

Welcome to Reception at St Michael's First School

The aim of this session is to provide you with all the information you will need to support your child's transition into reception.



Meet your child's class teachers...

The key people in Reception class are Mrs Hall, Mrs Fear the class teachers and Miss Jacks the teaching assistant. Your child will meet lots of different adults that work in school as they settle into the St Michael's family!



Mrs Hall

Monday, Thursday & Friday



Mrs Fear

Tuesday & Wednesday



Miss Jacks



Lunchtime supervisor:

Mrs Fisher and Mrs Messenger

Reading Volunteer Team:

Mrs Officer

On Your Child's First Day

On Your Child's First Day at St Michaels First school;

They will be greeted at the front black door by their class teacher and teaching assistant who will welcome them into school. They will then help them to find their peg and settle into the classroom.

Each child has their own peg where they will keep their personal items such as coats, sun hats, lunch boxes.

They will keep their water bottle in the classroom with them. This should be filled with water only.

Objects from home: We ask that your child does not bring any items in from home as they can easily become lost or broken and children get very upset

They will then spend time getting to know their new class. It will be kept very informal and the adults will spend time playing with your child.

At the end of the school day

Children will be dismissed from the same black door at 3.15 by their class teacher.

Please line up along the footprint markings and children will be dismissed on at a time.

We will only dismiss children to their adults. If arrangements have changed please contact the school office.

If children are booked into after school club, they will be taken straight to the school hall.



Daily Timetable

A typical day;

- Arrive at (8.40 am) Wake up work, register
- Outdoor & indoor activities, including Maths and Literacy
- Worship
- Fruit & Milk/ break time
- Outdoor & indoor activities, including Maths and Literacy.
- Lunchtime
- Daily phonics
- Outdoor & indoor activities child lead learning
- Story & home time (3.15 pm)

Important Dates: PE is on a Friday where the children can come to school in their P.E Kit.





Clothing

Clothing: All children at St Michaels wear our St Michaels' uniform this consists of grey trousers or skirt, a purple jumper or cardigan with the school logo on, a white shirt with school tie. These can be purchased from Crested school wear in Stafford, Cannock or online.

P.E. Kits: Children will be able to come to school in their PE kits on their PE days. This consists of a black tracksuit with a white school PE top underneath.

An indoor PE kit will be kept at school for them to change into on indoor PE days. This consists of black shorts and a white t-shirt, pumps are not required.

Please ensure that all clothing that your child wears or brings into school, is clearly named.

What Do the Children Wear to School?



A white shirt with a collar.



Grey trousers, pinafore or skirt



A school tie



A purple v necked sweatshirt or cardigan with the school log.



A yellow summer dress can be worn in the summer term.



Black Shoes

Food and Drink

Lunch: At lunchtime your child can have a packed lunch prepared at home and brought into school, or a school dinner. We publish our menus each term so you can talk with your child about which meals they like. Children order their meals in the morning to avoid disappointment. Lunchtime is between 11.45-12.45 where the children will go into the hall to eat and then spend time outdoors playing with their friends.

All early years and Key Stage 1 children are entitled to a free school meal each day. There will be a selection of different meals available each day for your child to choose from. Vegetarian options are always available. Please let us know if your child has any other dietary restrictions or requirements.

Packed lunches should support our school's healthy eating policy: note that FIZZY DRINKS/SWEETS/CHOCOLATE are not allowed in school lunches.

Snacks: Children will receive a FREE PIECE OF FRUIT/HEALTHY SNACK during the day. They do not need to bring any other snacks into school.

Free Milk; All children under 5 receive free milk. Once your child turns 5 you will have the option to pay for milk.

Drinks: Please can your child bring a water bottle into school everyday. This should only have water in (no juice) and will be available all day.



Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

This September all early years settings and schools will follow the new Early Years Foundation stage curriculum .

Pupils will be given the opportunity to learn and explore through play, both indoors and out.

