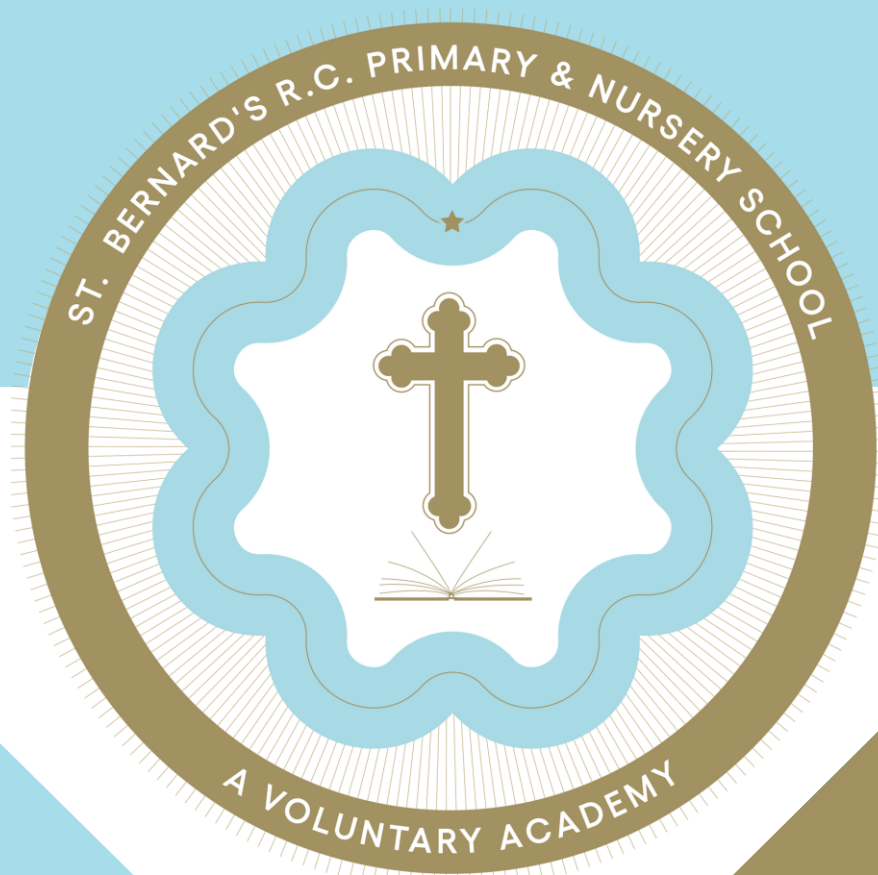


St Bernard's R.C. Primary & Nursery School

Welcome



Reception

Our Mission

.....
To grow, love and
learn following
Jesus

Our Vision

Excellence
in all we do



Message from the Head of School

Welcome to St Bernard's,

We are delighted that you have chosen St Bernard's as the place for your child to take their next steps in learning and life.

St Bernard's is a special family, where all stakeholders are totally committed to making this the best experience possible for you and your child.

The partnership between home and school is really important to us. Your voice matters and we welcome feedback from parents and families to support the school in achieving our vision of excellence whilst following the teachings of Jesus.

Our priority is for your child to reach their full potential in all areas of life and look forward to seeing their unique talents and qualities develop as they grow over the coming years.

I look forward to what we can achieve together.

Mrs Le Feuvre

Head of
School





The School Day



Time	Activity
08:45	Doors Open/Registration
09:00	Fine motor skills activities
09:15	Literacy tasks /Read Write Inc
10:00	Snack and play
10:30	Literacy and Numeracy task
11:00	Free flow and focused activities
11:40	Lunch
12:30	Registration/Relaxation
13:00	Understanding of the world/ Creative task
13:30	Free flow and focused activities
14:15	Afternoon break
14:30	Free flow and focused activities/Interventions
15:00	Story time
15:15	Home time

Please note this timetable may vary occasionally due to trips/ external visitors etc.

