Welcome to Reception

Walk On Water

2026-2027

With God ALL THINGS ARE possible

MATTHEW 19:26

The Reception Team

Class Teachers: Mrs Styles and Miss Woodger

Learning Support Assistants: Mrs Currie & Miss Ricketts

We are all here to help and support you and your child throughout their year at St Paul's. We would like to develop a working partnership with you to enable your child to reach their full potential. Please visit the regularly updated class pages on the school website which contains a wealth of information about the school events.

We are based in the Reception classroom in the Iona Building. Please enter each morning through the gate from the KS1 playground.



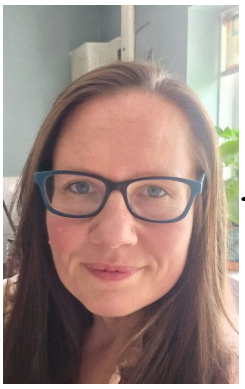
Mrs Styles



Mrs Currie



Miss Woodger



Miss Ricketts

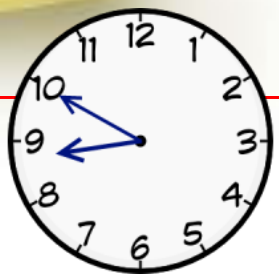
Parents' Evenings

Autumn Term – Individual consultations

Spring Term – Individual consultations

Summer Term – Open Evening and Reports

Please encourage your child to share concerns with us during the school day, rather than going home with worries that could have been resolved immediately. If you have any problems please put a note in the link book to arrange a meeting.
However small the problem, it is always better to deal with any concerns immediately.



School Day

8.50am – 3.30pm.

Children can arrive from 8.40am. The register closes at 9am. Children arriving after this time should sign in at the office who will bring them into their classrooms.

At the end of the day, we will see the children out to parents at the classroom door and children who have not been collected will be taken to the school office. Parents will then be contacted by telephone.

If your child is unwell, please ring the school first thing in the morning to let us know of the reason for absence.

Holiday Dates

Notification of school term dates is always given in advance. Parents are expected to arrange family annual holidays to coincide with school holiday dates.

Curriculum

In Early Years, children learn through a variety of ways. They engage in Child Initiated Learning during the school day and choose the area they would like to work in. We aim to make all our lessons as creative as possible in order to engage and inspire the children and may change the topics depending on their interests. This year we have lots of exciting topics planned so that we can learn more and remember more. These include:

Autumn 1 Where do I belong? - Who am I?



Autumn 2 World Festivals and Celebrations— Let's Celebrate!



Spring 1 Earth and Beyond—What is on planet earth and beyond?



Spring 2 Services in our Community—How can I be of service?



Summer 1 Creatures Great and Small—What special features do living things have?



Summer 2 Under the Sea—What lives in the water?



Please look out for our half-termly curriculum newsletters for a more detailed outline of what we intend to cover.

Half-termly timetables can be found on the Reception class page on the website.

Literacy, Phonics and Mathematics are taught daily as these are core subjects. Topics throughout the half term will include learning in the other specific areas of Understanding the World (including RE) and Expressive Arts and Design. Music, Art, Geography and History may be taught through topics or stand alone lessons.

PE will take place on a Wednesday morning with a specialist PE coach.

Children should bring their PE kit (including trainers and spare socks) to school at the start of each term and they will remain on their peg until the end of the half term.
Earrings must be removed on PE days.
Initially, Reception children will have PE in the school hall.
Throughout the school day, children will have access to physical equipment such as the pirate ship, bicycles, scooters, footballs, climbing equipment etc.





Every Monday afternoon, the children will choose their own book from the class library to bring home and share with you. Later in the year we will arrange visits to the school library.



Being Prepared

Children must come to school prepared for all weather. We spend a lot of time outdoors each day, exploring the school grounds or woodland areas, visiting the farm or using the physical equipment. Depending on the time of year, your child will need a warm coat or rain jacket, a hat, and a pair of wellies. Wellies should remain in school on the welly stand. It is also a good idea to have a full change of clothes in a named plastic bag on your child's peg in case of accidents or should they get wet / dirty from being outdoors.

Children should wear black, sturdy school shoes to school (velcro rather than laces is best for EYFS). A pair of trainers can be kept in their cubby hole for PE and outdoor play.

Assessments

At the start of the year, children will undertake a Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA). This provides a snapshot of where pupils are when they arrive at school and provides a starting point to measure their progress from. Children are assessed informally on a daily basis and where there are individual areas for development, we will notify you and ask for your support to help make progress.

Classroom Organisation

Children will be grouped within animal groups. These groups are mixed ability groups and provide opportunities for children to explore new friendships.

Each half term, we will change the groupings to encourage children to get to know new friends whilst working closely with them for adult-directed activities. The adults will support small groups at times throughout the week during adult-directed learning. We use named lolly sticks to allocate talk partners and to give children the opportunity to answer questions.



