



St Anne's Catholic Primary School

**“Live, Love & Learn
Together with Christ”**

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Bluesky – @stannesstreetly

An Introduction to Reception Class

September 2025

Introduction

Welcome to St Anne's Catholic Primary School, you are now part of the St. Anne's family. St Anne's prides itself on delivering a child focussed Catholic education to all our children, where they are encouraged to value themselves and others. They know that they are unique beings made in the image and likeness of Christ. As a result of this, our children, staff and families work passionately together for our children.

We aim to provide a safe, happy and caring environment, where your child can learn to grow as an individual. We will work with you to help your child develop their love of self, their peers, school, the local community, the wider world.

St. Anne's school was rated outstanding by Ofsted in January 2025 and rated outstanding by the Archdiocese of Birmingham in October 2024. We are very proud of these achievements, but we are most proud of the fact that every member of staff at St. Anne's places your child at the centre of all our decisions.

This booklet aims to answer any questions you may have, as a new or existing parent of St Anne's. I hope that both you and your child will be very happy with us. Please do not hesitate to ask if there is anything else you need to know.

Mrs Johnston

Head Teacher – June 2025

Welcome

Parents and children are welcome to Reception Class. This booklet is intended to ease the transition from Nursery into Reception and help your child settle into school as quickly as possible. We hope that it will give you both practical information and an outline of what we hope to achieve through our partnership with you.

Starting School

Please make sure that children entering Reception Class make a good attempt at doing the following things independently:

- Remove, put on and zip up outdoor clothing.
- Make reasonable attempts to dress and undress by themselves – especially shoes and socks.
- Use a knife and fork to eat.
- Use the toilet properly and independently then wash and dry hands.
- Tidy up after using toys, books, games and other equipment.
- Share and interact with other children.
- Communicate their needs to an adult verbally.

Please read through the document ‘Help Your Child Get Ready For School’ for further information

More information about how to support your child can be found on our Parent Information Sheets page on the school website <https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/parent-information-support-sheets/>

Things you can do to help prepare your child for school

1. Read stories and talk to them about the characters and events.
2. Encourage your child to talk about their daily experiences for example, what they have done in Nursery or with grandparents.
3. Point out common words in the environment such as shop, bus stop, car park and supermarket. Play games to encourage children to remember words.
4. Allow your child to draw and ‘play write’ and encourage them to tell you what they have done.
5. Share books, comics, newspapers and magazines.
6. Play counting games, learn counting rhymes / songs and learn traditional nursery rhymes.
7. Make collections of things. Sort them by colour, type, size and shape.
8. Give your child responsibilities, such as laying the table, tidying their room, making their bed and clearing up after themselves.
9. Encourage your child to be as independent as possible.

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum underpins all future learning and ensures that children are taught skills needed for their life after Reception. It covers 3 'Prime Areas of Learning' and 4 'Specific Areas of Learning'.

The 'Prime' of Learning:

- Physical Development;
- Communication & Language;
- Personal, Social & Emotional Development.

The 'Specific' Areas of Learning:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the World;
- Expressive Arts and Design.

At the beginning of each half term a new Curriculum Parent Planner will be available on our website so that you know what sort of activities your child will be involved in and how you can help at home. For more information about the EYFS Curriculum, please log on to:

<https://st-annes-sutton-coldfield.secure-primariesite.net/curriculum-support-information-sheets/>

RE

The Catholic faith is at the heart of everything we do at St Anne's. It directs our teaching and learning and guides the Values and Virtues we offer the children. We are currently working to develop our 'Building the Kingdom' curriculum to enhance the catholicity across all areas of school life. You can find out more on our Catholic Life web page:

<https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/catholic-life-1/>

As a Catholic school we are guided by our Catholic Social Teaching. We follow the R.E. curriculum devised by the Archdiocese of Birmingham to broaden knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith. We also take part in the Ten Ten RSE Curriculum.