We plan carefully to meet the needs of all pupils. The first two weeks in reception we will be carrying out the EYFS BASELINE assessment. This allows us to really get to know all pupils and enables us to plan for their next steps.



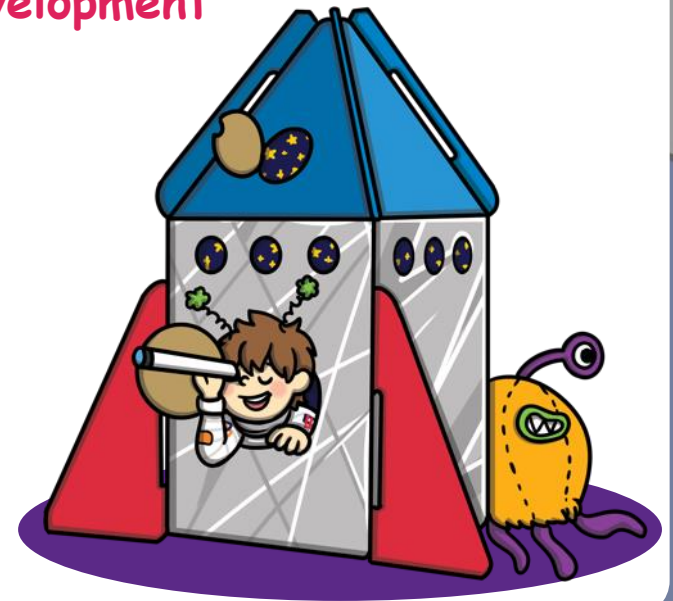
What Is the EYFS?

The Early Years Foundation Stage covers the first stage of a child's care from birth to five years old. It sets the standards to ensure that all children learn and develop, as well as keeping them healthy and safe.

Also included in the EYFS are the **seven Areas of Learning**. They are:

- **Communication and Language**
- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**
- **Physical Development**
- **Literacy**
- **Mathematics**
- **Understanding the World**
- **Expressive Arts and Design**

At the end of the EYFS, there are **17 Early Learning Goals** that children are expected to achieve.



Some Key Changes

1. **Reduced the amount of unneeded written recordings and assessment of children by staff.**
 - This means staff do not need to keep a large amount of written evidence that proves children are able to do lots of things.
 - Staff still know the abilities and skills of each child, and know how to support them to develop. However, now they do not need to write this down unnecessarily.
 - This frees up more time for staff to spend directly with the children.
 - By taking away the need for constant recording, it helps to develop more natural play, conversations and interaction between adults and children.
 - For those of you who have been use to receiving observations by Tapestry this will be changing in line with new guidance.



Some Key Changes

2. There is more of an emphasis on the importance of developing communication and language skills.
- Children should be supported in building up vocabulary by increasing the amount of words they know and can use.
 - Encourage more conversations between adults and children, but also children and their peers.
 - Good language skills are the basis for all other learning and social interaction, so this is vital to focus on.



Some Key Changes

3. There is a focus on how reading stories is important to help children develop in all of Areas of Learning.

- Daily reading of stories encourages an enjoyment of reading from a young age.
- Lots of other learning opportunities happen when looking at books, for example comparisons of culture or the past.
- Listening to stories develops imagination, ideas and language.
- Reading is an essential skill and so should be shown to children, as well as practiced by them regularly.
- Children are also encouraged to use story ideas in their play.



Some Key Changes

4. There is a focus on encouraging healthy choices overall and an understanding of oral health.
- Required to teach children the importance of brushing teeth.
 - Supervised toothbrushing is not expected in settings and schools.
 - Focus on helping children to understand which choices to make that will help them to be healthy, for example which foods to eat and why.
 - Getting into good routines from a young age is important as these often continue into adult life.



What Will This Look Like at St Michael's First School?

For those of you who have been with us in nursery things might look a little bit different for you.

