



Welcome to Reception class at St Mary and St John Primary school.



Miss Walker

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What will be covered?

- Staff
- How we get to know your child
- Your child's first day
- Curriculum
- Assessment
- Parental engagement
- Uniform

Staff

- Miss Walker – Reception class teacher and EYFS/KS1 leader



- Mrs Groombridge – Early Years Practitioner



- Mrs Breden – Early Years Practitioner





Getting to know your child

Here are some of the ways we will get to know your child before they start school:

- Transition morning in September and phased intake schedule.
- Video calls with you and your child.
- Discussions with nurseries and key workers.

Phased intake

- The planned phased intake will be uploaded onto Class Dojo. Please bear in mind that collection and pick up times may vary between 3.00pm and 3.30pm due to staggering of groups and the aim to reduce lots of people and large groups gathering at school at one time – you will receive more information about this in September.
- If you feel at any point throughout the phased intake your child is extremely tired/exhausted first thing in the morning, we would advise you to give them a ‘rest’ day at home. At such an early stage of their school experience, it is important that the time spent at school is both a positive and happy one.
- School is a very different experience to Nursery / Pre-school. Children who are already used to full days each week at a Nursery will not necessarily be used to a full day of ‘learning through play’, with new friends and in a new environment, at school.

Your child's first day

- Please give your child plenty of time to get ready and have their breakfast, before coming to school calmly. This will help alleviate any stress for you and your child.
- Your child may be excited and anxious about their first day – however emotional and anxious you may be, please try not to show or convey this to your child.

When You:

*Cut it for me,
Write it for me,
Open it for me,
Set it up for me,
Draw it for me or
Find it for me,*

All I learn is:

that you do it better than me

Is my child school ready?

- I can settle happily without my parent or carer.
- I can tell friends and grown-ups what I need.
- I can take turns and share when I am playing.
- I can go to the toilet on my own and wash my hands.
- I can put on my own coat and shoes and feed myself.
- I can tell a grown up if I am happy, sad or cross.
- I know that what I do and say can make others happy or unhappy.
- I am curious and want to learn and play.
- I can stop what I am doing, listen and follow simple instructions.
- I enjoy sharing books with grown-ups.

Our curriculum



- Follow Development Matters
- What to expect and when.



<http://www.earlyyearscareers.com/eyc/early-years-practice/what-to-expect-when-a-parents-guide/>



Our curriculum

- Communication and language are at the heart of our curriculum.
- By the age of 6, children should have a vocabulary of around 14000 words.
- We start with an enquiry question to allow for child led learning.
- Today I have – a short note will be put on class dojo at the end of each day so you can see some of the things your child has been doing.
- Continuous provision inside and outside.



Some of the things we do at school:

- Wake and shake
- Access to continuous provision (indoors and outdoors) to practically explore each area of learning.
- Daily phonics
- Maths and English input – after transition period
- Yoga
- Singing & storytelling
- Show and Tell
- Sharing stories, drama & role play
- Learning how to make friends and behave kindly
- Creative art activities



Characteristics of effective learning

These are the ways in which children learn. In our curriculum these are of equal importance to the seven areas of learning. The classroom is designed to allow children the opportunity to use these characteristics.

Playing and exploring

- Finding out and exploring
Playing with what they know
Being willing to 'have a go.'

Active learning

- Being involved and concentrating
Keeping trying
Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Creating and thinking critically

- Having their own ideas
Making links
Choosing ways to do things



Assessment

- This comes initially from getting to know your child well.
- Our role is to then facilitate interactions which ‘actively build bridges between what your child knows and the new information to be learned next’ Rogoff, 1990.
- Daily, high quality interactions in all areas of continuous provision provide us with accurate assessment information to plan next steps.
- Target tracker – our whole school assessment software.

Being part of your child's learning journey

- Parental engagement is key and has a positive impact on the outcomes of your child and we want you to be involved in your child's learning journey.
- Today we have – posted on Class Dojo to keep you informed.
- Class Dojo – please use this to share things your child has been doing at home as these experiences all contribute to our assessment of your child.
- Photostories – photos of your children set to music that you can come and watch at the end of each big term (3 times a year).
- 'Come and see what we've been learning' sessions – these are opportunities for you to come and spend time in the classroom with your child and see what they have been learning about (3 times a year).
- Information evenings about: characteristics of effective learning, communication and language, phonics/reading and maths.



School Uniform

Where do I buy my child's school uniform?

**Kids & More; Sally-Ann
Uppingham Sports and Books**

- What is the school uniform?
 - Sweatshirt/Cardigan with school logo
 - **Navy Blue Polo Shirt**
 - Charcoal grey skirt , trousers, shorts or pinafore. Blue checked summer dress.
 - Navy blue jogging bottoms and navy hoodie (to be kept at school)
 - **Grey socks – we spend lots of time outside getting muddy so white don't stay white for long.**
 - A pair of black school shoes
 - Wellington Boots (to be kept at school)
 - Black plimsolls (to be kept at school)
 - Cap
 - Book Bag with school logo on
 - Waterproof Mac (to be kept on your child's peg)
 - Spare underwear (to be kept in your child's bookbag – please send in plenty)

Please labelling ALL items of clothing.



Lunchtimes

- Children are able to choose a free hot lunch or to bring a packed lunch.
- For the first term, I will take the children into the hall and stay in there whilst they eat their lunch (12.00 – 12.30).
- The children then go outside and play on the Reception playground, supervised by Mrs Breden, one of our Early Years Practitioners.
- To begin with the children remain in the Reception playground but then progress onto the big playground to play with the older children, later in the year to support the transition process.



Parent pack

- Phased intake schedule
- Term Dates 2020 21
- 'Things I need to bring to school' checklist
- 'School readiness' checklist
- School Prayers for your child to learn over the holiday
- 'A square to decorate to create a class cross.
- Health Questionnaire from the school nurse.

These will all be added onto Class Dojo for you to access.



Other information

- Parking – please do not park in the staff car park
- Milk – all children are entitled to free milk until they turn five.
- Free school meals – all children in Reception class and Key Stage 1 are entitled to free schools meals.

Over the summer

- Chatterboxes – this is a small box that your child can put pictures/things they have collected over the summer holidays in. We then ask them to bring this in at the start of term for them to share with adults and children.
- Our class family tree – we have a display in the classroom of family photos. This helps children settle in and also provides a talking point with adults and their new friends.