

# Foundation Stage Welcome Meeting

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024



# Your Child's Teachers

Mrs Price

Class Teacher

Early Child Development lead

I have been teaching at St Mary's for three years now and this is my third year teaching in Reception class.

I completed my undergraduate degree at BGU specialising in Early years then went on to get my teaching degree.

# Times of the school day



- The Foundation Stage school day begins at 8.45am and ends at 3.15pm.
- At the beginning of the day, we welcome you to join us in the classroom from 8.45am for a 'morning job'.
- Enter through Foundation Stage door. This will be a time when you can see what your child has been learning, support them to practise key skills and to speak to school staff.
- At the end of the day, the children may be collected from the Foundation Stage door.

## Pick up arrangements

- Please inform us if you have to change your collection arrangements during the day, or if you will be late collecting your child.
- Ideally, please let your class teachers know if your child is going home with someone else by letting them know at drop off in the morning, or notifying the school office.
- Please be aware that anyone collecting your child must be over the age of 16.



# Curriculum & Welcome Meetings



- Our first priority in your child's first few weeks in school is to ensure that they are settled and happy.
- Early in September, we will hold another meeting to share more details about the curriculum your child will follow, and how you can help at home.
- Please look out for further correspondence about this, and for the dates of such when our school calendar is released. In the meantime, more information can be found on our website

## How can we help at home?



- All children are expected to read at home at least five times a week and we may request that children follow up work completed in school.
- Please give your child every encouragement and support their efforts. Parental interest in children's work is greatly appreciated, and the willingness to give time and effort at home is valued highly in school.

# Home Contact



- If you wish to pass on information, please speak to the class teachers
- It is important that we are aware of who will collect your child from school. **Please complete our 'Pre-Authorisation Collection Form' to inform us of this.**
- If there is a change to normal routine, please let the class teachers know beforehand
- If you are unexpectedly delayed, please telephone the school to let us know so that we can inform them and ensure they are supervised.

# Special Educational Needs



- When children experience temporary or long-term difficulties for a variety of reasons and need help over and above what most others require, they may have special educational needs. Provision for SEND covers all learning difficulties, whether physical, intellectual or emotional.
- If you feel you would like to raise any concerns in this area, please speak to your child's class teachers in the first instance. You may also speak to Miss Wain who is our SEND co-ordinator.

# Absences



- Daily attendance at school is a legal requirement.
- If your child is ill, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school.

**Authorised absence:** An absence for sickness for which the school has granted leave

**Unauthorised absence:**

- Parents keeping children off school unnecessarily or without reason
  - Absences which have never been properly explained
  - Arrival at school after the register has closed
  - Absence due to shopping, looking after other children or birthdays
  - Absence due to day trips and holidays in term-time which have not been agreed
  - Leaving school for no reason during the day
- 
- Please notify us by phone call or email before 9.30am if your child is to be absent.
  - We need to be informed on a daily basis of continued absence.

# Uniform



## • Girls

- V neck navy jumper or cardigan
- Sky blue shirt
- Charcoal grey skirt or trousers
- Black shoes (not trainers)
- White or grey socks or tights
- School Tie

## Boys

- V neck navy jumper
- Sky blue shirt
- Charcoal grey trousers/shorts
- Black shoes (not trainers)
- Black or grey socks
- School Tie

- All items with school logo may be purchased from [www.just-schoolwear.co.uk](http://www.just-schoolwear.co.uk). Ties are available to purchase from the school office.

# PE Uniform



- When participating in PE lessons, all pupils must wear :
  - Navy shorts or navy jogging bottoms
  - White t-shirt with school logo or plain white t-shirt
  - Plimsolls for indoor activity and trainers for outdoor activity
- During PE, ear studs should be removed or taped over. Children should bring their own tape to school or ideally taped over at home, before school

# Payments



- Wherever possible, we are a cash-free school. For most events, we use 'sQuid'; an online payment service for parents. This is also used for our school trips.
- More information will be given out about this in September.

# School Lunches



- Hot meals, cold meals and sandwiches, made from fresh ingredients, are provided daily by our in-house catering team. Menus are available at school and online so that parents can see the meals which will be served.
- All Foundation, Y1 and Y2 pupils are currently entitled to a school lunch free of charge.
- You do not have to do anything as entitlement is automatic based on your child's age.
- This brings a number of benefits for you as parents, from the time saved making packed lunches, through to cost-saving benefits. We all know that children can shy away from trying new things and therefore it is our policy that children should be encouraged to do so! Please support us by opting for a school meal for your child.

# Breakfast & After-School Club



- For families who need an earlier start to the school day, Breakfast Club is available. With a range of activities and breakfast provided, it opens at 7.30 am and the children are escorted to their classrooms at 8.45am. Breakfast Club costs £3.00 per session which is booked and paid for electronically via sQuid.
- The After-School Club is run by Ashfield Play Care Scheme. More information can be found on their website: [www.ashfieldplaycarescheme.co.uk](http://www.ashfieldplaycarescheme.co.uk)
- Extra-curricular activities are also available on evenings throughout the week and include a variety of sports clubs and matches, musical activities such as learning to play an instrument, singing in the choir or playing in the school band. We feel confident that there is something for everyone! These clubs will be offered to Foundation from the beginning of the spring term. This allows children to settle into school life in the autumn term.

# Parents & St Mary's



- During the school year, there are many informal opportunities for parents to visit and participate in school life. For example, class assemblies, harvest festival, Christmas nativity, sports day and open days.
- A calendar of events is available on the school website. We make every effort to keep dates, but in the event of a change, we will provide as much notice as possible.
- We try to encourage a happy home/school relationship, as this enables the children to have a secure environment, which is conducive to learning.
- Every aspect of the school's relationships with its pupils, success depends very largely on co-operation with parents. It is our belief that no school can hope to achieve its objectives unless both parents and teachers are working together to a common end

# Language



## Talking Together

# Talking Leads to Learning

Helping your child learn to talk and listen well will help them to be ready to learn when they get to nursery and school.



Keep dummies for sleep times only from six months old\*



Sing songs and rhymes with me



Our best place is face to face



Listen to me, give me time - I have lots of things to say



Talk with me all day - at bath time, meal times and in play



Share books with me



Switch off and talk with me

\*Unless advised by a health professional.

Please visit [www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/language-for-life](http://www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/language-for-life) and like our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/nottslanguageforlife](https://www.facebook.com/nottslanguageforlife)  
You can also visit your local children's centre and ask to speak to the language lead or speech and language therapist.



For further information: <https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk>

Nottinghamshire County Council

Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

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- Rhyming helps children become more aware of the differences in speech sounds
- Books: Read rhyming books together and see if your child can find the rhymes.
- Singing nursery rhymes with your child will also help raise their awareness of speech and the sounds being used.
- Children love repetition and this will help your child learn new words, short phrases and language patterns.
- Using signs and gestures will help engage your child – helping them to learn concepts, up/under/over and even counting.
- Help your child develop speech sounds by naming lots of items and objects for them to hear.
- If your child says a word which is unclear – model it by repeating it back to them e.g. child says “tar” instead of car....say “yes, it’s a car”
- Try to be face-to-face with your child and at their eye level so they can clearly see your mouth, lip and tongue position

Words For Life



# Transition Information



- There are 2 planned visits for your children. The dates of these are Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July. There is a letter for you to take home with information regarding these.
- Children will start school full time in phases, beginning Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September. All children will be in school by Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September
- Welcome meeting is on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 5pm.

# Tour of the classroom & Questions