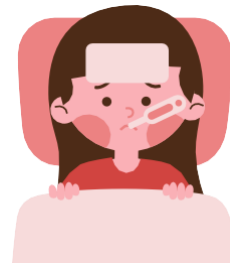


Attendance Matters

Full attendance is vital for your child's educational progress. Research has shown there is an overwhelming connection between those pupils who are frequently absent and those who go on to underachieve in their future.



Good habits, establish good routines, such as going to bed on time.



If your child is off school, you must let the school know why and tell them when they can expect your child back.

Tips for good school attendance:



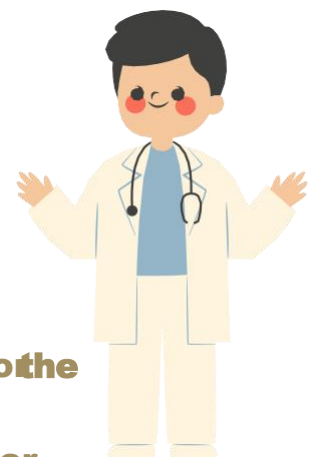
Take all holidays during the school holiday periods.



Don't let your child stay off school for a minor ailment.

Make all

appointments for the doctor, dentist, optician etc. after school hours or during the school holidays.





Induction Programme

DATE	ACTIVITY
Wednesday 4th June 2025	New starters meeting 6-7pm for parents to meet staff, visit the classroom, book home visits and collect starter pack.
Wednesday 18th and Tuesday 24th June 2025	Home visits will involve meeting your child in their home and discussing any information regarding starting school.
Thursday 3rd July 2025	School visit - 1 hour 30 minutes in the morning
Part time from the 3rd of September. Full time Monday 8th of September	Start school (3 days transition) am session is with lunch 08:45 - 12:30 (arranged on home visit) Arrange a 1:1 meeting with Head of School





Meet our Team Reception Staff

Head of School
Mrs Le Feuvre



Assistant Head
Miss E Reid



Reception
Mrs Thomson



Reception
Mrs Witherspoon



We can't wait to meet you!

