to start the summer term with enthusiasm as we build up towards the transition to entering KS1 With confidence.

Outdoor learning:

As the summer months are approaching fast, the temperature will be going to rise (hopefully) so we ask that you do remember to ensure that you start thinking about swapping children's warm hats for cool hats remembering that they continue to need that protection from all elements. Also, the children continue to have access to the outdoor area, even when it is raining. Please remember to send a coat to school to protect them from the rain, even when the weather is warmer.

PE:

Lessons continue to 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, during the colder months, they may wear a plain navy blue tracksuit, no logos or stripes. 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, in the case of wet weather, we will continue to use our school stock of outdoor over clothes to cover the PE kit your child is wearing.

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 expendable resources such as play dough ingredients (which need replacing weekly to keep it fresh), to enhance your child's physical development.

Did you know that we have 27 bones in each hand? The bones in a child's hand do not become fully joined until they start to reach around 9 years old! By providing a child with playdough and other malleable materials to manipulate, we give them the opportunity to strengthen those joints and so, in turn, they become much more dexterous. This means they will develop their fine motor skills to become much stronger. Playdough is only one of many things that we replace on a regular, frequent basis. 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 the flat, blue book bags to be brought in every day. We put any letters and information 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

Thank you to everyone who has supported their child by bringing their books back every Wednesday. Reading remains 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 take part in a daily guided reading session during their Phonics lesson. Please ensure that you do sign their reading diary every time they read their book to you 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. You will find the words we are working on when you log in to Google Classroom.

Google Classroom

Please log into Google Classroom, if not already done so, through the RMunify portal, this is a secure way of accessing the Google Classroom app. (Trying to log on through the Google Classroom app will not work). We use this app to share homework and introduce the children to online learning. We send homework on Google classroom weekly along with any messages that you might find interesting such as reminders for assemblies, song lyrics and music we are using in class etc.



Curriculum

RE Focus: We look at the different faiths and how they celebrate their beliefs comparing similarities to our Christian faith. We look at 'What a church is and why and how that is special to us. Also, we focus a lot this term on Our Lady exploring and celebrating her role in the birth and life of Jesus. We look forward to our celebrations as the children crown Mary in May. We introduce the word Pentecost to the children and explore this together.

Topic: Our children are entering the last term before they move into KS1. They are learning about houses and homes and how we differentiate between the two. Our topic is called 'Who lives in a House Like This?' We learn together about homes around the world, what types of houses people live in and why. This is extended to animal homes around the world. After the half term break, we switch the focus to 'What's the commotion in the Ocean?' This is led by the children and can be about anything from what is actually in the ocean to the seaside, holidays and even sun safety.

English: In English, we continue to 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.

Homes by Kate Baker, A lovely well illustrated book of homes around the world. This is the base for our investigation of what people live in and what instigates them to live in homes such as these. We read Handa's Surprise by Eileen Brown and discover the world of an African girl living in a very different way to us. We use this also as a basis for exploring descriptive language and becoming aware of what adjectives are. We read The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson and introduce the concept of woodland homes. This book is also a great follow up for more use of adjectives and an opportunity to further explore rhyme. Finally, We can't read about houses without reading a favourite traditional tale such as The Three Pigs. We take this a stage further and look at how the same traditional tale can be rewritten to end in a variety of ways. In the second part of the summer term we are reading Snail and the Whale and Sharing a Shell by Julia Donaldson, and looking at a variety of seaside based poems.

Reading

Just to reiterate, the key to the teaching of reading is practice and repetition. Our children are continuing to study phonics and are adding constantly to their repertoire of high frequency and tricky words. This is really beginning to pay off now as children's reading skills are increasing steadily.

Thank you for your continued support at home. Those children who are practising their reading at home regularly are building their confidence quickly.

Writing: As the children write daily, they are becoming increasingly confident to write independently and attempt their own self-initiated scripts. We are getting stronger in our writing skills now and are on our way to being ready for YR 1.

