



St John The Evangelist
Catholic Primary School

Warm Welcome to
Nursery & Reception at
St John The Evangelist
Catholic Primary School



Warm welcome to St John The Evangelist Catholic Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

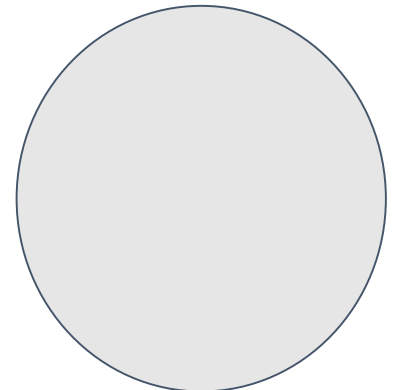
A warm welcome to St John The Evangelist Catholic Primary School. We pride ourselves on being a vibrant, inclusive community with Catholic values at the heart of everything we do.

We hope you find this pack informative and will help you learn more about our fantastic school.

If you have any other enquiries, please contact us.

Best wishes

Mrs L Nelson
Acting Headteacher





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What happens in the Early Years?



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Lots of busy fun!

Children in Nursery and Reception have different planned learning experiences, e.g. circle time for

- Nursery;
- Maths,
- English, Sounds Write. (Phonics) lessons for Reception

We are a unit...

- Reception and Nursery work together - shared access to continuous provision and outdoor learning,
- shared enquiries with adapted approaches, shared adults (although we have different responsibilities and areas of expertise, we all get to know all of our learners and we are there for all our children).

Play, Play, Play!

Well planned indoor and outdoor play are key to the way in which young children learn with enjoyment and challenge.

- Play is purposeful and extends learning.
- Children in Early Years are challenged.
- We have fun and learn while we're doing it.



EYFS Curriculum

Prime Areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language

Specific Areas:

- Literacy including reading and writing
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



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What is the difference between Nursery and Reception?

Reception is the second year of the Foundation Stage – it builds on what they have been doing at nursery / pre school or home and prepares them for learning in Key Stage 1.

During the course of the year the children become more independent learners.

More information for parents:

www.foundationyears.org.uk

At home:

- Learning the sounds in their name
- Initial sounds of words
- Spot the sound... (on packaging, street names, in stories)
- 'Say the sounds to hear the word.' – sounding out words for children to guess



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How will Mathematics be taught?

Daily lessons will consist of Mathematics circle time with a main focus on...

- Counting, recognising numbers, knowing number order, 1:1 counting
- Comparison: more/less/same
- Composition: Adding, subtracting, sharing, doubling and halving
- We will also be teaching shape/space and measures and patterns in preparation for Year 1 in addition to the core curriculum. We follow the NCETM and will be using Numberblocks.

There will also be:

- Smaller adult - led group work
- Challenges – children are given a reason & motivation to choose to work with maths
- Opportunities and provocations for using maths in play

Mathematics at home, you can encourage your child to...

- Use numbers and identify them in the environment (house numbers, shops, road signs, number plates, supermarket, menus)
- Counting objects 1:1 while playing
- Kitchen maths- weighing, measuring, halving, counting

How will Phonics be taught?

Phonics is the teaching of early reading and writing. We teach Sounds Write phonics.

- Children have a daily lesson
- Children are taught as a Reception class and will work as a whole class
- Smaller adult-led learning groups
- Challenges – children are given a reason & motivation to choose to work with words
- Opportunities and provocations for using reading and writing in play

For more information:

- <https://sounds-write.co.uk/support-for-parents-and-carers/>

Phonics at home, you
can encourage your
child to...

- Learning the sounds in their name
- Initial sounds of words
- Spot the sound... (on packaging, street names, in stories)
- 'Say the sounds to hear/read the word' – sounding out words for children to guess

How will Literacy be taught?

Daily lessons will consist of carpet time with a main focus on...

