Welcome to St John Fisher Catholic Primary School
New Parents' Information

Growing and Learning together with Christ
Let it be known
To all who enter here
That Christ is the reason
for this school,
The unseen but ever present
Teacher in its classes
The model for its children
The inspiration for
Its staff
Staff in Reception

RR: Mrs Parkar (EYFS Leader/Class Teacher) Mrs Hinds (Class Teacher) Miss Littlefair (Nursery Nurse) Mrs Wilkie (Teaching Assistant)

RC: Mrs Krasuska (Class teacher) Mrs Halvey (Nursery Nurse)

RS: Miss Keogan (Class Teacher) Mrs Charlemagne (Nursery Nurse) Mrs Thevasothy (Teaching Assistant)
What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S.) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of the Reception year.

It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning.
The E.Y.F.S. has 4 themes. These are:

1. A Unique Child
2. Positive Relationships
3. Enabling Environments
4. Learning and Development
Within the theme of 'Learning and Development' there are seven areas:

Prime Areas-
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language

Specific Areas-
- English
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design
Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

Your child will be encouraged to:

• Develop self-confidence and self-awareness

• Manage their feelings and behaviour

• Form positive relationships with adults and other children
Communication and Language.

Your child will be encouraged to:

• Listen and sustain attention
• Understand language
• Speak clearly
Physical Development.

Your child will take part activities to support their:

- Moving and handling
- Health and self-care
Mathematics.

Your child will be taught to:

• Use numbers

• Understand shape, space and measures
Your child will be supported to:

• Read

• Write (cursive style)
Understanding the World.

Your child will be encouraged to:

• Talk about people and communities
• Explore the world
• Use technology
Expressive Arts and Design.

Your child will be given the opportunity to:

• Explore and use different media and materials

• Be imaginative through drama and music
Religious Education

Beginnings - We link home, school and the church. Stories include
Noah’s Ark
Also look at Baptism

From Advent to Christmas

Being a Sacramental people looking for God in our lives
Lent and the Passion of Jesus - We explore the season of Lent and the Easter story.

From Easter to Pentecost - We explore the celebration of the resurrection and coming of the Holy Spirit.

A Virtuous life - We learn about the story of the Good Samaritan. We introduce the virtues.
We learn about other faiths e.g. Judaism, Islam and Hinduism.

We look forward to inviting you to our celebrations throughout the year.

These include Welcome assembly, Reception Nativity play and Blessing of the Cribs.
RE

RE newsletter is sent home half termly
Your child will bring home the Wednesday word to share each week
Communication sheet will have the Wednesday word of the week.

Later in year a prayer bag will be sent home on rotation through class.
Your child will learn and develop skills in all areas through planned and purposeful...

- Child-initiated play

- Focused learning activities, which are adult directed
Monitoring Progress

Each of the 7 areas of learning has its own set of Early Learning Goals which determine what most children are expected to achieve by the end of Reception Class.

You will be invited to discuss your child’s progress & transition to school within the first term. A second consultation evening will take place in Spring Term. A written report of your child’s academic achievements will be sent home in the Summer Term.
Phonics: Letters and Sounds

- Developing good listening skills. Auditory discrimination.
- Developing awareness of rhyme and alliteration.
  - Introduce single letters sounds e.g. bat
  - Blending to read simple words e.g. cat
  - Sounding out to ‘write’ a simple word.
- Introduce double sound e.g. ch chin ar farm.
Termly Topics

An example of a topic we will be exploring in the spring term will be ‘Growing’. Children will have the opportunity to grow their own plant look at the life cycles of animals and take a trip to Willow’s Farm.

Parents will be informed about topics in our weekly communication sheet.
Class Trips and Visits

• Walk to St. John Fisher Church.
• Walks in our local area e.g. Autumn, shops.
• Visit Willows farm.
• Visit to Harrow Heritage Museum.
• Fire Station.
Learning Journeys

Collection of photographs and observations of your child's child initiated learning.

We would value any contributions you would like to make to the children's Learning Journeys throughout the year.
Bookbags

• Will be sent out twice a week with:

  • A shared reading book

  • A Reading Scheme book

• Any letters that are not sent by Parentmail
DB Primary

Designed specifically for pupils aged 4-11. It is a software system designed to provide and support virtual learning in an educationally beneficial way. It is made up of interactive tools and educational content to provide an integrated learning environment. It’s an area for school pupils to collaborate, communicate and engage in learning.
A Day in Reception

• Child initiated and adult led activities
• Snack and milk provided

Other subjects:
• Computing
• Music
• Dance
• P.E - indoor and outdoor
• Handwriting and guided reading
• Diaries
• Phonics
Healthy School

• Free school meals are provided for all the children in Reception.
• Free snack is provided everyday.

• Please end in a water bottle in everyday.

• Make sure your child gets an early night.
Uniform and PE kits

- All items of clothing to be **clearly labelled**.

- PE kits will go home at half term to be washed and checked.

- PE bags can be decorated so that the children can recognise their bag.

- Get the children to practice taking their uniform and PE kit on and off over the Summer Holidays.
Medical

If your child has any medical needs or allergies please inform a member of staff and fill in the relevant form.

• No earrings on PE days
• Long Hair tied back all the time
• No jewellery
Travel Plan

We encourage children to walk to and from school as part of our School Travel plan.

Parking permits are available for the car park at Cambridge Road, please ask the office for further information.

Please do not block driveways when picking or dropping your child.
OUR SCHOOL PRAYER

Dear God our Father
This is our school
It is a happy and lively place
Please bless us all.

Keep us safe
And let us show by our actions
How we share
And care for one another.

Help us to be friends
And to try to do our best
In all our work and play.

May peace be with us
Our families and
All everywhere.

Amen