- We are moving away from using Tapestry (an on-line learning journal) where regular observations are made and recorded of each pupil
- We are developing the use of Seesaw to share class based activities and home-school collaboration. Homework will also be shared via this app
- Observations will still be made of each child but we will be recording these in different ways
- Our curriculum is moving away from topics to allow us to follow the children's interest further



Transition/ Induction arrangements.....

Your child has had the opportunity to attend transition session where they were able to spend time in their new class, become familiar with their new teachers and children in their class.

In September;

All children will start Reception at 8.40 on the 2nd September 2021

Should we feel that your child needs a slower induction in September we will discuss and personalise a transition plan with you.

How you can help your child to be Reception ready...

To enable your child to become increasingly independent we would like to work with you to encourage children to:

- Fasten their own coat and other clothing, put their own shoes on and get changed for P.E.
- Manage their own personal hygiene, e.g. go to the toilet independently and wash their hands.
- Use a knife and fork correctly.
- Encourage them to take responsibility for their belongings eg; get their own bag, water bottle.

Please ensure that all clothing that your child wears or brings into school, is clearly named. This include water bottles, coats and shoes!



Will my child be reception ready?

Can they recognise or write their name?

Can they hold a pencil correctly? Giving meanings to the marks they make?

Encourage them to listen to stories, be patient and take turns.

Can they count objects and recognise numbers up to 10?

Can they talk about colours and shapes?

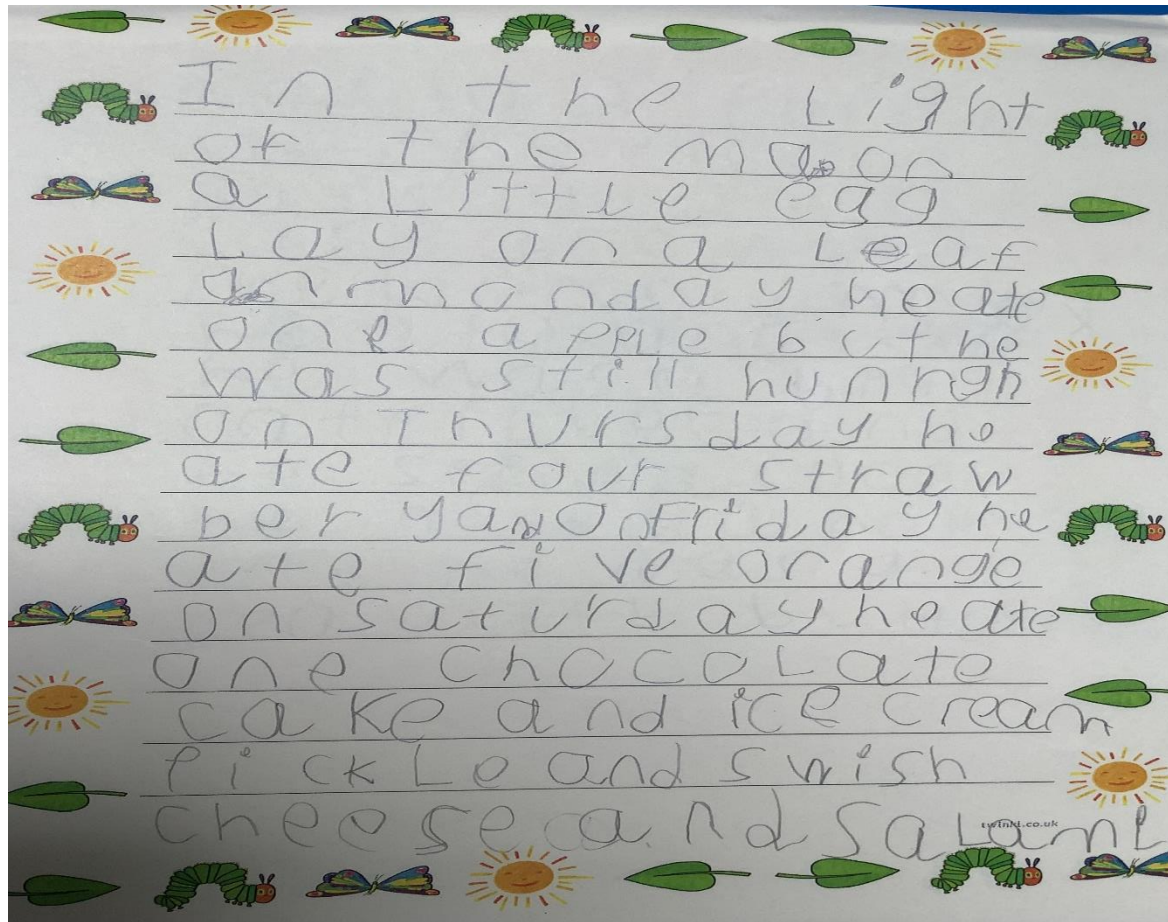
Can they take turns in conversations?



