

St George's Early Years: Reception

September 2022



What your child needs to bring to school:

Your child needs to bring a water bottle and their bag everyday.

Please ensure they have appropriate clothing to wear outside as a lot of the Early Years Curriculum involves playing outdoors. In the colder weather, they will need their coat, hats and mittens or gloves, in hot weather a hat and sun cream.

Please check all of their clothing, water bottles, bags & packed lunches are labelled.

Keep encouraging your child to be independent with their self-help skills by getting them to put their jumper, coat and shoes on and off by themselves. Support them in using the toilet independently and keep reminding them to wash their hands carefully.

What happens during the day?

- 8:45-9:15 Choosing inside & then carpet time register
- 9:15-9:45 Reception Phonics
- 10:00-10:15 Snack & Story
- 10:15-10:40 Group activities & child initiated play: indoor & outdoor
- 10:40-11:00 Tidy up & group session
- 11:00-11:30 Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle & key text story
- 11:30-12:30 Lunchtime – dinner in hall and outdoor play
- 12:30-1:00 Dough Disco & child initiated play
- 1:00-1:15 Handwriting
- 1:15-2:50 Group activities & child initiated play: indoor & outdoor
- 2:50-3:15 Story, Nursery Rhymes & getting ready for home



Afternoon group activities are linked to our topics and include baking, making, investigating, exploring, Black Pen Drawing.
PE is on a Monday this term - children come to school dressed in their PE kit.
RE lessons take place throughout the week.
Our Year 6 Buddies visit us during lunchtimes.



The Curriculum

	Prime Areas	
Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)	Communication and Language (CAL)	Physical Development (PD)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-Regulation• Managing Self• Building Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listening, Attention and Understanding• Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gross Motor Skills• Fine Motor Skills

The prime areas are our main focus in Reception Class.

	Specific	Areas	
Literacy	Maths	Understanding the world	Expressive arts and design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word Reading • Writing • Comprehension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers • Numerical Patterns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People, Culture and Communities • The Natural World • Past and Present 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating with Materials • Being Imaginative and Expressive

At the end of Reception class, each child is assessed against the 17 Early Learning Goals (ELGs).

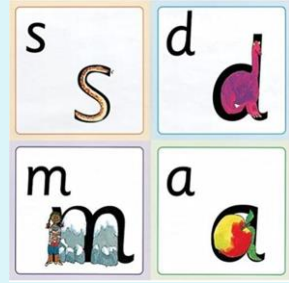
The Curriculum



- The Reception pupils work towards achieving the Reception Birth to Five Matters Statements in the Autumn & Spring terms. In the Summer term they are working towards achieving the Early Learning Goals.
- The Prime and Specific areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities that are suited to your child's unique needs & interests. Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.
- When observing the children playing we are looking for them to use some of the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' in their play. These characteristics are split into 'Playing and Exploring', 'Active Learning' and 'Creating and Thinking Critically'.
- Reception children will complete a statutory Baseline assessment in the first half of the Autumn term. Children will work on a one to one basis with an adult to complete a series of activities. Pupils' attainment in these tasks are a starting point to provide a way of measuring progress to the end of KS2.
- At the end of the Reception year we will complete an assessment which is known as the EYFS Profile. This assessment is based on our knowledge of your child and what we have observed your child do. The profile measures your child's progress in all of the areas of learning against the Early Learning Goals. We will give you a report of your child's progress, including information from their EYFS Profile.
- The Early Years Outcomes, Early Learning Goals and Characteristics of Effective Learning are posted in the EYFS section of the website.



Phonics and Reading



- The children follow the Read Write Inc. programme. For the first half term we will be focusing on Set 1 sounds.
- We will be learning to 'Fred Talk' (blending sounds into words orally). These are CVC words e.g. mat, sit, sad, etc.
- Read Write Inc videos will be uploaded to Tapestry to watch and practise at home.
- All children in EY and KS1 are assessed each half term and assigned groups.
- Once children are given reading books to take home they need to be brought back into school everyday as they may read at other times during the week too.
- Please try to hear your child read everyday for short sessions. If they read regularly it will have a huge impact on their Literacy skills.
- Please write a comment once a week in your child's yellow reading record book.
- On a Friday, children will choose a library book to take home for you to enjoy together. These story sack library books need to be returned each Friday so a new one can be chosen.