- Letter formation - handwriting
- Recognition of sounds for spelling
- Sentence structure
- Writing for a purpose, communicating
- Rhyming

There will also be:

- Smaller adult-led group work
- Concept Cat- learning to understand and use new vocabulary and concepts
- Helicopter Stories- children learning to listen to stories, act them out and become storytellers themselves
- Storytimes and talk through stories (all our enquiries have book hooks as a base)
- Challenges – children are given a reason and motivation to choose to read and write
- Opportunities and provocations for reading and writing in play

Literacy at home, you
can encourage your
child to...

- Writing opportunities and modelling by adults (shopping lists, cards, stories, letters)
- Reading (model reading road signs, packaging, labels) and bedtime stories

Mighty Warriors

Part of the PE curriculum, we have a visit from Karen, Mighty Warriors who teaches the children stretches and mobility.

This is every Thursday, the children are to come to school in their PE kit.



How can I prepare my child for Reception?

- Talk to your child
- Practice listening skills
- Enjoy books, stories and rhymes
- Play games: practise sharing and turn taking
- Develop an interest in the world around us
- Use the toilet independently
- Dress and undress independently
- Practise blowing your nose, throwing the tissue in the bin and washing hands straight away
- Say 'please' and 'thank you'
- Recognise their name
- Hold a pencil / crayon using pincer grip



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First day nerves

- Understandably your child may feel nervous or anxious, it is important that beforehand you prepare your child for school by talking about school experiences positively.
- Encourage questions and discussion.
- Try not to let your child know how nervous you are.





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How will my child keep track of their belongings?

- We teach children to look after things (their own, things belonging to others and to school)
- They will have their own labeled peg outside Nursery and Reception class
- You can help your child to identify their own belongings by putting their name in every item of clothing, even shoes!
- Clearly label water bottles, lunch boxes, book bags etc.



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The first few weeks...

- You will drop your child off at the nursery door, which is located in the school playground.
- Your child will arrive and put their coat and bag on their labelled peg.
- Play on arrival (for first couple of weeks)
- When children are ready we switch to name writing and carpet time first thing.
- Separate snack times and self-contained outdoor play.
- You will collect your child from the nursery door, which is located on the school playground.



MyChildAtSchool (MCAS)



As a parent you are juggling everything from paying school dinners, wraparound care, trips and clubs. Along with keeping up with what is happening at school from special events to when is it sports day? That is in between everyday life...

To make everything accessible and easy as possible we use MyChildAtSchool, where you can quickly see everything at a glance.

You will receive messages with letters from us of what is happening in the school via the app.

To create an account we require your email address, a form for consent to contact you will be provided in your starter pack.