Every class has Prayer table which is the focus for our daily prayers - at the start of the day, before & after lunch and at the end of the day. We use the prayer area to listen to stories from the Bible and to reflect upon events happening both in our school environment and the outside world.

Woodlands Forest School

At St Anne's, we have a wonderful Woodlands Forest School where children regularly visit. You will be advised in September the days Reception will visit. On their Woodlands Forest School days, children should come to school dressed in their Woodlands Forest School clothing for the whole day (clothing you don't mind getting dirty such as leggings, t-shirt, fleece etc) wearing sensible Velcro footwear such as school shoes or trainers. No uniform is worn and children do not need a change uniform on their Woodlands Forest School day. If there is a theme day, you will be notified if it is taking place or not.

Please provide outer clothing in a named bag on that day only - sorry we don't have space to store them in school all week:

- waterproof all-in-one playsuit
- wellington boots (inside their own carrier bag to help stop the spread of mud through school and on clothing)
- spare socks in case theirs get wet
- a hat (winter / summer)

Outdoor Play and Learning

The play and learning that happens in Reception takes place both inside and outside. Please always make sure that your child is wearing appropriate outer clothing such as a coat, warm hat, gloves and scarf in winter or suncream and sunhat in the summer. A thin waterproof raincoat is ideal in spring and summer.

Entry Assessments

At the very beginning of Reception year, the children will be assessed to see their stage of development and next steps in learning across the curriculum, including an RE Entry Assessment. The statutory Reception Baseline Assessment will be carried out. Please do not worry! These assessments are to help inform staff with their future planning. Most will be carried out through observation and when playing with the children.

Catholic Life & Home Prayer Bag

The Catholic faith is at the heart of everything we do at St Anne's. Our Catholic Social Teaching directs all learning and guides the Values and Virtues we offer the children. Children attend whole school masses, there are class masses in school and children also attend mass at St Anne's church. Father Gwil also invites classes to attend the Saturday evening family mass – Reception's will be with their Year Six Special Friends. You can find out more about the Catholic Life of our School on our Catholic Life web page:

<https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/catholic-life-1/>

You are invited to a welcome Family Parish Mass at St. Anne's Church on 27th September 2025. This is an opportunity to come together as a Catholic family (further details will follow)

Every class at St Anne's has their own 'Prayer Bag'. It will be sent home daily and should be returned to school the next day. The bag is filled with prayer books and artefacts so you can pray together as a family. Please record your child's experiences in the logbook. For more information, log on to:

<https://st-annes-sutton-coldfield.secure-primariesite.net/prayer/>

Home PE Bag

At St Anne's we are committed to helping children learn the value of keeping fit and healthy from an early age. Reception class have a PE Bag which is filled with resources to help children be active and practice their sporting skills at home. It will be sent home daily and should be returned to school the next day.

Travelling Ted

Travelling Ted is one of the reward systems used in Reception Class. Every evening one of the children will be rewarded by bringing Travelling Ted home and overnight bag at some point in the year.

Special Friends

At St Anne's we have a successful 'buddy' system to help the children in their first year at the school. Each child will be assigned a Special Friend from Year Six. They will have regular contact with their special friend such as playing together, reading with them, going to Woodlands School together and during class times. This will begin once the children are fully settled into Reception. You will be informed once they have met. There will be a Special Friends Family Mass in October allowing you all to meet (further details to follow in September).