Catholic Ethos

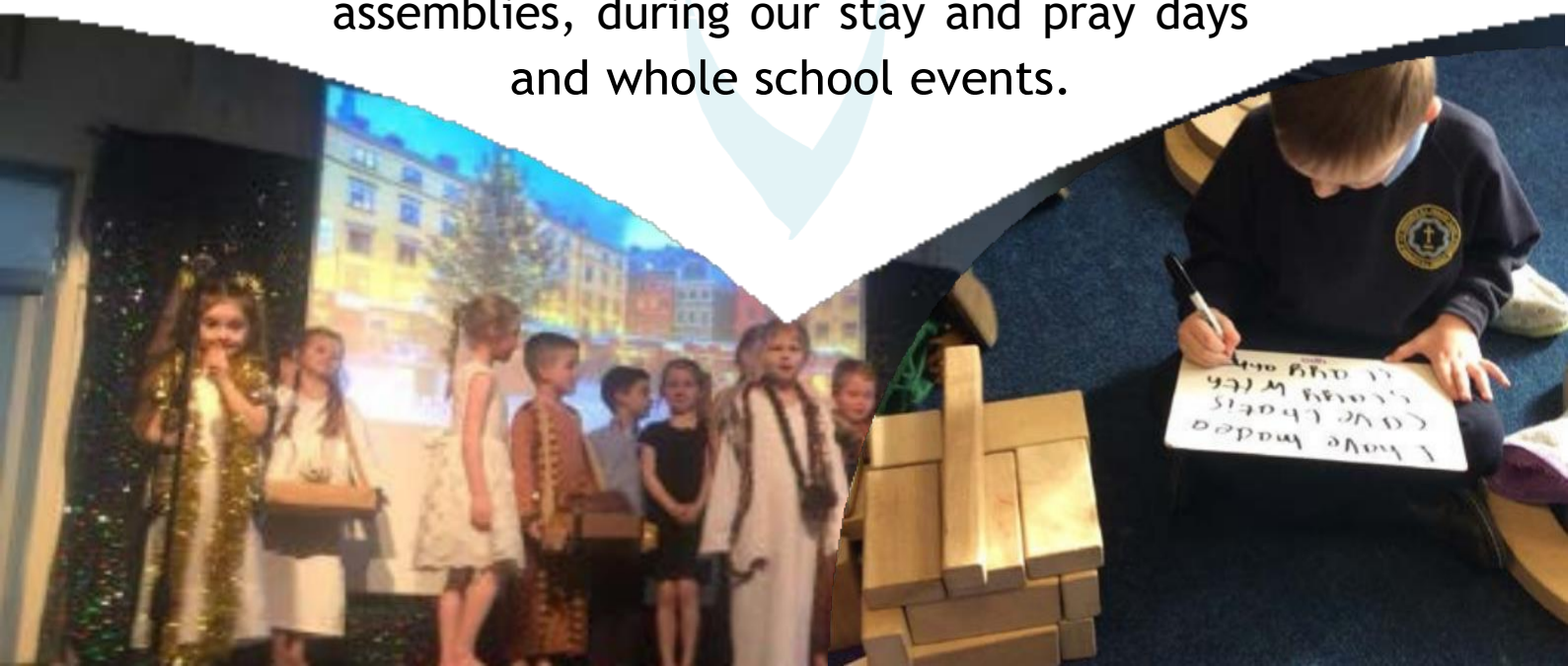


At St Bernard's our Catholic character is centered upon Gospel Values and the children and staff alike strive to make the knowledge and love of God part of everyday life. We provide an environment where children can 'grow, love and learn following Jesus' embedding values and characteristics to develop the whole person as well as embed the Catholic Faith.

The children take part in daily prayer and worship which they share ownership of, planning and leading parts themselves. Each session concludes with an action that shows how we can 'Go Forth' and how our understanding of God's message can be used in our daily lives.

Each class has its own focal point and display that demonstrates the importance of God's Word, our own thoughts and prayers.

Throughout the year, you will be invited to join us in celebration of key religious events / themes in class assemblies, during our stay and pray days and whole school events.





School Uniform

Dark navy trousers/skirt

Pale blue polo shirt

Dark navy sweatshirt/cardigan with school logo

Sensible black school shoes



PE

On PE days, children are asked to come into school dressed ready to do PE. A simple plain white t-shirt, navy blue shorts and pumps/trainers will be suitable attire.

All garments
MUST be
clearly marked
with the
student's **FULL**
name



Parent Partnership

We want to be very involved with your child's Reception Year.

You are your child's first educator and know them best.

Children will bring home phonics sounds and high frequency words to practice.

Please share with us anything you have done at home that means something to your child and we will share and celebrate it at school

Open Door Policy

WOW moments at home

Contributing on Tapestry

Displays in the Classroom

Share the learning

Reading at home

Family Projects



Fun Club

Before and after school provision

Breakfast Club



Miss Yeoman



Miss Hutchinson

Our Breakfast Club runs from 7:45am to 8:45am when school starts. Our school is part of the DFE early adopter Breakfast club. Which means from 8:15 breakfast club is free for every child. The children enjoy a hearty breakfast with various choices. They also have time to play in the club. Children are delivered safely to their classes at the start of the school day.

There is a charge for Brfast Club of £3 per session - 7:45am start, payable on parent - pay weekly.

After school fun club

St Bernard's Fun Club runs from 3.15pm, when school finishes, to 5.30pm. The children are collected from their classes and taken to the club by staff members where they will enjoy a healthy snack and drink. The children are then involved in various activities including arts, crafts, games, cookery and much more.

There is a charge of £5.50 4:15pm, and £7.50 until 5:30pm, payable on parent pay weekly.





Foundation Stage

What is it?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S.) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of the Reception year. Children at St. Bernard's join the Reception class in the September following their fourth birthday.