Writing



During this term we will be encouraging your child to mark make daily.

- Children love to make marks with all sorts of things – pens, pencils, chalk, paints, shaving foam, flour, glitter...the list is endless!
- Mark making is the first step towards writing.
- When using pens and pencils we will encourage your child to use the three fingered tripod grip.
- As we introduce the letter sounds, we will be showing the children how to form the letter graphemes correctly (using the Read Write Inc mnemonics).
- We will be helping the children to write their names using the correct letter formation.
- We will help the children to label pictures by recording the sounds they can hear in the words (this may only be the initial sound to begin with).
- The children will write labels and captions before they are ready to begin writing in full sentences.
- We will also encourage the development of gross motor skills when playing outside as this helps to develop their fine motor control too.



RE



The Reception Class say a prayer in the morning, at lunchtime and before Home Time. We make the sign of the cross before saying our prayers.

We cover all of the topics in the 'Come & See' RE curriculum. These are: Myself, Welcome, Birthdays, Celebrating, Gathering, Growing, Good News, Friends and Our World. We also learn about other faiths such as Judaism and Islam.

At the end of each topic we participate in a class liturgy which may involve prayerful reflection, music, singing, movement, retelling a Bible story and celebrating the work we have done in the classroom.

Rewards

Good behaviour makes effective teaching and learning possible.

Cubes in the Jar

Children are asked to put a cube in the class 'Cube Jar' when they have shown great behaviour or achievements. When the 'Cube Jar' is full then the whole class get a treat e.g. make cakes, dressy up day, special visitor etc.

Greenie Awards

We give children greenies in class for things such as trying hard, recognising sounds, being a good listener or being kind to a friend. Children will be able to bring their greenies home for you to see.

you've done something
to be proud of.
Well Done!

Head Teacher and Gospel Value Awards

These are given to two children from Reception each week who have done something special.





- Reading Eggs is a computer program that children can go on at home and at school to support their phonic and reading skills.
- Children love the games, songs, golden eggs and other rewards which, along with feeling proud of their reading, really motivate children to keep exploring and learning.



- NumBots is a self-paced educational platform combined with an interactive, robot-immersed game. The aim of NumBots is to ensure children develop a core understanding of maths from an early age, establishing a strong mathematical foundation which they can build upon as they progress through their education.

Before October half term, we will send home passwords and user names so that your child can begin using the program at home.

Dough Disco

Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle

- **Dough Disco** is a fine muscle exercise that was invented to help children who were struggling to write letters.
- After investigation, it was found that the fingers are one of the last things the brain controls during child development.
- **Dough disco** involves moulding play dough in time to music and performing different actions such as rolling it into a ball, flattening it, putting each individual finger into the dough, rolling it into a sausage and squeezing it.
- With daily Dough Disco a child's brain learns to control the fingers a lot quicker.
- **Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle** is the next stage in early years child development and moves on to more advanced mark making and letter formation.
- **Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle** uses neurological and physiological movements to create marks. It is a developmental approach to early writing.





Safeguarding

- Medicines to be administered must be prescribed to your child & forms signed.
- Attendance - If your child can't attend school parents must inform the school office.
- Collecting – if changes are made, **you must contact the school** and let us know who is collecting your child.
- No Mobile phones to be used in school.
- We follow the signed photo consent agreement for Learning Journeys.



School Website

www.stgcps.org

After half term, you will find:

- Early Years class blog, displaying the photographs and activities the children have been doing each week.
- Read Write Inc Phonic Guidance
- Topic overviews showing the Early Years Outcomes/Early Learning Goals the children are learning.
- Newsletters
- EYFS Curriculum (Early Learning Goals, Early Years Outcomes & Characteristics of Effective Learning)
- Policies



School Facebook & Twitter

We have a school Facebook and Twitter account for parents to follow.

Tapestry

Tapestry is a secure online Learning Journal to record photos, observations and comments, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, to build up a record of your child's experiences during their time with us. Please comment on and add your own posts to Tapestry. This will help us to have a more robust overview of your child's development, including evidence we may not see at school.

St George's
Catholic Primary School



*Inspired by Gospel Values to grow and
learn in faith, love and laughter.*