

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Headteacher
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8th September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to the new school year. We hope you all had a lovely summer. We are very excited about this upcoming year for your child to reach their full potential in our stimulating environment. We have a strong belief that we can achieve much more by working as a whole unit rather than 2 separate classes. The children will benefit from more adult support, more friends to learn and play with and a larger environment with more areas of learning.

Introducing Foundation staff...

Mrs Shaw



Miss Palarm



Mrs Spencer



Miss Blackmore



Mrs Goddard



Mrs Collier



Mrs Shaw and Miss Palarm are the Class Teachers, Mrs Shaw is also the Foundation Lead. Mrs Spencer will be working in Foundation on Fridays to cover the class teachers' planning time out of class. Miss Blackmore, Mrs Goddard and Mrs Collier are our amazing class teaching assistants. If you have any questions about how your child will be taught over the year please come and speak to us. We want you to feel confident and secure that your child is getting the best possible start to their school life.

The children will be involved in many different activities throughout the term and we will keep you informed of any relevant diary dates. Sometimes, if we have trips that require a contribution, parents will be able to start paying for the trips in instalments.

During the first few weeks of school your child will be taking part in new learning experiences. Expect your child to be tired at the end of the day. Some children may find parting with you in the morning difficult, please try to prepare your child for each day explaining that you will be returning at the end of the day. Some children will settle quickly and some need a little longer but it is all natural. Try not to worry if your child needs longer to settle - we can work together to help them.

Some children may have the occasional wet accident; this is normal and not something to be overly concerned by, we are very discreet and no fuss is made. In Foundation class we have changes of clothes and facilities to help clean your child. We can meet and discuss this if the wetting becomes more frequent and is causing your child distress.

After the first half term we hope as many of you can help out during the school day. Attached is a table of times and if you could help, that would be fantastic. Please also state what you can help with. We always need helpers for reading, cooking, art and playing small group games. On the attached form is also included a timetable for availability on trips. We try to incorporate many trips and visits into the school year, and this is only possible due to the support of our parents as we need to have a ratio of 6(children):1(adult).

Please can you ensure all clothing, wellies and school bags have your child's name inside. It is also a good idea to help your child to practise opening and closing their lunch box - showing them how to unpack their lunch, putting on and zipping up/fastening their coats, trousers and shoes. These little activities will help your child to become more independent and can sometimes help children to feel less anxious.

Please can your child bring to school every day their reading book and record in a reading book bag. Please sign off the book in the reading record when your child has finished, helping us to keep track of how much they are reading and the progression they are making. Sometimes your child will have a book they have already read, this is to help your child feel confident or if we feel they are not ready to move onto the next stage of books. The local libraries are full of exciting literature that you will be able to borrow to support your child's reading at home as well.

Your child will be experiencing a range of different reading situations in school and therefore the reading book in their bag is specifically for reading at home. On occasions we may share the book in school to check progress within the reading set.

There will be times during the year that your child may be given treats/sweets from other children, usually on birthdays. Please let us know if you do not wish for your child to receive these treats as we can offer an alternative on these occasions.

If you have any concerns about your child at school please don't hesitate to let us know. We can make an appointment after school to meet if you feel we will need more time to talk. We are available after school most evenings. We will also have set opportunities to discuss your child's progress throughout the school year.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Shaw and Miss Palarm