It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning. Through play children can develop, for example: the confidence needed for learning; the social skills needed for personal development and the skills needed for reading and writing.

This is a very important stage as it helps your child get ready for school as well as preparing them for their future learning and successes. From when your child is born up until the age of 5, their early years' experience should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure; and support their development, care and learning needs.





What does it involve?

The Early Years Foundation Stage is the statutory framework that sets the standards that all Early Years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe.

There are four key themes within the framework:

1	2	3	4
<p>A Unique Child - Every child is a competent learner.</p>	<p>Positive Relationships - We encourage children to form good relationships with all children and adults in the setting.</p>	<p>Enabling Environments - The classroom is set up differently to other year groups to allow children to learn through play.</p>	<p>Learning and Development - Every child is an individual and will learn in different ways at different rates.</p>






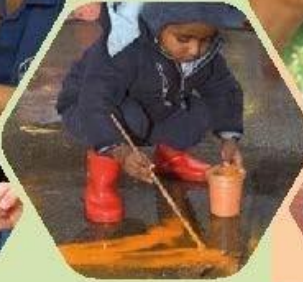



The Early Years Foundation Stage

Principles into Practice

The four Themes of the EYFS are:

The Early Years Foundation Stage

Every Child Matters
Change for Children

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
<p>These four Themes express important Principles underpinning effective practice in the care, development and learning of young children.</p> 	<p>Each Principle is supported by four Commitments which describe how the Principle can be put into practice.</p>   	  	 
<p>The four Principles of the EYFS are:</p> <p>Every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.</p>	<p>Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and/or a key person.</p>	<p>The environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning.</p>	<p>Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas of Learning and Development are equally important and inter-connected.</p>



Areas of Learning

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development.

Children should mostly develop the 3 prime areas first. These are:

- 1. Communication and language**
- 2. Physical development**
- 3. Personal, social and emotional development**

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 specific areas. These are:

- 1. Literacy**
- 2. Mathematics**
- 3. Understanding the world**
- 4. Expressive arts and design**

During the Foundation Stage, these areas of learning will be introduced in ways that are suitable for young children i.e. through practical, fun, stimulating and challenging activities.

The children will be given opportunities to build upon their existing skills and interests to aid their development.

Assessments are made from daily observations we make of children in various play based activities. From this, we track children against the Development Matters document, which is a series of developmental statements in the seven areas of learning.





Things to bring into School



- Wellies- we play outside in all weathers
- Suitable outdoor coat- nothing too special as it may get sandy, muddy or wet
- Spare clothes just in case we get wet in water play or have an accident
- Hat, scarves and gloves
- Sun hats (ensure your child is wearing adequate sunscreen in the warmer weather)
- Water bottles
- Book bags, reading records and reading books-these are checked and changed regularly
- Home diary, with recent updates from home, trips, holidays or special days that we can share

Preparing behaviour for School

- Agree clear and realistic rules- and stick to them
- Give your child boundaries so they know what is expected of them
- Encourage your child to always say 'please and thank you'.
- Support the school rules
- If your child's behaviour is proving difficult we can work on a home/ school reward system



Preparing your child for school with everyday tasks

When your child starts school it would be helpful if he/she can...

- Dress and undress him/herself
- Put on and fasten his/her coat
- Change shoes/pumps
- Use the toilet properly and flush it
- Wash and dry his/her hands and face
- Use a knife and fork
- Tidy/clear away his/her toys
- Use a tissue





Helping your child to prepare for school life

Helpful activities for you and your child to do together:

- Helping you around the house, e.g. setting the table, washing up, and putting the shopping away.
- Sitting together looking at a book and listening to stories
- Visiting places together like the park, supermarket, station, bank, library, post office, launderette etc.
- Singing rhymes and songs together
- Collecting things like buttons, shells, postcards or pebbles
- Sit and watch television together



All of these activities provide lots of opportunities for talking and sharing ideas with each other.

Talking together

A child learns a lot from talking.

