

Reception Parent Information Sheet September 2023

Welcome to Holy Souls Catholic Primary School



Welcome to the Parents of our new Reception!

We are very excited to be working with your children and yourselves over the next academic year. Here are some reminders and details for you.

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.

If you require a conversation with your child's teacher, you can contact them via the Class Dojo platform which we check in on daily or please call or email the school office. Your child's teacher will contact you as soon as possible.

PE

From the week, beginning 18th September, PE will be taught on Thursdays. Please send your child in their full PE kit on this day.

This consists of;

- White polo shirt
- Navy blue shorts
- School cardigan or jumper (no hoodies)
- Trainers
- No jewellery to be worn
- During the winter months, the children can wear navy blue leggings or jogging bottoms

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. You can find lots of information on our school website about what your child is learning in class.

Book Bags

We ask that children bring these in every day. Please send your child to school with a 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. A clean pair of pants is also good to have in your child's book bag in case of accidents.

Please do not send in any toys from home.

Reading

Each week your child will be sent home with a new book to share with you. At first the books are mainly picture books with a few, if any, words. Please talk about the pictures with your child, building their vocabulary and understanding and 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.

As the children progress, their book will correlate with the phonic sounds being taught that week in school. 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.

Our school expectation is that the children read for 20 minutes everyday. This time includes sharing and listening to stories with an adult

Home Learning

Children in Reception will also receive a Word List booklet. 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.

Forest School

The children will be using our forest school throughout the week. Please send your child in with a pair of wellies and a waterproof jacket and trousers or all-in-one. These will remain in school so the children can use them when needed. We will send them home each half term.

Please label all of your child's uniform, including their coat and shoes. (Remember to keep checking these especially each half term as names that are written often erase during washes.) Please also label their water bottle. If your child does not recognise their name as yet you could also add a sticker or draw a picture to go alongside it.

Over the next few weeks we also ask for your patience when we are dismissing the children at the end of the day. We need to get to know your faces and make sure your child has all the correct items to return home with.

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

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

We are looking forward to getting to know and working with you and your child over this next year.

Mrs Gill, Miss Cookson, Miss Hassett and Miss Mills
Reception Staff