Clothing

	Boys Uniform	Girls Uniform
Uniform	<p>Grey trousers</p> <p>White shirt (short sleeve is best)</p> <p>School tie (brown with thin yellow stripes - elasticated in EYFS & KS1)</p> <p>Brown (Logo) V neck St Anne's School jumper or cardigan</p> <p>Grey or black socks</p> <p>Black school shoes</p>	<p>Brown Pinafore Dress for EYFS & KS1 (skirt only once in Year 3)</p> <p>White Blouse (short sleeve is best)</p> <p>School tie (brown with thin yellow stripes - elasticated in EYFS & KS1)</p> <p>Brown (Logo) V neck St Anne's School cardigan or jumper</p> <p>White or brown socks / brown tights</p> <p>Black school shoes</p>
Summer (optional)	<p>Grey shorts</p> <p>White short sleeve shirt with open collar - no tie is required if wearing shorts</p> <p>Optional white polo shirt with small school logo instead of open shirt (available from Clive Mark, Boldmere or online)</p> <p>Brown (Logo) V Neck St Anne's School jumper or cardigan</p> <p>Grey or black Socks</p> <p>Black school shoes</p>	<p>School brown & white striped summer dress (available from Clive Mark, Boldmere or online)</p> <p>Brown (Logo) V neck St Anne's School cardigan or jumper</p> <p>White or brown socks</p> <p>Black School Shoes</p>
PE Kit	<p>Black PE Shorts</p> <p>White T-Shirt with large School Logo</p> <p>Trainers (with Velcro in EYFS & KS1)</p>	<p>Black PE Shorts</p> <p>White T-Shirt with large School Logo</p> <p>Trainers (with Velcro in EYFS & KS1)</p> <p>A pair of socks for when wearing tights in the winter</p>
Woodlands Forest School	<p>Come to school in non-uniform (clothes you don't mind getting muddy leggings, t-shirt, fleece etc) with Velcro shoes. Please provide outer clothing in a named bag:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • waterproof all-in-one playsuit • wellington boots (inside their own carrier bag to help stop the spread of mud through school and on clothing) • spare socks in case theirs get wet • a hat (winter / summer) 	

Uniform can be purchased through the Clive Marks at their shops in Boldmere and Walsall or online:

<https://www.clivemark.co.uk/shop-by-school/st/st-anne-s-primary-streetly.html>

When children start school, they sometimes find it difficult or strange to wear uniform. You can help your child by providing items such as an elasticated trousers, elasticated tie and shoes & trainers with Velcro they can do up without adult support. Short sleeve shirts are best for painting, crafts and water play.

Please provide your child with a sensible pair of Velcro school shoes. It is not necessary for your child to bring both indoor and outdoor shoes. However, if the weather is very wet or snowy, it would be a good idea to wear wellington boots and change into school shoes as the children spend a lot of time playing and sitting on the floor. Please send your child to school with a coat every day as weather can change through the day. The children do not need to bring umbrellas to school. Please take them home with you.

As part of the curriculum, all children will participate in P.E. lessons every week. It is important that children make a good attempt at dressing and undressing themselves in a reasonable time – this forms part of my assessment at the end of the year. Their PE bags should be available in school every day and clearly labelled with their name on the outside. Please put some form of key ring / ribbon on the outside to help children identify theirs easily. They will be sent home at the end of every half term to be washed and should be returned to school on the first day of the new term. Once in Year One, the children will come to school dressed in their PE kits and a plain black tracksuit.

Please ensure that all uniform is labelled clearly with your child's name. Please also remember to name any new uniform.

StampTastic Name Labels

The labelling company 'StampTastic' is a good way for you to help our PTA raise funds and name clothing at the same time. Name stampers are a quick, easy and effective way of labelling your child's clothing, drinking flasks and fruit pots etc. Please follow the link below, add the code '**B743PL**' when you are at the checkout and the PTA will automatically receive 15% of the total spend.

https://stamptastic.co.uk/pages/school-welcome#a_aid=5db2ff345a646

Reading Packets

You are asked to purchase a school reading packet available from our uniform supplier. Please encourage your child to carry these to and from school themselves. They will be used to carry their links book, 1000 Stories Book and reading books to and from school. Please label this clearly.

Please check and clear this reading packet every evening for letters, notes or work. Please do not put drinks or food in the reading packets as spillages do happen and books become ruined.

