

St Joseph's

Reception Newsletter

25th September 2026



Thank you to the parents who attended the Welcome Liturgy. We are very proud of the children and all their hard work. The children are continuing to make a strong start in their phonics. Please practise one sound each evening with your child to support their learning. The children have enjoyed learning in their classrooms this week and have been talking about how to deal with their feelings.

In the 'Let's Explore' project, your child will explore their class environment and school grounds so that they feel settled and happy in their new surroundings. They will learn about the local environment and find out about places they have visited on holiday. They will look at and create maps for journeys.

Supporting your child at home:

- Use Google Earth to explore the locality.
- Go on a walk around your local community and talk about the things that you see.
- Encourage your child to talk about the activities they enjoy doing at school.
- Share and discuss the 'Did you know?' resource. (attached at the end of newsletter).

Supporting your child with Maths at home:

. Match

- Play a memory matching game with cards or pictures.
- Find objects around the house that match in colour, shape, or size.

Sort

- Sort coins by type.
- Sort fruit and vegetables into different groups.

Compare

- Compare groups of objects and decide which has more, fewer, or the same.
- Compare shoe sizes of different family members.

Questions to Encourage Mathematical Thinking

- What is the same about these objects?
- What is different?
- How could you sort these?

Baseline Assessment

Over the next few weeks, all Reception children will take part in the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA). This is a short, practical activity carried out one-to-one with your child's teacher in a relaxed and supportive environment. The assessment is designed to provide a snapshot of each child's starting point as they begin their school journey and includes simple activities involving communication, language, literacy and mathematics. There is no preparation needed, and children usually see it as a fun set of games and tasks. The results are not used to judge individual children or schools; they are used nationally to measure progress across primary school.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/690c7eddd4c5f31272d3e66e/Reception baseline assessment information for parents.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/690c7eddd4c5f31272d3e66e/Reception_baseline_assessment_information_for_parents.pdf)



Press control and click on the link for more information.

[Parent guide to Read Write Inc. Phonics - Oxford Owl](#)



You can support your child at home by encouraging them to complete their daily phonics activities, revisit the sounds they have learned, and read their Read Write Inc. book regularly. Even just a few minutes each day can make a significant difference to your child's progress and confidence.

If you have any questions about Read Write Inc. or would like support with helping your child at home, please speak to your child's class teacher. We are always happy to help.

Our Star Poem

Amazing me!



My body grows.
My heart beats strong.
My muscles move.
I walk along.

My fingers touch.
My nose can smell.
My voice can whisper
and can YELL!

My tongue can taste.
My eyes can see.
My ears can hear.
Amazing me!

Please read and practise with your child.

Poetry helps children to develop early language and literacy skills. It introduces new vocabulary, allows children to play with words, letters and sounds, helps with memory and teaches children about rhythm and rhyme.

Information:



Family Lives offers a confidential and free* helpline service for families in England and Wales (previously known as Parent line). Please call us on **0808 800 2222** for emotional support, information, advice and guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life. If you don't get an answer first time please do try again.



Reception school trip – Bekonscot – 12th October

Forest School sessions will commence on 6th October.

We would be grateful for any donations of tissues or baby wipes.

Thank you for your support.

wish list



Here are a few links to support your children's learning at home.

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/policy-and-campaigns/home-learning-environment/small-talk/>

<http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>



Our Star Poem

Amazing me! 

My body grows.
My heart beats strong.
My muscles move.
I walk along.

My fingers touch.
My nose can smell.
My voice can whisper
and can YELL!

My tongue can taste.
My eyes can see.
My ears can hear.
Amazing me!