A Sense of Belonging …

Play Leaders

Year 5 children take part in play leader training which enables them to become experts in setting up and delivering a range of games for the Reception children during playtimes. They help the younger children to play games and encourage them to join in.



Buddies

Each child in Reception is assigned a Year 6 buddy to support a smooth transition to primary school. The buddies look out for the Reception children and walk with them to the church.

Houses

Children are placed into a house when they join St Paul's school— Cayzer (Blue), Fisher (Green), Grove (Red) and Loyd (Yellow). They will earn house points for their house.

Home Learning

Reading

Children are expected to read with an adult at least five times a week. This is to be recorded in their link book which will be checked daily by one of the adults.

Children will be rewarded with a yellow house point if they read four times in a week and a purple house point if they read more than this.

Phonics books are changed every Thursday and a new Collins book will be placed in the home learning folder.

Once children are beginning to blend independently, we will send home an additional challenge book matched to the phase they are working in. When your child has read the book, please let us know via the link book.

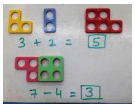
In September, we will hold a phonics & reading workshop with further information about supporting your child to read.

Phonics

Each week, the bulletin will inform parents what sounds or key words we have been focusing on during the week. Please support your child by writing the grapheme (letter) and thinking of words with the phoneme (sound). Can they go on a phoneme hunt searching for the letter in words / signs / on boxes etc.

Mathematics





A brief explanation is given in the weekly bulletin detailing the learning which has taken place in Mathematics. Here, you will find some suggestions and activities to try at home to support your child with their new learning.

Key Words

After the first half term, children will begin to learn key words. These are common words used in reading and writing. Children will practise reading the words first and then writing them.

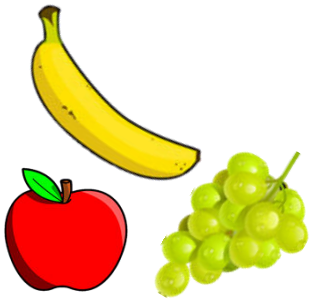
E-Learning

On the cover of the link book, you will find logins for Purple Mash, which is a secure learning platform with lots of different activities to explore,

Homework folders are given out on Thursday and are due back in on Tuesday. This will commence at the end of September. In the homework folder, there will be a new phoneme for your child to practise writing.

Snacks

Fruit or vegetable for snacktime is provided by the school in EYFS.



Water

Water is food for the brain! We actively encourage your child to bring in a filled water bottle each day and to refill this when needed.



Show and Tell

We have slots for Show and Tell to develop children's confidence speaking in front of others and to encourage a sense of belonging. Rather than bringing in items from home, please use Tapestry to share photos or videos of the children's accomplishments or perfecting a new skill. We also love to share the children's achievements so please encourage them to bring any successes in for Wow Worship every Friday.



Helping Out

We welcome help from parent volunteers for class trips to the farm, church, school trips etc. Please let us know via the link book if you are able to help. We will let you know on the weekly bulletin if we are looking for volunteers.



Our Golden Rules

Be respectful and polite

Be kind and thoughtful to others

Try your best

Be prepared and organised

Care for our school environment

Go above and beyond

Our whole school rewards system gives stickers, rewards and privileges as a reward for keeping the golden rules. These stickers are added to a reward card which, when full, will lead to various privileges.

Medicines

If your child suffers from asthma, allergies or any other condition, please let the class teacher know.

Medicines are not allowed in school. The exceptions to this rule are blue inhalers and epi/Jext pens and medicines which have to be given over a prolonged period. Apart from these instances, if children need medicine during school time, parents are expected to come into school to administer this. In exceptional circumstances, the Headteacher may agree to alternative arrangements and the class teacher may be able to administer the medicine if they require a dose of medicine four times a day. If this is agreed, a form must be completed at the office.

Uniform

See the policy but please remember black shoes should be worn to school. Trainers should only be worn for PE or during OPAL lunchtime play.

PE kits should also comply with school policy.

Please make sure all clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name. Labels for shoes are available from some stockists.

Jewellery

A pair of stud earrings may be worn. These must not be worn for PE (or should be taped up if they cannot be removed). **No other jewellery, including smart watches or Fit Bits are permitted.**

Hair

No hair gel or hair colour. Only plain hair bands in school colours or scrunchies are permitted. Long hair should be tied back wherever possible and this is compulsory during PE lessons.

In Reception, we ask that you always try your best and show kindness to others. We look forward to sharing some wonderful learning experiences together this year and will share our journey with you on our class website page and during our class assembly.

Mrs Styles, Miss Woodger, Mrs Currie and Miss Ricketts



INSPIRE - BELONG - ACHIEVE - FLOURISH - BELIEVE