1000 Story Initiative

Once the children are settled, we will launch our 1000 story initiative. Children will choose a book from the story boxes to bring home. You are asked to share this story with your child at a quiet time such as cuddling up on the sofa or at bedtime. Each book has a special 'Wow Word' to look out for. Find this word with your child and talk about its meaning. Then share the story with your child and talk about the story. Encourage your child to use these words when they are talking. This will help children develop a greater vocabulary. Parents are asked to record their Wow word on the collector card and return it to school once filled. They should then return this book to school the next day when they can choose another book. They can have a new book every day if needed. More details will be given out in September.

Phonics & Reading

Phonics is the main way we teach children to read. At St Anne's we follow the DfE approved Twinkl scheme for teaching of phonics. We introduce the letter sounds using lower case letters initially.

In September parents will be invited to a parent workshop which will give you further information and help you support your child at home.

Initially the children will be given a 'sound book' for you to use at home with your child to reinforce the letter sounds. There are a variety of flash cards of sounds and simple regular words which children will be able to sound out on the class webpage. Further support on how to help your child learn to read can be found on the class' Reading & Phonics webpage and on our Parent Information Sheets web page:

<https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/general-support-information-sheets/>

<https://st-annes-sutton-coldfield.secure-primariesite.net/literacy/>

Initially, no formal reading scheme books will be given to the children. Once many of the initial letter sounds have been taught, they will be given a reading book to take home. They will not generally have seen the book before, so please read the book together, pointing to the words and discussing the pictures. Some of our reading books have fewer words than other books, which mean they require more discussion of the story line using the pictures. Children should be heard read at home every day. The more you read with your child at home, the more progress they make. Parent comments in the children's reading record are very important, as they give a valuable insight on the children's attitude, achievements and progress at home. Constructive comments such as "John enjoyed this story, but had problems with the word and"; or "Emily did not like this story and found it difficult to retell it in her own words". Further information and ideas on how you can help your child learn to read can be found on our Parent Information Sheets web page.

Writing

At St Anne's, we encourage the correct pencil grip and letter formation from the start. In Reception we call the correct pencil grip "duck fingers". Children will use a triangular pencil to help this grip and control. Please encourage your child to hold their pencil between their thumb and index finger, resting the pencil on their middle finger. We start off teaching children to write lower case letters in print style, only using a capital letter for their name. Once the children are writing sentences, they will be expected to start a sentence with a capital letter, finger spaces and full stop. Joined up writing will be taught from Year 1.

"Duck Fingers"



"Letter Formations"

Aa Bb Cc Dd

Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii

Jj Kk Ll Mm

Nn Oo Pp Qq

Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv

Ww Xx Yy Zz

House Groups

Later in the school year, every child will be assigned a school house group. The house groups at St Anne's are St Matthew, St Mark, St Luke and St John. Children who have older brothers or sisters in the school will be placed in the same house as their older sibling. Children will earn house points through the week for behaviour, attitudes and effort. At the end of the week the house with the most house points is awarded the trophy in a weekly assembly.

Parent Meetings

Parents are asked to make every effort to attend their child's pupil progress meeting. You will be informed of the dates on Mrs Johnston's Weekly Headlines and Reception's Class Newsletters. Your time will be sent to you nearer the time. During these meetings, you will be informed of your child's progress, achievements to date and their next steps in learning. If you need to talk to a teacher before this meeting, please make an appointment.

Snacks and Drinks

As part of the government's "School's Fruit and Vegetable Scheme", children from Nursery to Year Two are entitled to a free piece of fruit in school each day. The fruit will vary depending on the season such as apples, satsumas, raisins, tomatoes, carrots, bananas and pears. For more information, please read the Parent Information Sheet or log on to:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/5ADAY/Pages/Schoolscheme.aspx>

Each morning the children will be given their fruit to eat at snack time. Your child will be encouraged to try it. Often children will eat fruits they don't at home because their friends and teachers are. However, if you know your child will only eat a particular fruit, please send this in. Please also inform us if your child has any food allergies. You might also like to send in a piece of fruit for the afternoon as children sometimes get hungry later in the day. Our fruit basket will also be available.

