



Pope Paul Catholic Primary School

Welcome

Learning in the light of Christ

Mission Prayer

We believe that we are all God's work of art.

We strive to respect and care for each other
and to use our talents to do our best to build a
better world.

By doing this we are learning in the light of Christ.

Amen

Siobhan King



Clive Mathew Chair of Local Academy Council

Our Local Academy Council (LAC)

“I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.”

St John Ch 10:10

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the website for our school. In this section you will find information about the governors of our school, who they are and what they do in support of the school. Our church believes that parents are the prime educators of their children and that our school and our parish have a key role in supporting our parents in that mission. Our ambition for every child, is that each one of them will have the opportunity to lead the life that they are destined to lead, and as is mentioned in the quote from St John above, “to have life to the full.”

We believe that every child has a God given mission in life, and that every child has been given the skills required to complete that mission. As a Catholic school we strive to develop our pupils’ knowledge and understanding of their Faith, both by our teaching and by our example. Governors have an important part to play in this aspect of school life.

We do strive each day to live out our aspiration of being a school that is,

“Learning in the light of Christ.”

I hope you find our website helpful and informative. Do please ask any questions that you may have about our school, and we look forward to meeting with you at various school events over the year ahead.

God bless,

Clive Mathew



The Adults in Reception



Mrs Carey
Reception Teacher



Ms Gymer
Teaching Assistant



Ms Steff
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Lopez
Teaching Assistant

What will my Child be Learning?

The Reception class at Pope Paul School continues to follow the 'Early Years Foundation Stage' curriculum which you may already be familiar with if your child attends nursery or preschool provision. This is split into seven 'areas of learning', with three **prime** areas that underpin all the other areas.

Areas of Learning and Development			
Prime Areas			
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development	Communication and Language	
• Making Relationships • Self-confidence and Self-awareness • Managing Feelings and Behaviour	• Moving and Handling • Health and Self-care	• Listening and Attention • Understanding • Speaking	
Specific Areas			
Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
• Reading • Writing	• Numbers • Shape, Space and Measures	• People and Communities • The World • Technology	• Exploring and Using Materials and Media • Being Imaginative

A Day in Reception

- Fine motor skills time (Busy Fingers)
- Morning Register
- 'Wake and Shake' time
- Adult led Teaching Session - English/Understanding of the World/Art/Religion
- Continuous Provision - English/Understanding of the World/Art/Religion
- Snack time and Playtime
- Child Initiated Learning (inside and outside)
- Phonics Time
- Songs and Rhyme Time
- Lunch Time
- Afternoon Register
- Adult led Maths Teaching Session and group work
- Child Initiated Learning (inside and outside)
- Story Time
- Home Time

Phonics Sessions

We use 'Little Wandle' to teach your child how to read and write. A focused session happens **everyday** in school for at least 20 minutes.

Throughout the year, your child will learn:

- That letters represent sounds
- Actions that link to each sound
- How to blend sounds together to read words.
- How to segment and spell simple words
- How to form letters correctly
- To read and write sentences independently

More information about 'Little Wandle' will be given to you at a parent Phonics session in the Autumn Term.

Pick Up and Drop Off Arrangements

- Please wait in the playground outside Reception Class with your child in the morning
- The classroom doors will be opened at 8.40am
- All children should be in school by 8.45am
- Keep staff informed of any changes to usual drop off/ pick up arrangements.
- Please only pass short messages on to staff at morning drop off time.
- If a longer discussion is needed, please make an appointment to see a member of staff via admin@popepaul.herts.sch.uk

Snack Time

- During snack time your child will be encouraged to choose their own snack. Your child will choose from a selection of fresh fruit, or they can bring in their own fruit or vegetable snack in a labelled box. Bring in a labelled reusable water bottle.

Lunch Time

- Children from Reception to Year 2 currently receive free school meals from the government. Each morning the child will choose their lunch option. Please discuss the menu with your child each morning and help them to decide. You may of course provide a pack lunch for your child- please ensure no nuts are contained in this.
- Reception children eat their lunch in the classroom for the first half term and then they will move into the hall. A member of the Reception team is always with them. Remember **NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS** when it comes to your child's eating at lunch.
- After eating the children will have some outdoor play time.



