



Welcome to Reception!



Dearand Family,

Welcome to our Reception class! My name is Miss Storey, and I will be your child's class teacher. I have just returned back to work after having some time off with my second child and I am looking forward to getting to know you and your families. Some of you may already know Mrs Gibbons (teaching assistant) and I, as this will be our eighth year working together in Reception, Mrs McNally (teaching assistant) will also be working with us this year and we are excited to start a new school year together. If you have any concerns along the way, please let us know as we are more than happy to help. I hope that you enjoy the new challenges and approaches to learning that Reception has to offer and have a wonderful start to life at St. Andrews!

Transition from Nursery to Reception

I know after a long time away, returning to or starting school will feel a little daunting, but please be assured we have tried to keep everything the same for our youngest children whilst very much still having your health and safety as a priority. The children won't notice a huge difference from their experiences in their Nursery as we follow the same play based curriculum (the EYFS). However we are aware the change of familiarity and classroom can be very daunting and there may be tears – but please try not to worry too much as the children will soon settle and become used to their new teachers, routines and surroundings. We will all do our best to help make the transition as smooth as possible.

Reading Books

Now that your child is in reception they will bring home reading books. All children will start off with a picture book to build of confidence, comprehension and story talk. When the children are used to the routine of reading their book, we will change to a book with words suited to their level. All children will read in school twice a week and so it is important that the children have their books in school **every day**. We encourage that all children read at home each day, for about 5-10minutes, and if you can just indicate the pages you read and a comment in the reading record. They will also bring home key words which we ask you to practice reading, and when the children are confident with these we will swap them for a new set of words. Please keep everything in a school book bag to keep clean, dry and safe.

We are SuperStars in Reception!

To encourage a positive attitude towards learning we have a superstar raffle. When your child does something to impress us throughout the day they will be given a raffle ticket. At the end of the week we will draw five names out of the box and the winners will get to take a prize home from the treasure box. We also have star of the day awards and lots of stickers to give out.

Parent Contributions

We would like you to be involved in your child's school learning journey. This year, we are using an online platform called Seesaw. I will be using seesaw to keep you updated with what is happening in the classroom and you will be able to use Seesaw to share learning that happens at home. We will have time to look at children's journals in class, so we will be using the platform as our new sharing books. I will send out instructions on how to get started this week. I will also be using Seesaw to set tasks, that you can complete at home, so please set it up at home as soon as you receive the invite.

Uniform & P.E

- Please make sure **ALL** items of clothing, including P.E kits, are clearly labelled with your child's name.
- Please ensure your child has the correct kit in school. All children should have a white T-shirt and blue shorts, kept in a draw string or plastic bag. These are to be kept in school.
- As we are keen to experience learning outside, and the children have access to it no matter what the weather, we ask that you bring in a pair of labelled wellies to be kept in school at all times and always bring a suitable coat.
- Due to current circumstances we are unable to provide aprons. All paint we provide is advertised as washable, however we can not guarantee this is the case. So if you are concerned please send in an old large (adult sized) item of clothing, with their name on, and your child can wear this before taking part in messy activities.
- Where possible please send your child into school in clean clothes every day.

General Reminders...

- You will be able to see what we have been up to on our school twitter page and blog. This can be found on the school website at www.standrewsmethodistschool.co.uk
- Children, until they turn 5, will be given free milk - once they have their fifth birthday a letter will be sent home asking if you would like to pay. All children have access to fresh water and a healthy snack which is available for them to have throughout day. **Please do not send a water bottle into school.**
- Please inform us if somebody different is going to pick your child up from school. We are unable to send a child home with a high school aged child unless you have provided us with written consent.

Miss K. Storey ☺