Milk is provided free to all children under the age of five and will be drunk at snack time. If your child does not like milk, then please supply your child with water in a sensible drinking flask. Please be aware that a few children might have the same flask, so please ensure it is clearly named.

Lunch times

It is recommended that your child has a hot school dinner. All infant children from Reception – Year 2 are entitled to a hot school dinner under the "Universal Free School Meal" scheme. Parents of children in KS2 will have to pay for hot school lunches.

We use a company called 'Caterlink' to provide our school dinners. You are asked to register once you receive an email so you can order your child's school dinner.

Parents are asked to order their child's main meal thinking carefully about what your child will eat. You might like to order for a week/month at a time. Please make sure you remember to order a meal after a weekend or holiday. Children go to the dining room, collect their school dinner, choose their own desert and go to the salad bar if they wish. They then bring their food back to the classroom to eat. Children who bring a packed lunch will sit with those children who are having a hot school dinner. We ask that you endeavour to make packed lunches as healthy as possible and consider the appropriate size for four year olds – no sweets or chocolate please. Please ensure that this lunchbox is named. For more information about healthy lunch box ideas, please log on to:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/childhealth6-15/Pages/lighterlunchboxes.aspx>

If we have any concerns regarding food at lunchtimes, we will contact you.

If you think you are eligible for free school meals, please contact the school office.

GDPR

We collect information from you about your child and their family. We take great care with this information and do not share it with third parties unless there is a statutory or valid reason for your child's education. You are asked to complete permission forms stating your preferences around photographic permission. We will always ensure that all staff comply with this.

Class Newsletters & Weekly Headlines

There is a weekly class newsletter in Reception which is uploaded to the class webpage on Friday. Please take a few moments to read them. It will keep you informed of your child's learning and how you can support them at home along with some general dates and reminders.

Please also remember to read the weekly Headlines newsletters from Mrs Johnston, notices and reminders that are regularly sent home via 'Arbor'. These will keep you up to speed with events, dates and general school news. You are asked to sign up for Arbor when requested. The main school website will also keep you updated with events. Once your child is registered, you will be sent an invite to register, this is live for 48 hours.

School Website & Class Pages

St Anne's has a school website full of information about the school, news, gallery, dates, the PTA, the curriculum and ways you can support your child at home. Staff ensure that the class pages are kept up-to-date with a variety of information and learning resources, including useful websites, videos and photographs of your children in school. Please make the website your first port of call for information.

<http://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/>

Arbor Communications

We send parents newsletters and messages via email. You will also be able to receive SMS text messages where necessary. Please ensure that you sign up for Arbor when requested. You will receive more details once your child is fully registered.

Contact details

Please make sure that you keep the office informed of any changes in contact details through the year, especially any changes in mobile phone numbers for points of contact. We may need to contact you in an emergency if your child falls ill during the school day for example.

Before and After School Club

St Anne's currently have facilities for a kid's club which is available both before school and after school. Please take a registration form if you are interested. These forms can be obtained from the school office.

Home School Links Book

In September your child will be given a 'home school links book'. Please use this to send messages regarding your child's needs. These may range from simple changes in collection arrangements to achievements or concerns you may have.

The Curriculum Parent Planners

At the start of every half term a Curriculum Parent Planner will be uploaded to the class webpage. This will inform you of the objectives and activities for the term. We hope they will help you to support and extend your child in their learning. Please log on to:

<http://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/parent-planners-3/>

Attendance

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please inform the school office by telephone on the first day of their illness and every day until their return. If you do not inform the school, an unauthorised absence will be recorded. Children cannot be taken out of school for family holidays. Please read the school policy on our website. Children with persistent unauthorised absences will be referred to the Education Welfare Officer.