End of Year Expectations



End of Year Expectations



Parents as partners

- Seesaw will allow us to share with you all the fun activities and learning opportunities that take place each week in Reception. You will also be able to share any new learning from home.
- Homework: in line with the new curriculum we have continued to place emphasis on reading. Following the baseline assessments all pupils will be given a reading book and phonic flash cards to learn at home. Once children have learnt their phonic flash cards they will move onto reading words. These flash cards will be sent home to practice. We ask that you spend 5-10 minutes every evening going over these flash cards and reading with your child. Little and often really does have a great impact. Please write in your child's diary when they have read to let us know how they are getting along.
- As the year progresses further homework will be set for children to extend their learning at home.
More details will be given closer to the time.



Communication



St Michael's Mail

Issue 31: Monday 17th May 2021

	Dates for your diary 17 th May – 21 st May – Walk to school week 20 th May – Census Day – please have a school lunch this day to help our budget 27 th May – 9am – Photo order deadline 28 th May – Inset Day 31 st May – 4 June – half term 7-9 th June – V4 Pioneer Centre Residential 15 th June – History Day 21 st July – Break up for Summer	School Notices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Census day is this Thursday, 20th May, we will be swapping our Friday Menu of Fish Fingers to this day to encourage as many children to have a lunch as possible. Please do have a hot lunch as it does affect our budget. Thursday's menu of Lasagne or bean chilli will be served on Friday. The Children's Commissioner has launched The Big Ask, which is an opportunity for children and young people nationally to share their views about the things that are most important to them and what they need to live happier lives. The survey is open for 4-17 year olds, and there are different formats available so it should be easily accessible for all. The survey is open until 19th May 2021 and says that it will take around 5 – 10 minutes to complete. Click here to take the survey.
	Headteacher's Awards WC 10.05.2021 <p>Congratulations to these children who were Headteacher's award winners last week:</p> <p>Reception: Indie, Grace B & Dolores Year 1: Lily-Rose, Charlotte W and Jay Year 2: Ruby, Joseph & Arthur Year 3: Poppy, Eliza & Theodore Year 4: Elliott, Sky & Eva</p>	Pyjamarama Day! As you know, last Friday we celebrated Pyjamarama organised by the Book Trust. It was so wonderful to see the children in their PJs for the day. <p>Thank you again for your kind donations which will make a big difference to those children who do not have access to a bedtime story.</p> <p>Our children completed some Book related activities during the day and came to understand a little more about the injustice in the world which means that not all children are as fortunate as them.</p>
	COVID Reminders Despite national restrictions lifting today, school guidance remains unchanged so please remember to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring only one adult to drop/collect children Keep your distance using the floor markings as your guide Avoid crowding around key entry points, standing against the fence if waiting at the front of school <p>We continue to encourage the use of face coverings at drop off and collection.</p> <p>Thank you for your ongoing support.</p>	Worship Today children have explored the parable of the Two Sons, you might know it as the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). We talked about the feelings of the older brother and how he became angry that, despite his commitment and good choices, his younger brother was rewarded with a party after returning home. Later this week, children will explore forgiveness and it's role in this story but more importantly, its role in our lives.



