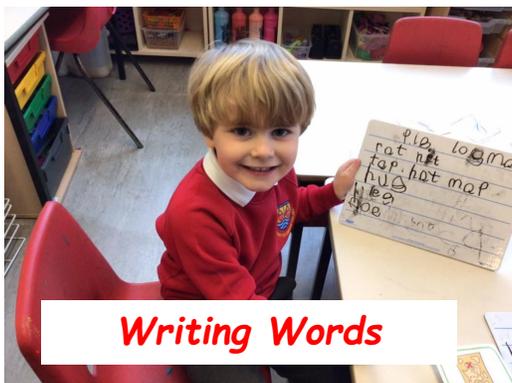




# St Bernadette Catholic Primary School

*"Learning to grow in knowledge, faith and love through friendship with Jesus and Mary."*

## Welcome Booklet for new Reception Children





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## Our Ethos

Our School is proud of its strong community. We value our partnership with parents, parishes and the wider community.

We are a school and church community, a family, promoting core Gospel values of compassion, respect for self and others, responsibility and honesty.

Our blend of traditional values, combined with creativity and innovation, offers a rich environment for progress. We believe that every child can succeed in life if challenged and inspired appropriately.

**We share a vision for each child to be cherished and have the best opportunities for an excellent education and fun-time in these formative years, to be a place where we help to make long-lasting magical memories through a creative inspiring curriculum.**

We encourage the full potential of every person by providing a unique and sacred learning environment witnessing to the person of Christ at the centre of every aspect of school life. We seek to build positive relationships with parents and others we work with, to provide a service to society preparing children as good citizens.

We aim to foster a love of learning in our children and to allow every child to work to the best of their ability. We strive for excellence in all we do.



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## Welcome to the Early Years Foundation Stage



**Constellation Art**

We provide a vibrant and stimulating environment where children are supported by and educated by highly skilled, dedicated and caring staff. We acknowledge that children learn in different ways and as such we provide a variety of teaching methods to make learning exciting for our children.

Extra help is given to pupils who may be experiencing difficulties and more demanding targets are set to extend the more able children. We aim to develop positive attitudes to learning and children receive praise and encouragement at every opportunity.



**Shape Pictures**



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## Meet the Team



**Mrs Chisholm**  
(Teaching Assistant)



**Miss Webb**  
(Class Teacher & Early  
Years Leader)



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## EYFS Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets standards for the learning, development and care of your child from birth to 5 years old.

All schools and Ofsted-registered early years providers must follow the EYFS, including childminders, preschools, nurseries and school reception classes.

<u>Prime Areas of Learning</u>			
Communication and Language	Physical Development	Personal, Social, Emotional Development	
<u>Specific Areas of Learning</u>			
Literacy	Maths	Understanding the World	Expressive Art and Design



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## EYFS Curriculum

One of the loveliest things about the Early Years is how we do not have set topics to teach. This allows us to plan specifically each year for our classes, based on their interests and experiences.





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## EYFS Curriculum

We are very fortunate here at St Bernadette to have lots of grounds for the children to use. In the Early Years, we do the majority of our learning in our indoor and outdoor area.





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## EYFS Curriculum

Each day, different activities are set up in our indoor and outdoor areas for CIL. This is time where the children can initiate their own learning and choose what areas they would like to be in. At this time, the children can flow freely from inside and outside.



**Save the Turtles!**



**Parachute Fun!**



**Church Role Play**



**Alien Crash Landing!**



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## EYFS Curriculum

We also take part in a number of Celebrated Days throughout the year. These are days where all learning activities are dedicated to a particular event or topic. Here are some of our more recent celebrations...





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## Tapestry



**Ice Cream Parlour**

We use an online learning journal called Tapestry. This is where we gather photos and observations - recording your child's progress in their learning. We use this platform to share 'WOW' moments with you and to share important information.

We then file the observations and other completed work into a file. This is a working document and it is available to you, your child and any nominated people to look at, at anytime and contribute to.

As this is an online profile we will need your permission to set up your child's account.



**Technology**



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## Tapestry

In your packs today, there are some documents that we urgently need you to fill in prior to starting in September. This way, we can set up Tapestry ready to go before September.

If you could please fill them in if you have not already and return them to me before you leave today.

We also have a document in your pack called 'Authorised Adults'. This is another urgent document, which states any other adults (not parents) that may collect your child.