Please ensure that your child is in school by 8.45am in the morning as 'lateness' is also recorded.

Medications

Medicines are not normally administered in school by staff, unless it is specific medicines such as inhalers, epi-pens and insulin. Please complete the registration forms which include details of medical conditions/history and allergies. Staff will contact you to ensure the medication needed is available in school. This medication will be kept in class in a named box with your child's photograph on for emergencies.

Sun cream

In summer, please apply sun cream before leaving home - once a day application cream is ideal with a sun hat.

Your child's birthday

School provides birthday parties (priced at £4 per head), which include choice of meal, ice cream and a large birthday cake. Further details can be obtained from the school office. If you want to give the class a treat on your child's birthday, then please provide a small packet of sweets or chocolate bar. We do not have the facilities for sharing big birthday cakes and party bags or anything larger can make some parents and children feel uncomfortable. School catering also offer lunchtime parties at a small cost to you.

School fund

The school operates a school fund scheme, that enables us to pay for enriching activities for pupils. We ask for a donation of £20pa or £7 per term. Payments are made through using Arbor app. We also have a Gift Aid scheme, so we ask that you tick the gift aid box when making these donations. This allows school to claim free money from the government scheme at no extra cost to you.

Building Fund

Parents are asked to make a £30pa contribution per family. This money is used by school to renovate the buildings, helps towards our 10% contributions on any grant projects. Over the past few years, we have completed the following building projects: external fencing, EYFS unit and outdoor area, new Reception area and meeting room, a new classroom, a multi-use games arena (MUGA) and new windows in the hall. School can only do these projects with the valuable support of our parents. These contributions can also be gift aided.

Induction to Reception – July 2025

Children who currently attend St Anne’s Nursery will complete their transition during their days in school. Your child’s ‘Summer Book’ and peg label will be given to them in school.

Home Visits for New Pupils

Wednesday 2nd July 2025

To support those children who are new to St Anne’s in their induction, we are planning to make an initial short visit to your home on **Wednesday 2nd July 2025**.

It is intended that this visit will ease any worries the child may have, by meeting staff with their parent close by in a place they feel comfortable. It is anticipated to last for no more than 20 minutes. Staff will get to know the child; Mrs Turley will talk to parents about the child’s likes and dislikes and discuss any concerns or questions they may have while Mrs Long plays with the child. Travelling Ted will join us. Any questions or concerns you may have can be answered then.

During this visit, your child will be given a ‘Summer Book’ which can be used by the child to draw pictures, stick in photos etc. These should be brought to school in September and will give the staff and children things to talk about. Children will also be given a copy of their peg label for September which you can keep at home.

Staff will also contact your child’s nursery to support their transition to St Anne’s before the end of the summer term.

Wednesday 2nd July 2025	Wednesday 2nd July 2025	Wednesday 2nd July 2025
9.00am – 10.30am	10.30am – 12.00pm	1.30pm – 3.00pm

Induction Stay & Play Visit (children only)

Wednesday 9th July 2025

Your child is invited to join with all other classmates on **Wednesday 9th July 2025 from 9.15am – 11.15am**. Uniform is not required for this visit. During this time, children will come together and play in Reception Class. Please bring your child to the school's main entrance where Mrs Turley will greet the children and bring them through to play in the class. You should collect your child from the school's main entrance at **11.15am**. Children from St Anne's Nursery will join in with this transition visit.

Starting School – September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

All children will attend school from **Tuesday 2nd September 2025**. There is a staggered rolling start to the morning where children can arrive at any point from **8.30am – 8.45am**. Reception children should be brought to the front of the school on Blackwood Road, where staff will meet you and your child. Children will walk from the front entrance to the playground by themselves. On their first day, we invite parents to walk with their child to the infant playground where staff will be on hand to greet them so you can help support your child on their first day in Reception.

