

Morning routines:

When you bring your child to school in the morning, please encourage them to put their coat on their peg, their book bag in their tray and their water bottle on top of the drawers. This not only encourages their independence but it helps them to remember where things are!

Please help your child to do the self-register, putting their name with the plate or lunch box to show what they are having for lunch.

As soon as your child has done this, please help them to find an activity to do then say goodbye and leave them to their play. Remember the quicker you make this routine, the easier it will be for your child to settle, and the less traumatic for you!

Home time:

Thank you for bearing with us as we learn all of your faces! So that we can ensure the children's safety at home time, we will only be sending children home through the Foundation Stage fire exit around the side of our classroom, so please wait near the picnic tables.

If your child is going home with someone else, please write this in the home time diary and sign it so we have written permission to release your child to someone else.

There is a sheet in the front of the diary for you to let us know of any regular collections e.g. if your child is going to JACS on a certain day or if they will always be collected by a grandparent or childminder/preschool on certain days.

Reading:

Your child will soon be given a reading record and a book from the library to share with you. Over the next few weeks as the children settle into school we will assess them and give them books appropriate to their level. There will be more information to follow so we can explain about how we teach reading at St. John's. We do ask that you read to your child daily. Please write in the reading record at least twice a week to let us know about the reading you are doing at home.

Foundation

Mrs Ball & Mrs Dann

Phonics and Maths:

All children in the Infants will have daily phonics and maths sessions to help develop these key skills. Once the children have settled we will begin these activities, based on our assessments of where the children are. We will run workshops to let you know more about how we teach these key skills, and how you can support this learning at home.

Peg space:

As space is limited, we would ask that you only use the pegs for coats and hats. As we are not changing for PE or doing Forest school yet there is no need for other bags to be brought in. If you wish to send in spare clothes, these can be put in book bags in their trays. (We do have spares in school so don't feel you have to!)

Forest Schools:

In **October** we will begin to run our Forest School sessions. This is where we walk to the school field where the children can explore the natural environment, make dens, play imaginative games and have lots of space to explore and learn. Forest School will take place on **Monday afternoons** with Mrs Carr and Mrs Dann. Mrs Carr will be in class each Monday to get to know the children before the sessions start. There will be more information to follow so do look out for it.

For Forest School, children will need old clothes to change into - a long sleeve top, trousers and wellies. We have some waterproofs in school, but if you have your own please do bring them in!

We will be on the lookout for parent helpers to join us for Forest School, as we need two more adults to help supervise the children at the field.

Parent helpers

We are always grateful for parent (and grandparent!) helpers in school and some of our activities will not be able to go ahead without your help.

Please let us know if you could help with any of the following:

* **Forest School** - Mondays 1:00-3:00.

(there will be a sign up sheet on the board)

* **Reading** - any day and time!

If you have any other interests or activities you could help with (e.g if you enjoy gardening or art) please let us know! Thank you.

Topic Overview Foundation

Super Structures

Term 1 2018

Classroom Environment	✓ Builder's yard role play/construction area.	Educational Visits	None this term - settling in.
Wow Factor Launch	✓ Watching 'Bob the Builder'	Key Texts	✓ The Three Little Pigs ✓ The House that Jack Built
Outcomes /Open Day Focus	✓ Art/DT exhibition	Activities parents can do to support	✓ Reading to your child daily ✓ Talking about new friends and playing in school ✓ Talking about types of buildings you might see - town/shops/houses etc.
Communication and Language	✓ Speaking to new people ✓ Retelling familiar stories ✓ Talking about their likes and interests ✓ Taking turns to talk in small groups	Personal Development	✓ Building confidence making new friends ✓ Building relationships with adults in the class ✓ Sharing resources ✓ Working in groups
Physical development	✓ Funky fingers activities ✓ Name writing ✓ Practising balance and coordination using outdoor equipment - bikes, stepping stones	Maths	✓ Counting accurately ✓ Reciting numbers forwards and back to 10 ✓ Comparing groups of objects ✓ Comparing the size of objects
Literacy	✓ Phonics - learning to blend sounds orally in words, beginning to learn letters ✓ Retelling familiar stories ✓ Mark making - beginning to write labels	Expressive art and design	✓ Singing rhymes and songs ✓ Exploring materials on the creative table ✓ Using junk modelling to make buildings/vehicles ✓ Cutting and printing skills
Understanding the world	✓ Exploring buildings and the local area ✓ Finding out about materials - to use in buildings ✓ Finding out about construction vehicles	✓ Settling in - all about me ✓ Using ICT in play - phones/tills/moving toys	

Vision themes:

<p>Critical thinking and problem solving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Having their own ideas in exploring time and creative activities.	<p>Physical and mental well-being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Settling in - building confidence in a new setting with new people✓ PSHE activities✓ Snack time routines✓ Active outdoor activities daily	<p>Global citizenship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Comparing places - local area, where you've been on holiday, understanding the differences between areas.
<p>Communication and social skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ PSHE activities, settling in.✓ Sharing resources✓ Taking turns in conversation	<p>Creativity and Innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Having their own ideas✓ Junk modelling to make buildings✓ Forest school, making pictures from natural materials.	<p>Key Academic Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Counting✓ Phonics✓ Speaking and listening