



St Andrew's C of E Primary School



# **Welcome to Reception!**

## **Autumn Term 2020**

Evelyn Glennie class - Mrs Smith (EY Lead) and Mrs Hadden

Cerrie Burnell class - Miss Hughes and Mrs West

Dear Parents,



Hello and welcome to the first newsletter of this year. Each newsletter will give you information about what we are learning in school. This first term is very much about us getting to know your child and you getting to know us! We want to create a partnership with you so together we help your child to grow and learn.

Can I take this opportunity to say a great big thank you to all our families for making the transition to school so successful! We knew it would be very different this year and tricky for the children as they had not been in school with their parents. However because of the positivity and encouragement that you gave the children they coped brilliantly and have loved every minute so far.

Thank you!! 



### Curriculum

During this term we will complete what we call Baseline Assessment. We complete fun activities with your child to find out what they know already. This means we can then start teaching them at their own correct level. The assessment will take us 3 or 4 weeks as we like to get to know the children properly. This year we will also be making sure the children's mental health and well-being are well looked after due to the stresses and strains of COVID 19. We have lots of fun activities and stories for the children to support them. Our learning for this term will also be led by the children's interests and stories that they enjoy starting with Pete the Cat.

We will learn about ourselves and how we are similar or different to each other. We will also talk about the special people in our lives.

We will also spend lots of time this term learning about the School Values and how they can help us to make a positive contribution to school and home life. We will also be learning how to follow our Classroom Rules so that we can all get our right to be happy, safe and learn together successfully.

Values this term - September - Love, October - Resilience, November - Unity, December - Thankfulness

Most importantly, we will have fun getting to know each other and making new friends.

### Tapestry



As you are all fully aware by now we use an online service called Tapestry. It is so important for you to login frequently as we post important news and observations of your children daily. We would very much like our parents to become part of their own child's Learning Journey too. Please feel free to add observations of activities your child has completed at home. We love to see what your child is able to do at home as well as at school.

### Reception Blog



We really hope you enjoy looking at our reception blog with your child. Once you have signed the internet permission form (that was in your pack) we can put photos of your child on the blog. Then you will be able to see what they are learning each week.

**It would be great if you could add comments for us - we can then share these in the classroom!**

[standrewsprimaryreception.wordpress.com](https://standrewsprimaryreception.wordpress.com)

Or via the school website

[www.standrewsprimary.org.uk](http://www.standrewsprimary.org.uk)

Or [Twitter@benarnell](https://twitter.com/benarnell)



### Reading in school

The children will not be sent any reading books home for the first few weeks while we complete assessment and begin formal phonics teaching. To start with the children will be sent books without words. Please use this as an opportunity to develop your child's language. You can talk about the pictures and what might be happening in the story. It will also help your child to understand how books work and they can learn to take care of books, holding them correctly and turning the pages carefully. Look out for stories being shared by the staff on Tapestry too! You will also get a home/school record book. Please take the time to sign it every time you share a school book with your child - just so we know they are ready for the book to be changed.

### Homework

Your child will have a phonics book in their book bag too. Each week we will stick the phonics sounds we are learning into it so you can work on them at home. We will also put videos and challenges onto Tapestry to help you support your child with their learning.

### Values Passport

Each month your child will be asked to focus on one of our values at home. Inside the passport there are suggestions on how your child can show the value. Fill the passport in and your child will receive a badge from school. We will then keep the passport until the end of the month and then hand it back.



# Diary Dates

Date	Event
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	School re-opens for all children
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2020	School closes for half-term.
Half Term	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020	INSET day. (School closed for children)
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	School re-opens for all children.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	School closes for Christmas at 1.30pm

