



St Mary and All Saints Church of England Primary School  
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An Oxford Diocesan  
School

**Headteacher**

**Mrs J Barnett BA (QTS)**

11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parent,

Welcome to St Mary & All Saints **Reception** class. Your child's class teacher is **Mrs Bayliss** and **Mrs Canning** is the Learning Support Assistant.

We have an exciting year ahead with many fun activities planned. Each term you will receive a letter explaining the term's topics and other helpful information, so you are able to support your child at home. We look forward to getting to know both you and your child over the coming term.

We will be working within the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework 2023. The emphasis is on learning through carefully structured and child initiated play activities to provide a broad and balanced learning experience.

The areas of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework 2023 are:

Communication and language  
Physical development  
Personal, social and emotional development  
Literacy  
Mathematics  
Understanding the world  
Expressive arts and design

These areas will incorporate opportunities for playing and exploring, active learning, creating and thinking critically.

Following Government guidelines, we will be completing Statutory Baseline Assessments in the first half of the Autumn term. For more information on this please go to :-  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment-information-for-parents>

Our two topics for this term are Marvellous Me and Light and Dark. We will look forward to following the children's interests within these topics.

Please remember to provide your child with a bottle of WATER which is named. You can choose if you would like to send in a fresh fruit snack in a named pot with your child but fruit is provided daily by school.

## **PE**

We will be having P.E. lessons on a **Tuesday**. All P.E. kit should be named, in a named bag with a spare pair of named socks and underwear in case of accidents. P.E. kits only go home at the end of each half term. Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible when undressing/dressing. This will enable your child to change independently for P.E. and make for a quicker start and finish to the lesson.



## **Phonics**

We follow the Unlocking Letters and Sounds synthetic phonics scheme and in the Autumn Term you will be invited to a workshop which will explain how phonics is taught through this accredited scheme.

## **Home Learning**

Your child will be issued with a high quality picture text meant for sharing which will be changed once week on a Thursday and when ready after assessments, they will be issued with a decodable phonics reading book which will be changed twice weekly on a Monday and a Thursday. As part of the curriculum your child will be expected to read their book daily at home. We recommend that each book is read at least three times. Please ensure that you write comments in the reading diary each time you read with your child. The reading diary will be checked on Mondays and Thursdays when books are changed.

This year, we continue to focus on reading (especially reading for enjoyment) and are looking forward to finding out about what exciting books the children enjoy. Continue to listen to your child read daily, as not only will this aid their learning considerably, it will also increase their enjoyment of reading.

Our carefully selected suggested reads for Reception are:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Dogger by Shirley Hughes                             | 7. The Blue Balloon by Mick Inkpen           |
| 2. Mr Gumpy's Outing by John Burningham                 | 8. Percy's Bumpy Ride by Nick Butterworth    |
| 3. Farmer Duck by Martin Waddell                        | 9. A Squash and a Squeeze by Julia Donaldson |
| 4. Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell                             | 10. Peace At Last by Jill Murphy             |
| 5. The Bad-Tempered Ladybird by Eric Carle              | 11. How Many Legs by Kes Grey                |
| 6. Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs by John Whybrow | 12. Squirrels who Squabbled by Rachel Bright |

Each Friday you will receive a weekly Reception update via Seesaw. You will receive a QR code to enable you to log on to this as well.

## **Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)**

Personal social and emotional development (PSED) forms a key part of our curriculum each term. Teaching personal development is vital in many ways. It helps children develop a positive sense of themselves, independence, respect for others, social skills, emotional well-being and a positive disposition to learning.

This term your child will be taught about their place in the world and recognising and celebrating differences as part of our PSHE curriculum. They will also be introduced to, and be asked to reflect on, the following key values through our weekly assembly programme: Trust, Love, Dignity, Generosity, Thankfulness, Joy, Peace, Community and Wisdom. In addition, across the Autumn Term, children will learn about the importance of helping others through our involvement with One Can Trust and our Harvest celebrations and the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and our Remembrance Service.

In Autumn 2, all children will take place in 'Anti-Bullying week', a week dedicated to sending a clear and positive message that bullying is neither acceptable nor inevitable in our schools and communities. Children are also taught that it is important to tell someone if they are being bullied and how to get help if they find themselves in that position. We also hold our annual, 'Walk To School Week' to help our pupils start to recognise both the health benefits of walking to school and the environmental benefit of having fewer cars on the road.

Pupils in Reception will also have the opportunity to develop their self-confidence and public speaking skills this term as they take part in our Christmas Nativity. We are really looking forward to this special event as we are sure are you.

Finally, across the school, pupils are given the opportunity to perform key roles to both develop their leadership skills and sense of responsibility or teamwork. These responsibilities increase as children progress through the different year groups. In Reception pupils take on the role of school councillors as voted for by their peers.

### **Reception Key Dates**

Reception start full time – Tuesday 19th September

Please can you ensure your child comes to school with suitable outdoor clothing e.g. raincoat, wellington boots, according to the weather. You may wish to provide a pair of wellington boots for your child to keep in school. These boots must be named.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to come and see us before or after school or make an appointment through the school office.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Bayliss

***Reminder: For the next two weeks your child will attend school for half a day until 12 noon. On Tuesday 19th September they will begin full-time from 09.00am – 3.25pm.***