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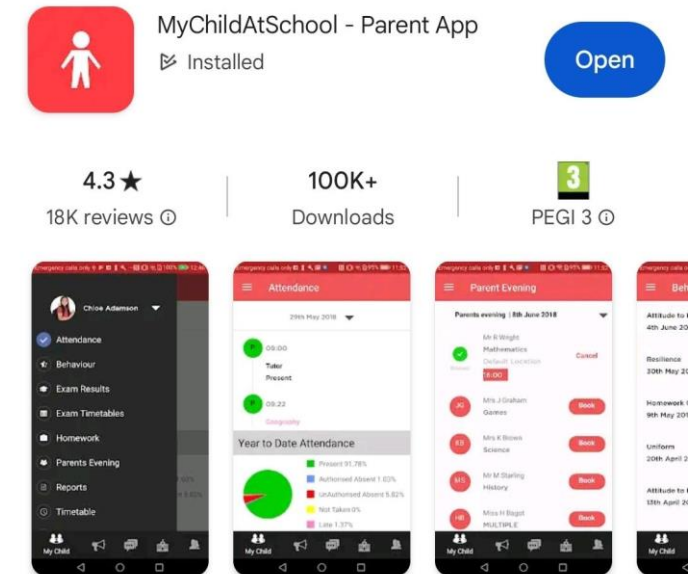
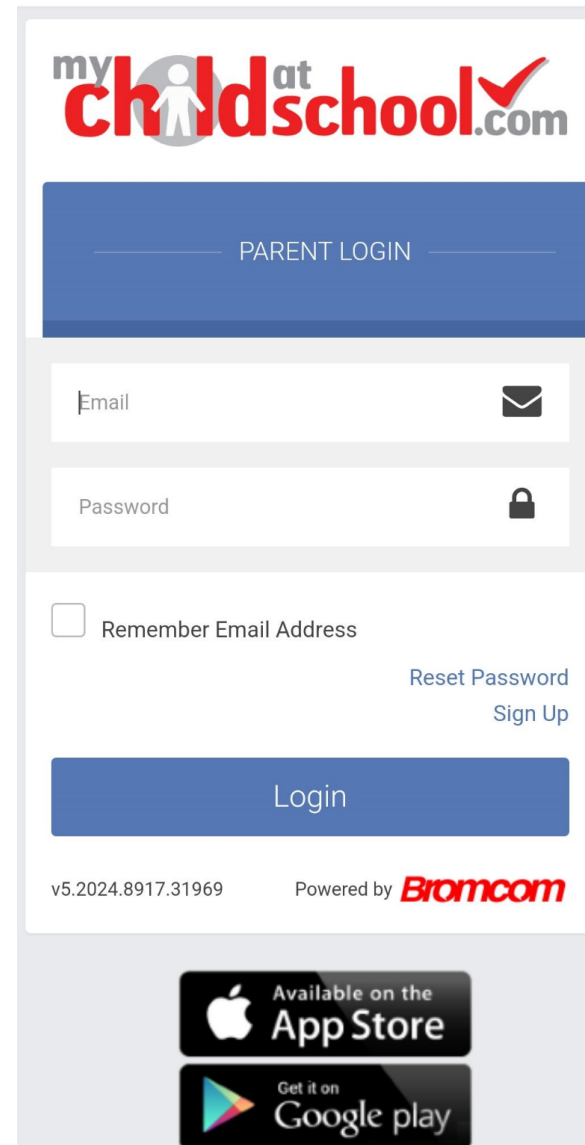
MyChildAtSchool (MCAS)

Website

www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCASParentLogin

App

Download the app on the App Store or
Google Play



Parental engagement app between Parents and Schools about their children's

ClassDojo



ClassDojo is used by our teachers to communicate directly with parents and carers.

- Children are rewarded with Dojo points for good behaviour!
- You will find updates of what is happening in the classroom.
- You can message your child's teacher direct.

Please note: if you require a response during school hours, please telephone the office as messages will not be responded to immediately. Due to the teacher teaching.



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Class Dojo

Website

www.classdojo.com/en-gb

Sign up online

App

Download the app on the
App Store or Google Play



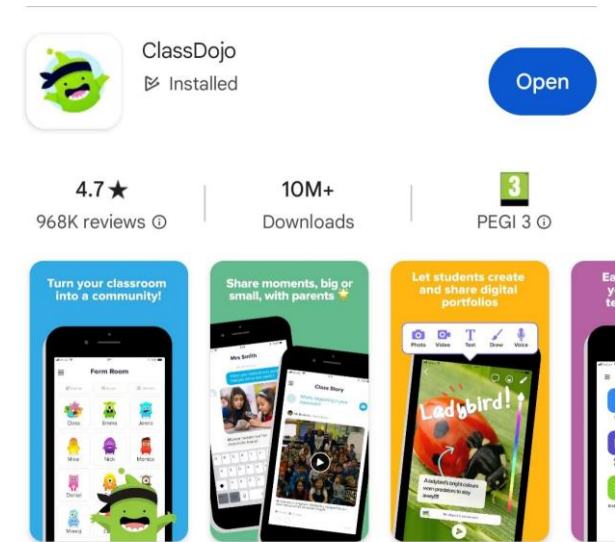
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parents.
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2 million+ reviews



ClassDojo connects teachers, kids, and families



School dinners Nursery and Reception

- Nursery pupils who have a full-time place (30 hours) or want additional sessions are also able to stay at school over lunchtime.

The children will be provided with a hot meal and there is a charge of £2.20 per day for lunch, and a cost of £1 to cover the additional childcare above the 15 or 30 hours

Both are payable online via MCAS.

- Reception pupils have universal free meals.