There will be some coloured boxes for your child's flask and reading packets on the floor outside the class door (see the Summer Book for pictures). Children will be asked to put their reading packet in a big box and their flask in a smaller box (just as in Nursery this year). Staff will be on hand to help them, but they will soon become confident to do this by themselves. Please make goodbyes quick (especially if your child is upset) and leave swiftly. Staff will support any children who are upset. Children are asked to sanitise their hands before entry and then go to the toilet and wash their hands once inside. They will then join the other children and staff playing inside. At 8.45am the gate will be locked. If you need to chat to or wait for other parents, please do so away from the school site so as not to upset the children.

From your child's second day, all children will join the rest of the infants on the normal morning procedures as below.

Morning Procedure

There is a staggered rolling start to the morning where children can arrive at any point from **8.30am – 8.45am**. Infant children should be brought to the front of the school on Blackwood Road, where staff will meet you and your child. Children will walk from the front entrance of the school to the infant playground by themselves and to Reception Class Door where Mrs Long will greet and support them. Gates will be locked at **8.45am**. Please make goodbyes swift – especially if your child is upset. Staff will be on hand to support them.

Any children who arrive after 8.45am must be brought to the main school office.

Afternoon Procedure

We have a staggered ending for the school day at St Anne's. The school day finishes at **3.15pm** for children in Reception. Please wait by the main Reception until you are called onto the playground. The class will be dismissed onto the infant playground from the gate by Reception class door. Parents are asked to identify themselves to staff when their child is at the front of the green gate. Please make sure you are watching – no child will be handed over if teachers do not get eye contact with parents. Please also don't wave to your child as they come out of the Reception door - it gets very confusing for staff when there are lots of new parents on the playground. Children who are in the after school kids club will be taken to kids club staff. Please ring the school office if there are any problems in you collecting your child. Staff will not pick up email notifications through the day.

Any children who are not collect by 3.25pm will be brought to the main school office.

Some advice from Parents about starting school:

- "Be Prepared"
- "Name everything"
- "Ensure they are able to do the simple essential life skills like use a knife and fork, take themselves to the toilet, dress themselves etc."
- "If nothing else, make sure they can at least get themselves dressed."
- "Don't be surprised if your child is extremely tired after school for the whole first term."
- "Get organised, have a calendar with important dates and make extra time for tired children."
- "Be prepared to go through lots of new tops as they explore their use of pens – they tend to stain their shirts. Invest in a stain remover."
- "Expect your child to be very tired, it's a big adjustment for them. They often don't want to talk about school and sometimes their behaviour is worse having been concentrating at school all day."
- "Talk to your child about starting school and what to expect."
- "Encourage independence over the summer so they can dress/undress themselves, go to toilet/wash hands, use cutlery, carry their own bags, spot letters/words/numbers in everyday things like street signs, cereal packets, get children to recognise their own name written down. Get involved with school - whether it's with the teacher about learning, or to other parents for fundraising and socials."
- "Talk to other parents or friends to find out what you need to organise, buy and plan for the school start."
- "Make friends with other parents in your child's class."
- "Relax and be there to support your child. Don't be stressed, your child will pick up on your emotions."
- "Don't worry – our children are ready more than we are and they take all these things in their stride. They are like little sponges so embrace their hunger and need to continue to learn while they explore the world around them."
- "It's ok to be a little worried and sad when your little one starts primary school but enjoy every step of the next stage in their growing up."
- "Relax and let your children enjoy school."
- "Don't be upset or stressed! They will be fine! And have a great time!"

Finally

Please ensure you go through the registration packs tonight and fill out and return all the relevant forms.

Please return the registration forms before you leave tonight.

We hope that the Reception year will be a happy one for your child and one that they will remember for a long time. Through the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, we intend to lay the foundations to help your child to become confident, resilient and independent and equip them with the skills needed for the future.

Mrs Turley

EYFS Leader / Reception Class Teacher – Summer 2025

Live, Love & Learn together with Christ