**Building Sandcastles**



**Caring for plants**



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## Praying at School

Prayer is a very important part of our curriculum and in Nursery we teach one RE lesson each week. We also have a weekly reflection time, where the children get to join in with a group prayer session or learn about different stories from the Bible.

### Morning Prayer

Oh my God, you love me,  
You are with me night and  
day.  
I want to love you always in  
all I do and say.

I'll try to please you, Father,  
bless me through the day.  
Amen.



*In the name  
of the Father*



*And of the  
Son*



*And of the  
Holy*



*Spirit*



*Amen.*

### End of Day Prayer

God our Father  
I have come to say  
Thank you for your love  
today.

Thank you for my family and  
all the friends you give to  
me.

Guard me in the dark of  
night and in the morning send  
your light.  
Amen.



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## Prayer Bear

The lower classes in the school have each been allocated a 'Prayer Bear'. Prayer Bear gets to go home with a different child every week.

Prayer Bear has its very own belongings, including a prayer book, where the children can draw pictures of people they want to pray for with the support of their family members. This is then shared with the class, before given to the next child.



**Prayer Bear**



**Presenting Prayer Bear**



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## Uniform

**Winter Uniform**



Grey shorts/trousers with socks

Red kilt/grey skirt with socks

Red jumper/cardigan

Red gingham dress for the Summer term and until October half-term

White Shirt

Black sensible shoes (not laced for Y1 below)

**Summer Uniform**



### Stockists

Stevensons (St Albans) is the supplier for all school uniform.

Winter/Summer Hats and book bags are available from the school office.

Other items are readily available in high street stores.

Footwear should be suitable **low heeled** school shoes. Open toes and sling backs are not allowed for safety reasons.

*For health reasons, trainers are only allowed to be worn for PE and playtimes.*



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## PE

In Reception the children are asked to bring in their own PE kit to wear. Trainers or plimsolls must be worn for PE. We are unable to allow them to wear their school shoes for PE due to Health and Safety reasons.

Please make sure all items of clothing are named clearly and that the contents inside are appropriate for all weather conditions (e.g. tracksuit bottoms in the winter, shorts in the summer).

The children are expected and encouraged to get themselves dressed for PE. Please do try to promote more independence with getting dressed over the summer holidays.



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## Toilet Training

In Reception, there is an expectation that the children are toilet trained. If your child is not yet at this stage, then please work on this over the summer.

We do not have the facilities in our Reception classroom to manage this. The occasional, odd accident is understandable, but we do ask that children are confident to manage their own toileting needs themselves as much as possible.



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## School Dinners

In Reception the children are all permitted to have a free school dinner. The school menus are usually emailed to you all prior to the new school year.

Please ensure you discuss with your child what choice they are going to have as they will need to let the class teachers know. If you think your child may forget, you could draw a little dot on your child's hand in their chosen lunch colour.

Additionally, if your child does not want to have a school dinner, then they could bring in a home packed lunch. Just please be mindful that we are a nut-free school (this includes things like Nutella spreads).

Thursday	
Red	Beef Burger
Yellow	BBQ Quorn Fillet
Green	Ham Roll
Orange	Jacket Potato with Tuna

*This is an example lunch menu*



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## Messy Play

A huge part of our Early Years Curriculum involves messy play. We do try our best to ensure that aprons or other appropriate protective clothing is worn during these times. There may be the occasional messy activity that is missed, resulting in untidy or dirty clothes!



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## Supporting Smooth Transitions

Thursday 14th July 1:30-2:30 Moving Up Day

This will be an opportunity for your children to come in and meet their class, teachers and explore their new learning environment. This will just be for the children.



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## Supporting Smooth Transitions

Monday 5th	Tues 6th	Weds 7 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>	Fri 9th
AM: Group B (No lunch) 8.45 – 12.00	AM: Group A (With lunch) 8.45 – 12.00	AM: All children in with lunch 8.45 – 13.00	AM: All children in with lunch 8.45 – 13.00	AM: All children in with lunch 8.45 – 13.00
PM: Group A 13.00 – 15.00	PM: Group B 13.00 – 15.00			

An email informing you of your child's group will be sent out nearer the time.



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## September ready checklist

Have you got...

- A named water bottle that they recognise
- All school uniform clearly named (shoes too!)
- A PE kit (named too)
- A school book bag

Have you completed and handed in...

- Tapestry Permission form
- Tapestry email information form
- Authorised Adult form