

Reception Newsletter – Friday 19th September 2025

Phonics – Level 1

This week we started our Phonics lessons by reviewing Level 1. This level is about listening to sounds in the environment and spoken word, learning nursery rhymes, thinking about words that start with the same letter, identifying rhyming words and orally sounding out words. We've continued learning nursery rhymes. At home, please share as many as you can and encourage your child to be able to say these by heart. If a child can say at least eight Nursery Rhymes by the age of four, they are usually among the best readers by the time they are eight.

We've also started to use Phonics Play website (school log in details will be given out next week) to listen to a variety of sounds and try to work out what they are. Good listening skills are key to help children to learn.

1000 Stories

Thank you to those parents who are supporting their child with this initiative. The children are enjoying changing their books and have already seen some they're planning on bringing home soon.

PE

We did our first formal PE lesson yesterday. The children made good attempts to change – some even doing everything for themselves. Thank you for those parents who have helped their child learn how to undress and dress independently.

PE kit should include:

- Black shorts (not skorts or leggings)
- White t-shirt with the large school logo (not the polo shirt)
- Trainers with Velcro – no laces please
- A pair of white socks for girls in case they wear tights later in winter months

**Remember - Reception children do not need a black track suit / leggings / fleece.
I am sending home those that have been provided.**

Woodlands Forest School

The children enjoyed their first visit today. Photographs will be uploaded to the website: <https://st-annes-sutton-coldfield.secure-primariesite.net/reception-photographs-2025-2026-1/>

Please remember to provide outer clothing in a named bag every Friday - 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)

We go outside in all weathers. Children without appropriate clothing will get wet and shoes become ruined. I will inform you via this weekly newsletter if there are dates we will not be going to Woodlands and children need to come to school wearing uniform or dressing up – usually themed days.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to those parents who joined me today. I do hope you found it useful. The PowerPoint and documents have been uploaded to the class website: <https://st-annes-sutton-coldfield.secure-primariesite.net/meet-the-teacher-general-information-for-parents/>

Literacy in Reception & Beyond

This takes place on Friday 10th October at 2.30pm. At the session, Mr Caddick (Y5 teacher & English Lead if available) and I will share with you how we teach children to read and write at St Anne's and how you can support your child at home. Please come to the main entrance at the front of the school where I will meet you. The information will be uploaded to: <https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/literacy-in-reception-beyond-at-st-annes-workshop/>

Activity Passport

Today your child will be bringing home an Activity Passport. This is a document published by DfE in association with a variety of well know groups. It gives parents some ideas of activities they can do with their children. It would be lovely to see photographs of children taking part in these activities on our EYFS Padlets page: <https://padlet.com/aturley14/things-i-play-and-do-at-home-ll68e62whxoc7lj4> . If your child completes all activities in their Activity Passport, please send it back to school – the children who do will earn a special reward.

Name Reading & Writing Homework Challenges

Today your child is bringing home their Name Reading & Writing Homework Challenge pack. The letter enclosed explains what to do. This should stay at home and does not need to be returned to school. We will see the evidence of their work at home.

Website

I have updated the Dates for Your Diary on the home page of the class webpage: <https://st-annes-sutton-coldfield.secure-primariesite.net/reception/> .

Health & Safety – Car Park

Please stick to the footpath when walking to and from school and refrain from walking through the car park. This is to help keep the children safe and teach them about safety when walking around our local area. The staff car parks often have staff coming and going and near misses have happened. Please also inform any family members who collect your child. For parents who drop children at Kid Club before or after school, we ask that you refrain from parking in the staff car parks.

Father Gwil's Silver Jubilee Celebrations

Father Gwil celebrates his Silver Jubilee on Sunday 21st September and Monday 22nd September. Please see Mrs Johnston's Weekly Headlines for more details.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Friday 26th September is our MacMillan Coffee Morning. Please refer to Mrs Johnston's Weekly Headlines / ParentMail for more information.

Nursery & Reception Family Mass

Father Gwil invites all families with children in Reception and Nursery to the Family Mass on Saturday 27th September at 6pm. It would be wonderful to welcome as many families as we can. I'm sure the children would love to see each other outside school and say hello to Father Gwil.

Have a wonderful weekend.
Mrs Turley