




# Welcome to St Nicholas

Meeting for parents of children starting  
school in September 2026.



# In this presentation we will...

- ❑ Explain how we plan to give your children the best start to school
  - ❑ Outline some of the routines we aim to establish
  - ❑ Identify ways we can work together
  - ❑ Try not to overload you with too much information!
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# The Staff

## **Teachers:**

Mrs Hare – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Mrs Coultart - Thursday and Friday

## **Teaching Assistants:**

Mrs Ffinch

Ms Malocco

Mrs Chiveralls

## **SENDCO**

Ms Onur

# Uniform...

- ☐ Grey trousers/dress/ skirt (blue and white Summer Dress in the Summer)
- ☐ Burgundy joggers
- ☐ White polo shirt
- ☐ Burgundy sweatshirt/cardigan with the school logo
- ☐ White/grey socks
- ☐ Hair tied back
- ☐ No jewellery (plain studded earrings only)
- ☐ Black shoes with Velcro
  
- ☐ Wellington boots (to leave at school)
- ☐ A water bottle everyday in school
- ☐ A book bag
- ☐ Waterproof coat
- ☐ Sunhat when weather is nice

**All named please!**

# Why is transition so important for your child?

## Transition: A process not an event




Each child is different and some may take a little longer to settle

Our transition processes are based on the best interests and needs of your child



We will work with you to help your child to settle and be confident in their new surroundings



# Getting to know you and your child

## **We will do this by:**

- ❑ Home visits
- ❑ Stay and play sessions
- ❑ Information gathered from you and the previous setting
- ❑ Opportunities to ask questions and share any concerns



# Transition Morning

- We operate an Early Years unit with Nursery and Reception together.
- For children and parents new to our school we would like to invite you to visit us in Early Years on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July** from **10.35 to 11.35am** Parents are asked to stay to help their children explore the setting and also so you can meet staff.



# September Starting Arrangements

- All children will attend one hour stay and play sessions in the morning or afternoon of **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September**. Parents are asked to stay to help their children explore the setting and ask any questions you might have.
- Children will start school from **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**: it will be a staggered entry to ensure we can support children with settling in.
- You will be sent more information about this next week.

# Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



? In Early Years our children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS). The curriculum is broken down into 7 areas of learning.

? Communication and language

? Personal, social and emotional development

? Physical Development

? Literacy

? Maths

? Understanding the World

? Expressive arts and design

? Throughout the year we plan and deliver an engaging curriculum that supports your child's development in all these areas. At the end of your child's Reception year we assess against the Early Learning Goals (ELGs).

# Learning in Early Years

- Early Years is where the **excitement and exploration** begins!
- We pride ourselves on being an exciting and engaging place to be - encouraging our children to be **independent learners** through a range of practical activities
- We follow a **dynamic and interest driven curriculum** which allows us to be creative with our lessons and let the children lead their own learning
- Alongside adult-led carpet sessions the children mostly learn through a variety of play and real-life experiences, we call this '**Free Choice Learning**'. There are lots of different areas, indoors and outside, for children to explore and develop their learning such as Sand tray, Small world Table, Creative Area, Construction, Investigation Station, Writing Table, Role play corner, Water play, Stage and Music Area and more

Ultimately EYFS is;

- ☐ Learning through play
- ☐ Having fun
- ☐ Taking risks
- ☐ Being challenged

# Daily Routines



## Morning

- We open the doors at 8.45am
- Teddy Jobs (Fine Motor activities)
- Register 8.55am & lunch choices
- Adult led sessions
- Free Choice Learning
- Access to snack, including milk
- Phonics Lesson or Nursery adult led session
- Tidy Up time and Prayer
- Lunchtime

Once the children are settled they will also have group reading three times a week. Achievements Worship on Friday mornings in the school hall, forest school once a week and PE lesson once a week are included in their weekly timetable.

## Afternoon

- ❑ Adult led sessions
- ❑ Free Choice Learning
- ❑ End of day prayers and singing or Story time
- ❑ Home Time (Main school gate opens at 3pm and we will let your children out of class at 3:15)

# Forest School



- We are lucky to have a lovely fenced woodland area in our school grounds to the children to enjoy. Playing in the woods develops imagination, social and physical skills. The children climb trees, make mud pies and go on bug hunts in every kind of weather.
- Children must have wellies left in school and bring a waterproof coat in every day.

- ❓ EYFS children have 1 PE lesson a week. They must come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE day.
- ❓ PE lessons develop gross motor skills and can consist of balls skills, gymnastics, team games and dance activities.

## PE



# Lunchtime

At lunchtime we take the children to the hall before the rest of the school so the children can be in a quieter environment. We teach the children how to access everything in the dining room and support with cutting up their food if needed. The Lunchtime supervisors will take them out to play in the playground after lunch.

## **School Dinners:**

- There are 4 options each day – meat, vegetarian, sandwich, jacket potato.
- A three-week rolling menu is sent home with parents in order for them to discuss the day's selection with the children. Children then order their preference in the morning and then it is prepared on the premises by Hertfordshire Catering.
- If your child has any food allergies or intolerances, you must inform Herts catering – The Menu and information is found on our school website.

## **Packed Lunch:**

- ❓ Lunch boxes are stored on a trolley in the classroom.
- ❓ We encourage healthy choices. Sweets and fizzy drinks are not permitted and No Nuts!
- ❓ Nursery aged children will need to bring a package lunch into school everyday

# How can I support my child at home?



**Communicate and talk with your child**



**Enjoy physical activities together**



**Have fun exploring maths**



**Read, tell and make up stories together**



**Support your child to do things by themselves**



**Encourage your child to talk and play with others**



## Evidence Me and Learning Journal

In St Nicholas we use Evidence Me – It is a secure online Learning Journal to record photos, observations and comments, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, to build up a record of your child's experiences during their time with us. You can also post observations on Evidence Me so the teachers in school can see some of the progress your child is making at home.


We will also collect your child's learning in a learning journal that they will take home at the end of year.

# Working with Parents

We provide many opportunities for parents and carers to take an active part in their child's education. These include:

- Evidence Me
- WOW moments! Share your children's small achievements at home
- Workshops – phonics & reading information for parents
- Whole school events – school fete, non-uniform days etc
- Parent consultation meetings






# Communication – building strong relationships between home and school

- Face-to-face in the playground
- Telephone conversations/ email
- Weekly whole school newsletters – dates, special events, children's achievements, whole school updates
- Evidence Me
- The school website
- Topic updates through Evidence Me



# Key Information

- Attendance matters!
  - Classroom doors open at 8:45am. Statutory registration at 8.55am – No parking outside the school
  - Gates open at 3pm and collection is at 3.15pm - It is vital that you inform us if someone different is collecting your child. If we are unsure your child will remain at school until we can contact you.
  - Holidays are unauthorised during term time.
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# Support for your child



# Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



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You...



Thank you for listening

We are looking forward to working together and getting to know you and the children in September.

