



EYFS
Information Evening
3rd June 2025



Welcome to St John's School

A warm welcome to you all and thank you for choosing St John's School. We hope that this evening will give you a chance to get information and ask any questions you have.



Our Vision

Nurturing potential within a Christian ethos

Together we will work to enable all our children to achieve their full potential within our Christian family. Through the teachings and examples of Jesus, we nurture individuality - providing challenge, developing self-esteem and promoting care and respect for each other and God's world.

'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me' Philippians 4:13



Our Values





Introducing...

Mrs Becky Wright, Headteacher

Mrs Tessa Thomas, Deputy Head

Mrs Endicott & Miss Henley, Reception Teachers

Mrs Gulliver, Chair of the Local Governing Board

Mrs Morrow, Admin and Communications Assistant

Saplings – wrap around care



Meet The Team!

In the Reception class there will be the following staff:

Class teachers –

Mrs Endicott – 3 days
(Monday, Tuesday, Friday)

Miss Henley – 3 days
(Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

What we would like for your child when they start school:

- To be happy
- To feel safe
- To learn
- To enjoy coming to school
- To make good friends

Sometimes this happens very quickly and for others it takes a little longer, but they will all get there.



What your children will need to bring to school...

- Book bag with 1 small keyring (No rucksacks or large or multiple key rings!)
- Reading book (when given) and a named plastic wallet
- Warm Coat for cold days and for hot days hat/sun cream applied
- A clearly named Water bottle for classroom (no squash/fizzy drinks/milk) (Please put a separate one if they are having a packed lunch)
- Fruit/Vegetable snack in a clearly named pot or sandwich bag (for morning break) you can include yoghurts, cheese, healthy items if they need a more substantial snack.
- For those having a packed Lunch box please provide a healthy lunch, including drink
- PE Kit - Black shorts, Green t-shirt, trainers, jogging bottoms, hoodie/sweatshirts - (these again stay in school and will be returned half termly for washing)

•PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY NAMED - it really helps us to reunite clothing, shoes, snack pots to the right child at hometime! Thank you.

What can I be doing at home?



We often get parents asking what they should be doing at home with their children before they start school. Please don't worry about doing lots of academic things. That is our job in September. The following are guidelines:

- Practising Gross Motor Skills - outside activities, climbing frames, throwing and catching a ball, running, skipping, ride on toys, bikes
- Lots of mark making activities and fine motor skills practise - colouring, stickers, threading beads,
- Reading and sharing books (bedtime stories)
- Counting and number recognition
- Puzzles and games
- Recognising their name - this is very helpful if they know their own name when they see it.
- Putting on their coat and doing up zips
- Dressing and undressing

It is helpful when they start school if they can do the following



- Dress and undress themselves correctly, including zipping up coats and doing up buttons
- Use a knife and fork and make choices about the food they want to eat
- Go to the toilet independently, including washing hands and knowing when to go
- Look after their own belongings
- Recognise their own name
- Follow rules, routines and expected behaviour

If however they have any difficulty in any of the following please don't worry, we will help them.

First Day...



- Talk through in advance what will happen on their first day of school.
- Be positive and enthusiastic
- The school gates will open at 8.40am and school starts at 8.55am prompt.
- You will drop them off at the black gate and they will then be helped by one of us into the Reception door. There will a member of staff on the door and more staff in the classroom to help them with their belongings.

Messages for the Class Teacher



- Please pass any messages regarding changes to collection of your child to the person on the gate or via email.
- If you would like to speak with a class teacher in more detail then please email the office and we can arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient time.
- Morning times are very busy for the class teacher and our priority will be in settling all the children into the school day. At the end of the day we can be available if you need to speak to us.

Collection at the end of day

- The school day ends at 3.15pm
- Children need to be collected from the Reception play area. They will be released from the classroom by a member of staff directly to you. The main school gate will be opened from 3.05.
- Please make sure if they are being collected by someone different that you have told us, emailed or rung office to let them know. We cannot release a child to anyone we don't know is to collect them.
- If you have a regular collection arrangement e.g grandparent, child minder etc then please send an email and then you don't have to let us know daily.



In Reception we follow the EYFS Curriculum

Throughout Reception, children will be following the EYFS Curriculum which they will have started at Nursery/PreSchool.

At the end of the year children will be assessed against the 17 Early Learning Goals. You will have a parents meeting in the Autumn and Spring term and then you will receive a report at the end of the summer term with details of their progress.

Phonics and learning to read

- We will begin formal phonics teaching in the first few weeks of them starting school, we will be following the Little Wandle phonics scheme.
- Your children will also start to come home with reading books within the first few weeks once we feel it is appropriate for them to have one. They usually will bring home picture books until we feel they are ready to bring home books that match the phonic sounds we are learning.
- A phonics workshop will be held in the Autumn term to talk about this in more detail.
- Book changing days will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Your child will also have access to our library where they can take home a library book once a week.

In Reception we use: Tapestry

- Tapestry is an online observation platform, where we can post photos and observations of things the children are doing at school. You are also able to post things that they do at home. This is just information that is shared between school and you and no one else.
- We use Tapestry to send you an email once a week with updates of what the children have been doing and any photos if relevant.
- If you could also put up photos at home of anything that you think shows their learning e.g riding a bike or things they may not get opportunities to do at school or things that they have learnt and are then continuing at home.
- A permission slip will be sent to you online and if you could return that we can then set up your accounts.
- An email notification will be sent to you to set up a password. Please let us know if you haven't received one by September.



Social Media

We use social media at St John's and often post photos of the children on our Friday News and on Instagram to show you and let you know what the children are doing. If this is something that you would NOT like your child to appear on then please can you ensure that you fill out the section on your admission form to let us know.

Tapestry is separate from this and no photos are posted externally.

Transition arrangements

We are offering 3 transition sessions for the children, and we will also be visiting them where possible in their Pre-Schools.

The sessions are as follows:

- **17th June 2.15 – 3pm** - parents and children stay and play
- **24th June 2.15 – 3pm** - children stay in the classroom and the parents go for tea and coffee and second hand uniform available.
- **1st July** - 9.30 – 12.30 Children come to school for the morning and bring their own packed lunch.
- **5th September** - First Day – All day
- Any allergies your child might have could you please let us know by email to the office by 16th June.

ANY QUESTIONS