We are very proud to have a brand new kitchen serving delicious and nutritionist meals.

Each meal is prepared on-site by our chef and kitchen staff, who know all the children by name!

We have 3 week menu, offering lots of different choices. The menus can be viewed on our website.

Meals are selected on a weekly basis.



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Pack lunches

Children can also bring a packed lunch as an alternative to the cooked meal but are not allowed to chop and change between school meals and packed lunches.

Ideally, whatever you decide at the beginning of each term should remain in force until the beginning of the next term. Your co-operation in these matters will be greatly appreciated.



Packed lunches should ideally contain healthy options. They should not include glass bottles or sweets of any description.

Please find a link to pack lunch inspiration

www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/school-packed-lunch-inspiration

We are a nut-free school.



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Wraparound care

Breakfast Club

Is available Monday to Friday, opening at 7:30am

£4 per child, per session

Our breakfast club supervisors will greet you at the first door of the school hall.

Breakfast items provided are a choice of cereal, toast and a drink of fruit juice or water.

Children will be taken to their classrooms ready for the start of the school day.

After School, 'Beyond the Bell' Club

Is available Monday to Friday, 3:10pm - 5.30pm

£4 per child, per one hour session an additional £2 per half hour session

3.10pm - 4.10pm = £4.00 | 3.10pm - 5.10pm = £8.00
3.10pm - 5.30pm = £10.00

Following an after-school club the prices are:

4.10pm-5.10pm = £4 | 4.10pm-5.35pm = £6

A light snack and a drink will be provided.

Our uniform

Elizabeth Embroidery is our uniform provider.

To order follow this link:
elizabethschoolwear.com/collections/st-john-the-evangelist

For sizing, you are welcome to visit their shop in Wellington Square, Stockton-On-Tees





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Our uniform

Your checklist

Please label all items of clothing so we can get any lost items back to you or your child - thank you

Girls uniform

- Bottle green jumper/cardigan with a school badge
- White polo shirt (school badge optional)
- Grey trousers or skirt
- Green and white gingham dress
- Black school shoes, grey socks or tights

Boys uniform

- Bottle green jumper with a school badge
- White polo shirt (school badge optional)
- Grey trousers or shorts
- Black school shoes, grey socks

PE Kit

- Bottle green sports hoodie with a school badge
- Bottle green joggers with a school badge
- White t-shirt with a school badge
- Green or black shorts
- Black plimsolls for indoor
- Plain black trainers for outdoor (no named brands)

Accessories; water bottle, school book bag (for their letters and drawings), PE bag for wellies



What if...? Questions you may have

My child has an accident?

- An adult will help your child with first aid or assistance to clean up/change if necessary.

My child is poorly at school?

- If we are concerned about your child, we will call you and, if we feel it's necessary, we will ask you to collect your child.

My child needs the toilet?

- We do expect children to use the toilet independently but adults will talk children through difficulties (or help if necessary.) Children can access the toilets freely, but we teach them to ask permission to leave the circle in whole-class teaching times.



What if...? Questions you may have

My child has an appointment?

- Ideally, appointments should be made for the beginning or end of a school day, so that as little school time is lost as is possible.

Please let us know in advance if your child will be absent. This can be by telephone 01642 643400, a Dojo message to your child's teacher or via email:
office@stjohntheevangelist.bhcet.org.uk

What if I am late?

- If you will be late due to unforeseen circumstances, please phone the office to let us know. In this way we can all reassure your child so that they will not worry.



What if...? Questions you may have

My child is poorly at home?

- If your child is going to be absent, please speak to our office staff on 01642 643400, you have the option to leave a message, for safeguarding please let us know as soon as possible.
- We ask that if your child has sickness or diarrhea, they do not come into school for 48 hours after the last occurrence.

I need to talk to someone about any concerns?

It is important you know that you are welcome to talk to us any time!

- Teachers are available at the very start of the day for a “quick” message.
- It is better to make a telephone appointment if the matter you need to discuss will take some time – either with the Headteacher or a member of staff.

We want you and your child to be happy! Please do not hesitate to contact us.