@stmichaelsfirst

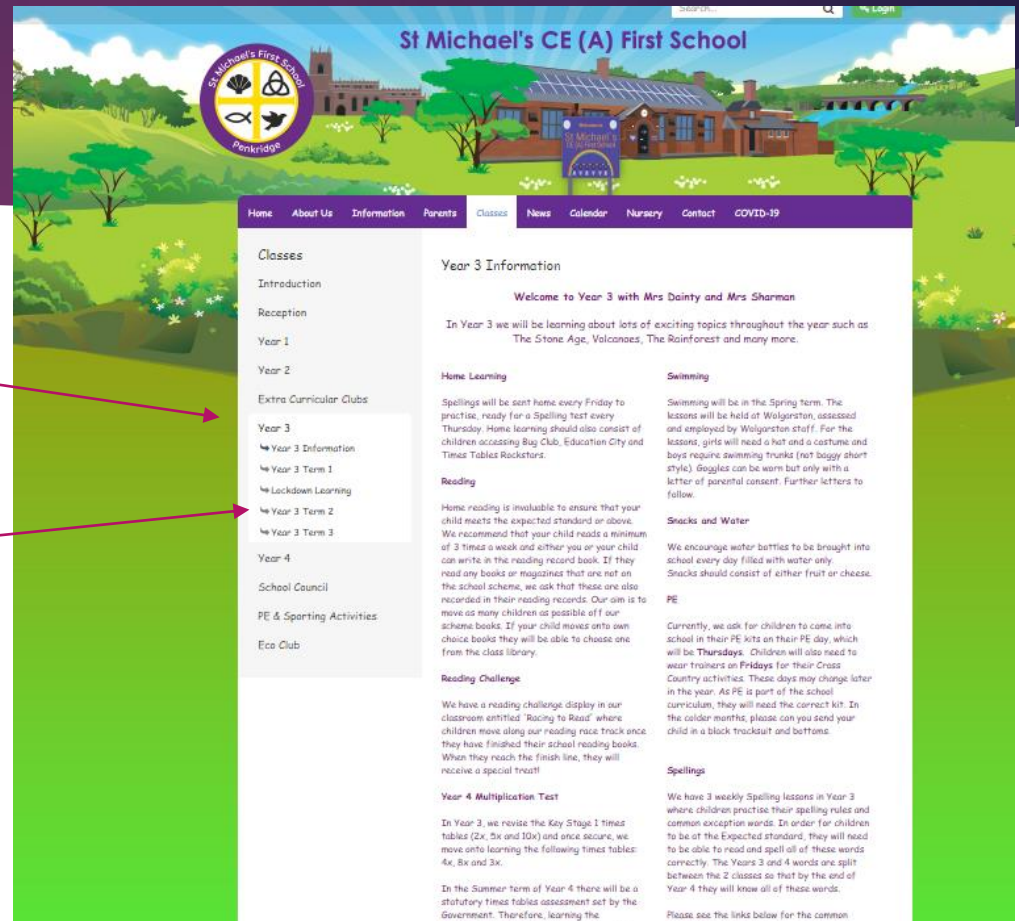


Communication

Everything you need to know will be located on our class web page.

It will have a key information page and then sub pages for each term.

Please email Mrs Porter with any messages and one of the team will get back to you.
office@st-michaels-penkridge.staffs.sch.uk



Thank you!

We hope that you have a better understanding life at St Michaels and what you can expect your child to be learning.

Should you have any further questions on the EYFS changes, we will be happy to discuss these with you.

We look forward to working with you this year and building positive relationships with our families. If you have any queries you can contact us at;

reception@st-michaels-penkridge.staffs.sch.uk



Many Thanks
Mrs Hall, Mrs Fear and Miss Jacks

