

# Reception Parent Information Sheet. September 2020

## Welcome to Holy Souls!



Welcome to the Parents of our new Reception classes.

We are very excited to be working in two beautiful, refurbished classrooms. We thank you for your patience with information about start dates when getting them ready for the children.

### Home School Communication

Please let us know if someone different will be picking your child up from school. We cannot hand children over to adults who we do not recognise or have not been informed about.

Under normal circumstances we have an open door policy regarding communicating with parents. However due to social distancing if you require a conversation with your child's teacher please call or email the school office. Your child's teacher will contact you as soon as possible. If your child's teacher needs to contact you then they will make a phone call.

### PE

From 28<sup>th</sup> September PE will be taught on Tuesdays, your child can come to school in their PE kit on a Tuesday. In colder weather they can wear dark coloured tracksuit bottoms and a dark coloured sweatshirt/hoodie.

### Curriculum

We will be in touch with you in the future to share the Early Learning Goals that your child is working towards in Reception.

### Book Bags

Please keep a spare pair of pants for your child in their book bag in case of accidents. Please send your child to school with drink bottle, preferably water but water or cordial only, and a piece of fruit. Please cut grapes in half if this is the fruit that you provide. Please do not send in any toys from home.

Usually we would discuss your child's home learning at our workshops, however as our workshops are unable to take place at the moment this information sheet will outline the work which will be sent home in your child's book bag by the end of September.

Each week your child will be given a new book to share with you. Please sign the reading diary so we know that your child has read with you. We only change the books once the diary has been signed. At first the books are mainly picture books with a few, if any, words. Please talk about the pictures with your child, this will get them used to sharing a story. Ask them what is happening, what they think will happen next and if they can remember what happened at the start of the book. Gradually the books will have more words, we wouldn't expect the children to necessarily read them independently but to have a go and see which letters they recognise. Reading with your child every day is essential for their development.

There is also a word list in the book bag. These are words for your child to learn by sight. Many of these words cannot be sounded out so children cannot blend the sounds together e.g. the. These words are high frequency words so if your child can recognise them it greatly helps their reading fluency. Each week we will ask the children to read the words in a random order. When they are secure with the list then they will move on to the next list.

There is also a numbers booklet, similarly to the word list, each week children will be given a set of numbers to learn which they will be tested on once a week. As the year progresses the tasks may differ slightly for example recognising which number is one more or less than a given number.

Each child learns at their own pace so please don't worry if your child has the same list for several weeks. A few minutes every day working with your child on their words and numbers will help to reinforce their learning in school.

### Lunches

The school provide lunches for free to all Reception children. There are a range of options for your child to choose from. Please let the office know as soon as possible if your child has any allergies or dietary requirements.

**Please label all of your child's uniform, including their coat and shoes. Please also label their water bottle.**

Our school website has the overview of topics we learn in Reception.

**<https://www.holysoul.bham.sch.uk/reception.htm>**