Maths: In number work, children have been using tools to help them to add and subtract such as counters, number lines, ten frames and abacus frames. Thank you those of you who have been doing this at home with your children. Please continue to make sure you are using the language, add, and, plus, altogether, take away, subtract and leaves. We are moving into counting to and beyond twenty, looking at ten frames and what that looks like in double figures to count to and add up and subtract within twenty.

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

Summer diary dates

April	May	June	July
<p>APRIL IS THE MONTH OF EASTER</p> <p><u>Week 1</u> Mon 8th Children return to school Weds 10th Y5 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 11th Y6 Class Assembly (All welcome)</p> <p><u>Week 2</u> Tues 16th 9.05am Marie Basting – Author visit whole school assembly Weds 17th Reception Heights and Weights check Y2 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 18th Y4 Class Assembly (All welcome)</p> <p><u>Week 3</u> Y5 Bikeability Weds 24th Whole School Laudato Si Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 25th Y3 Class Assembly (All welcome)</p>	<p>MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY</p> <p><u>Week 4</u> Weds 1st Y1 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 2nd CLOSED FOR VOTING</p> <p><u>Week 5</u> Mon 6th Bank Holiday – school closed Weds 8th Whole School Our Lady Prayer service (9.05am in school - All welcome) Thurs 9th Whole School Ascension Mass (9.30am in church - All welcome)</p> <p><u>Week 6</u> SATs Week Fri 17th Cornerstone charity cake sale and raffle after assembly Y6 Lledr Hall</p> <p><u>Week 7</u> EARTH WEEK Weds 22nd Whole School Manchester Memorial Mass (9.15am in school - All welcome) Thurs 23rd EYFS Crowning of Our Lady (9.05am in school - All welcome)</p> <p>WHIT HOLIDAYS 24th MAY – 10th JUN</p>	<p>JUNE IS THE MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART</p> <p><u>Week 1</u> Y1 PHONICS SCREENING Y4 TIMES TABLES TEST Weds 12th Y2 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 13th Y1 Father’s Day Assembly (All welcome) Fri 14th Dads and Donuts Assembly</p> <p><u>Week 2</u> Weds 19th Y4 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 20th Y5 Class Assembly (All welcome)</p> <p><u>Week 3</u> Weds 26th Y3 Prayer service (9.05am in class - All welcome) Thurs 27th Y2 Class Assembly (All welcome) Fri 28th Reports out</p>	<p>JULY IS THE MONTH OF CELEBRATING SUCCESS!</p> <p><u>Week 4</u> SPORTS WEEK Mon 1st Parent Drop in – after school in classrooms Thurs 4th Sports day (All welcome) EYFS & KS1 9.15am KS2 1.30pm Fri 5th Mary’s Meals charity cake sale and raffle after assembly</p> <p><u>Week 5</u> Mon 8th Transition morning Tues 9th Y6 Show 2pm (children only) Weds 10th Y6 Show 6pm Thurs 11th Y6 Show 6pm Fri 12th Y6 Takeover Day</p> <p><u>Week 6</u> Mon 15th Presentation Assembly (9.05am – All welcome) Weds 17th Y6 Leavers Mass (9.15am in church – All welcome) Thurs 18th Leavers Assembly (9.05am – All welcome) Fri 19th Non-uniform day/Toy Day FINISH at 1.30pm SUMMER HOLIDAYS 19th JUL – 3rd SEPT</p>

Websites

Please look at the following:

Teach your monster to read

<https://www.teachyourmonster.org>

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.

For those of you who are interested in supporting maths online, try

Doodle maths

https://doodlelearning.com/maths-app?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=1637671120&utm_term=doodle%20maths&utm_content=420148378929&gad_source=1&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIwvL3ncvvgwMVI4hQBh3j5QqUEAAYASAAEgKTYfD BwE

It is an excellent site with small tutorials for the child with clear explanations. There is a small cost with this site but it is worth a go if you are looking for something in this area of learning for your child that they might want to play on a device.

If you liked the Teach your Monster to Read app, they have extended there provision now and do a **maths** programm which is structured in a similar way to the reading app. It is reasonable and a one off payment as is the reading app.

<https://www.teachyourmonster.org/numberskills>