Weekly Routines

Once the children have settled into life in Reception, they will:

- Attend our KS1 Assembly on Mondays led by our Year 6 liturgy leaders and Mrs Carey,
- Attend Prayer with song and Birthday assembly on Wednesdays led by Mrs Carey.
- Attend our whole school Assembly on Fridays
- Have lunch in the dining hall
- Meet their Year 6 reading partners every Friday
- Attend our whole school Mass celebrations throughout the year
- Join in with Sports Day in the Summer Term

What Will My Child Need to Bring Each Day?

- Uniform - name everything!
- Weather Appropriate clothing
- School book bag
- A water bottle



Reception School Uniform

Boys & Girls

- Navy **logo** jogging trousers in winter
- Navy shorts/skort in the summer
- Yellow **logo** polo shirt
- Navy **logo** sweatshirt
- Black shoes (Sensible)
- Plain socks
- Optional – Navy logo Fleece Jacket

How Can You Help Your Child Prepare for Reception?

- Talk positively about school and what they will do there.
- Practise how to put on and take off jumpers, shoes and coats
- Develop their independence when toileting
- Sing nursery rhymes and listen to stories regularly
- Play turn taking games and help them to understand that they cannot always win
- Practise counting during everyday activities- objects not just by rote
- Practise recognising their own name.

How Can You Help Your Child in Reception?

- Complete their Phonics Home learning each evening.
- Practise their sounds and tricky words
- Read to your child and listen to your child read regularly
- Speak to a Reception adult if your child is upset or worried about something

Extra parent support



Tips for parents

When your child starts primary school there are a number of skills that they should ideally have mastered. Use this sheet as a guide to help track their progress.

Self-care

- I know when to wash my hands
- I can wipe my nose
- I can ask for help if I don't feel well

Speaking & literacy

- I am interested in reading stories & looking at picture books
- I am able to talk about myself, my needs & feelings
- I am practising recognising my name when it's written down

Getting dressed & undressed on my own

- I can button & unbutton my clothes
- I can put my own shoes & socks on
- I can put my coat on & use a zip

Interest in the world & new activities

- I enjoy learning about the world around me
- I am interested in exploring new activities or environments
- I like asking questions

Eating

- I can use a knife & fork
- I can open my packed lunch on my own
- I am confident at opening wrappers & packaging

Writing skills

- I like tracing patterns & colouring in
- I enjoy experimenting with different shaped scribbles
- I am practising holding a pencil

Going to the toilet

- I can go to the toilet on my own, wipe myself properly & flush
- I can wash & dry my hands without any help

Independence

- I am happy to be away from my mummy, daddy or my main carer
- I am happy to tidy my belongings & look after my things
- I am feeling confident about starting school

Listening & understanding

- I am able to sit still and listen for a short while
- I can follow instructions
- I understand the need to follow rules

Sharing & turn taking

- I can share toys & take turns
- I can play games with others
- I can interact with other children

Counting skills

- I enjoy practising counting objects
- I like saying number rhymes & playing counting games
- I can recognise some numbers when they are written down

Routines

- I have practised putting on my uniform & getting ready to leave on time
- I have a good bedtime routine so I'm not feeling tired for school
- I'm learning to eat at the times I will on school days



Welcome to Reception



Who Am I?



Beth Cullen

Senior Practitioner

Hertsmere Mental Health Support Team

MHST have three core functions

To deliver evidence-based interventions in an educational setting for mild-to-moderate mental health issues

Support the Mental Health Lead in each school or college to introduce or develop whole school or college approach

Give timely advice to school and college staff and liaise with external specialist services to help children and young people to get the right support and stay in education.

What is the Mental Health Support Team (MHST)?



Parent Partnership

- Weekly Friday assemblies
- Parent Consultations in October and February
- Welcome to Reception Act of Worship
- School Mass, May Procession, Blessed Sacrament Procession
- Parent Curriculum Information Meetings (Phonics, writing, maths)
- Meet The Teacher Meeting in Autumn Term
- Weekly Newsletter Information about Reception Class learning
- Website Information



We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our Pope Paul School family in September!



Any Questions?