Talk about:

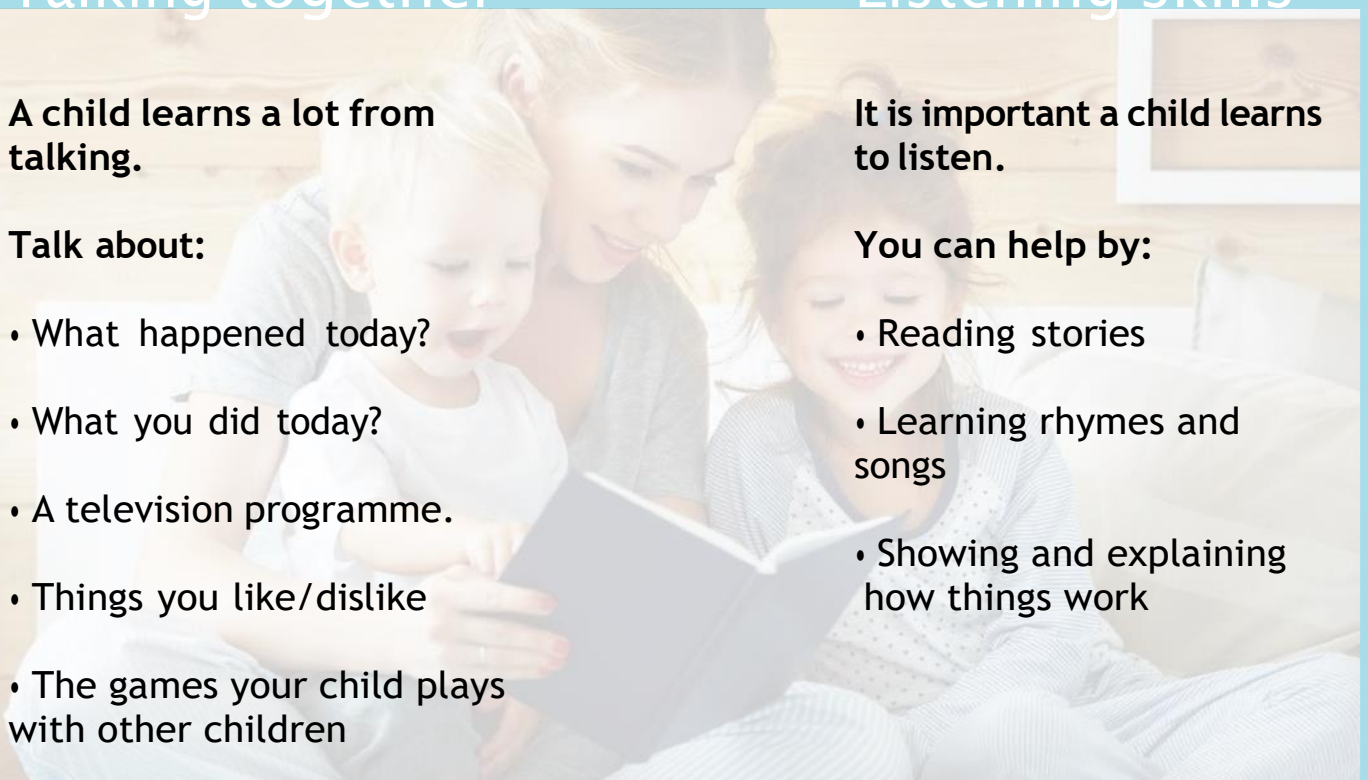
- What happened today?
- What you did today?
- A television programme.
- Things you like/dislike
- The games your child plays with other children

Listening skills

It is important a child learns to listen.

You can help by:

- Reading stories
- Learning rhymes and songs
- Showing and explaining how things work





St Bernard's RC Primary School
Sherbourne Road
Ellesmere Port
CH65 5EW
0151 355 2047
Email: admin@stbernards.cheshire.sch.uk
www.stbernardsrc.co.uk
 @StBernardsep