

Reception Newsletter – Autumn 1

We are delighted to welcome you all to Reception

It's been a busy start to the new academic year. We are amazed at how well the children are coping with settling into their new environment. Over the past few days (as well as being elbow deep in water and paint) we have been learning about the basic rules and procedures in our Reception class to ensure everyone can play happily together in a safe and well-organised environment. We appreciate that many have never attended a full day at a school setting before and that can be exhausting! We've all had great fun getting to know our new friends and we are so happy you have joined our wonderful class!!

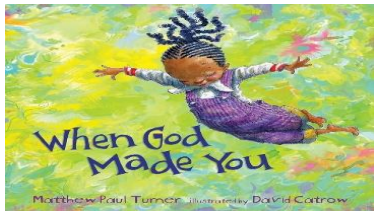
The children are doing very well at coming into Reception independently. We have been showing the children how to hang their coat up by the hook, how to turn the arms of their coat the right way around and how to take off jumpers/cardigans if too hot and place in their tray. Well done Children!

Our theme for this half term is 'Creation-Good to be Me'. We will be focusing on the Personal, Social and Emotional Development of your child. We have been getting to know each other a little bit more by doing lots of circle time activities and talking about ourselves. **We would like the children to talk about their family members. Please could we ask you to send a family photo on Tapestry. We will print the photos off and display them in our 'home' area.**

We have talked about following the Reception rules and being the best friend we can be at all times. We know sometimes this can be a difficult task and therefore have talked about what to do when situations arise which we don't like or don't agree with. We aim to work on the children's listening skills and their ability to sit still at carpet times for periods of time. To help us with our listening, we have introduced 'Mimi' the listening mouse. 'Mimi's Listening Rules are:

- A good listener tries to stay quiet
- A good listener looks at the speaker
- A good listener tries to remember what the speaker has said

Please could you reinforce these with your child at home. Thank you



Branch 1 Creation & Good to be Me

In this first branch of our religious teaching, we hear how God made our beautiful world and everything in it, including us. We learn that the Bible is a special book and hear that when God created the world He said: "Indeed it is very good", Genesis 1:31. God tells us that we must take good care of all of creation. We are to be stewards of creation - it is an extremely important job. We hear and practise the

words and actions of the sign of the cross throughout the day: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The children come to believe that God is love; that He made each one of us and loves each one of us as a unique person. God loves us and we are part of His family. We celebrate God's family and recall how we entered it through Baptism.

We give thanks to God by reflecting on creation and responding to its glory through art, drama, dance, music, meditation and prayer. We learn to live out our faith by loving ourselves, our family, God's world and others. We learn through Catholic Social Teaching about the Stewardship- Looking after God's World and Dignity of the Human Person; that God made each one of us and each one of us is special; we must treat others in a caring way because God made them too.

At home you could help your children by:

- Saying prayers together and making the sign of the cross.
- Looking at pictures of animals and plants and talking about how special creation is.
- Encourage them to notice different parts of God's wonderful creations and think of ways to care for the world



Blessing of the Bags

On Sunday 14th September Father Ned will say a special Mass during which he will bless all the children's school bags which they can bring to church with them. This special occasion is for pupils past and present and will be a fabulous way to start our school year. Mass starts at 9:30am in Church. I hope you can join us.

Little Church

All are welcome to attend Mass at All Saints' Church on a Sunday mornings at 9.30am. Little Church is a group that welcomes all children to hear the Gospel. It would be lovely to see you there.

Wow Moments on Tapestry

At home your child is constantly learning and developing. There will be many new things they learn at home that we may not find out about at school. Please use Tapestry to tell us about all the fantastic things your child is achieving at home. This could be a big achievement like riding a bike without stabilizers or something small but important to your child like dressing independently. You might want to tell us about a special outing or holiday you have been on -please feel free to add a photograph too! The children absolutely love sharing their home learning adventures.

Phonics will take place each day- We will start from Monday 22th September. We use pure sounds so that your son/daughter will be able to blend the sounds into words more easily. We follow the Read Write Inc programme to teach our children phonics so please feel free to explore their website for useful resources and parent information.

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com>

We will send home a sound book with a homework task of the 'sound/letter' taught that day. Please encourage your child to complete the tasks independently **in pencil**.

Phonics Workshop

We would like to invite you to our Parent Phonics Workshop on **Tuesday 23rd September at 4.00pm**. During this session we will go through our Read Write Inc. Programme and phonics lessons. Please do sign up as soon as possible, the session should only last about 30-40 minutes.

Reception Fund

To help meet the costs of various extra enhancements to your child's learning we invite parents to make a donation **of £2.00 per week**. Please transfer your payment through our Parent Pay system.

Snacks

We will provide snacks and fruit every day for the children but we do ask for a small contribution every term to help pay for this. **Please pay for this through Parent Pay**. The children really do enjoy snack times.

Uniform

Please ensure all uniform is clearly named.

Thank you! We are looking forward to a great term.

Mrs Murphy, Mrs Flanagan, MRS Valentine and Miss Smallman.