



Welcome to Reception Class



Dear Parents

Thank you very much for supporting your child during their first couple of days in Reception Class. It has been lovely to see the children arriving so confidently; they have quickly settled into their new environment and are happy and already making new friends. We hope that like us your child is looking forward to having a very fun and exciting year in Reception class.

As we are unable to hold our usual 'Meet the Teacher' I hope this newsletter will give you an idea of our class routines and provide lots of other useful information. I have also included and insight to some of the wonderful learning activities the children will be experiencing over this Autumn term and how parents can engage to help to support their child's learning at home with phonics/reading/writing and maths activities. It is so beneficial to your child's progress that school staff and parents work in partnership to enhance learning. We are therefore looking forward to getting to know and work jointly with parents so that the children's time in Reception class is as enjoyable and as productive as possible. At St. Luke's we have an open door policy so please do not hesitate to speak to the Reception staff with any questions you may have or to arrange for a meeting after school for a longer chat.

Kind regards Miss Lingard

Please email homelearningrec@st-lukes-endon.staffs.sch.uk if your have any questions

Start and End of the school day : Safe Guarding Routines

Children will be greeted each morning by a member of staff at 09.05am at the Reception Class gate.

Please let staff know in the morning if your child is going to be collect that afternoon by someone other than a known parent.



Car Park



Due to Safeguarding, the school car park is a staff only car park. It can only be used by parents who are dropping off children at Fast Club before 8.30 or collecting children from Fast Club after 3.30.

Uniform Please label **all** clothing (shoes, coats, jumpers etc.)

Coats Please **always** send your child to school in a coat as our British weather is so unpredictable! We encourage children to zip and or button their coats independently.



P.E Kit Please label **all** P.E. kit and send into school ideally in a draw string bag. P.E. kit can be left in school and will be sent home every half-term for washing. P.E. will be on a **FRIDAY** afternoon.

Please try to encourage your child to dress and undress themselves as independently as possible and practice fastening buttons and zips. We will help with top 2 buttons so if they come home with some undone, inside out and back to front, please don't worry, they are still learning and will have had a good try!

Book Bags

Our PSA have very kindly funded the cost to provide every new Reception class child with a St. Luke's book bag.

We will frequently be sending letters and information home so please could you ensure that your child brings their bag to school **everyday** and that letters are removed and read each night.

In due course book bags will be used for sending home; phonics and maths homework, reading books and reading diaries.

Therefore please do not put your child's water bottle inside their book bag.



Water bottles

Please could you provide your child with a water bottle to enable them access to water readily throughout the day.



Please make sure your child's name is written clearly on their water bottle.

Bottles can be kept in school and will be sent home every Friday.

Parent's can choose to take the bottle home daily but please remember to return to school the next day.

Healthy Eating



Children will be given the option of having a carton of milk to drink during morning break time. This will be free and then chargeable once your child becomes 5 years old.

Children will also be given a snack of a piece of fruit in the afternoon free of charge.



School Meals



Please remember to use the Dolce System to pre-order your child's lunch.

Should you wish to send your child to school with a packed lunch box please note that **St. Luke's is a 'nut free' school as we do have children & staff with allergies**

Home work Activities



Phonics Folder:

We will be providing parents with lots of information on how they can help their child with early reading and writing skills. Using Jolly Phonics songs the children will start to recognise letter sounds and learn how to correctly form letters. Every time we learn a new sound we will send a sheet home to practice and help embed learning.

Brain Builder Book:

Each week a Brain Builder email will be sent giving parents information on what the children have been doing in school during the week and ideas on how they can help to support them further with their learning including practical maths activities.

Please see inside Brain Builder book for more information.

Reading Books:

Initially we will be sending home 'wordless' books to encourage children to really look at the pictures, discuss what they can see with their parent and use their comprehension to make their own story up. Once children can recognise and start to blend letter sounds together we will send home a phonics reading book containing simple words and sentences.

Reading Rockets:

These cards will show high frequency words that children will need to practice to 'sight read' i.e. recognise and read instantly (words such as 'the', 'go', 'and')

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

The EYFS curriculum has 7 areas of learning; Communication and Language, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

Through different topics and reading text we are able to connect and weave these areas of learning together to provide structured learning activities and purposeful play opportunities to enable children acquire new skills, to learn to do new things independently, develop socially and emotionally and use a wider vocabulary to become better communicators.

We will send home further information on the Early Learning Goals upon which the children will be working to achieve and be assessed against in the Summer term.



Autumn 1 Topic "Tell me a Story"



Over the next few weeks, through a Talk 4 Writing approach the children will be encouraged to learn to retell different Traditional Tales. Through stories such as Goldilocks, The Three Little Pigs and Little Red Hen we will be encouraging the children to join in with repeated phrases as well as learn about different story characters, settings and understand how stories are sequenced. They will have their very own story book to bring home and retell the stories to their family members. In school the children will be given lots of opportunities to act out these stories together within our role settings and using various role play props.

We will encourage the children to talk about where they live and their own immediate family and **would be grateful if parents would send in a family photograph** to support this activity.

Children will be able to access many cutting, threading, colouring and construction activities to encourage and strengthen their fine motor skills. During our P.E. lessons the children will practicing their balancing skills and moving in different ways including hopping, skipping and dancing in time to music.

As Autumn approaches we will ask the children to collect items to create an Autumn display table e.g. conkers, acorns and different coloured leaves etc.



These items will encourage discussion and children's understanding of seasons and change.

During RE lessons we will talk about God and how Christians believe he is the creator of the universe. For our Harvest celebration we will focus on "sharing with others" and through the Bible story "Feeding of the Five Thousand" the children will be involved in making bread.

In school we follow White Rose maths and over the Autumn Term with the help of Numberblocks and other resources the children will be focusing initially on mastering numbers to 5. We will be comparing amount, counting, ordering and also learning how to subitising i.e. recognising how many objects there are instantly without having to count them. Children will learn how to add two groups together, subtract an amount from a larger group as well as practice halving and sharing objects. Children will be encouraged to talk about time in relation to; saying the days of the week in order, ordering events in their day and playing "What's the Time Mr. Wolf". We will be extending the children's mathematical language when ordering and comparing the size, height and length. The children will also be learning to name and describe 2D and 3D as well as manipulating shapes to make patterns and pictures.

These are just a few examples of the different learning opportunities made available for all children and in addition children will have plenty of free choice time to explore and investigate activities both in our indoor and outside areas.

