

Reception Newsletter – Friday 18th September 2026

RE

We are now in the second week of our new RE curriculum from the Birmingham Catholic Diocese called 'Discerning Disciples'. Each week the children will learn some 'know statements' that refer to the learning from the week. Your child might be able to remember them or part of them.

Last week the know statements referred to talking to God in prayer and learning to make the sign of the cross. We shared a video (link below) to help the children learn how to do this in a fun way and will continue to practice learning to make the sign of the cross over the next few weeks/months. We also learned how to join our hands correctly – ask your child to show you how to do it (we join our hands together with straight fingers pointing up to God in Heaven, join our thumbs and put our joined hands by our hearts).

This week we have learned that God made our world in 6 days and He said 'Indeed it is very good'. We thought about the things in creation we think are very good. Perhaps when you're out walking over the next few weeks, you might like to talk with your child about God's gifts in creation and the things you and your family think are good.

<https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/main/pupils/class-pages/reception/videos-re>

Lunches

Thank you to those parents who are encouraging their child to use their knife and fork to eat their meal. I can see many children making excellent efforts using cutlery – even cutting the roast chicken by themselves. Please keep going with this. I know it takes a little longer when children are young, but it really does help them in so many ways – independence, resilience, social skills, good eating habits and muscles in their fingers growing stronger which will help children do buttons and zips and help their writing.

Meet the Teacher

The 'Meet the Teacher' meeting for Reception takes place on **Friday 25th September** at **2.45pm**. Please come to the school's main entrance. The PowerPoint and pack will be uploaded to the class website:

<https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/main/pupils/class-pages/reception/meet-the-teacher-and-general-information-for-parents>.

PE

On **Thursday 24th September** we will be changing for PE for the first time. If you haven't already done so, please send in your child's PE bags. **Please make sure that this is clearly labelled on the outside with your child's name and has some sort of recognisable feature such as a key ring, ribbon etc. if it is a navy school one and that all PE kits are clearly named – including trainers.**

Until the warmer weather, Reception's formal PE lessons take place inside. PE kit should include:

- Black shorts
- White t-shirt with the school logo
- Trainers with Velcro – no laces please unless your child can do laces independently
- A pair of socks for girls in case they wear tights later in the term.
- Reception children do not need a black track suit.

PE Kit at St Anne's



Please make every effort to encourage your child to make as many attempts to dress themselves at home and not be reliant on adults to do it for them. You have one child at home and we have 30. The quicker they dress, the longer they have for PE. This is an ideal opportunity to help your child develop their independence, problem solving & sequencing skills and develop strength in their fingers. It is also one of our assessment points for the Early Years Profile at the end of the year.

Woodlands School

Woodlands School will begin on **Friday 25th September**. It will take place every Friday unless there is a dress-up theme day or something else is happening in school. I will inform you when it is not happening. Children should come to school **every Friday** in sensible non-uniform (clothes you don't mind getting muddy such as leggings, t-shirt, fleece etc) with Velcro shoes. Please provide outer clothing in a named bag:

- waterproof all-in-one playsuit
- wellington boots (inside their own carrier bag to help stop the spread of mud through school and on clothing)
- spare socks in case theirs get wet
- a hat (winter / summer)

Clothes for Woodlands School



Family Mass

Father Gwil came to Reception today and invited all the children and their families to attend our Saturday Family Mass at 6pm at St Anne's Church to welcome you all to our parish. We sang him a hymn 'Our God is a Great Big God' which he would like to sing at Mass. <https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/main/pupils/class-pages/reception/hymns>. The children have also helped create a poster that will be shared in the Homily. Children can sit with you. Please make every effort to attend. It is an ideal opportunity to meet other parents and their children from Reception.

Have a great family weekend

Mrs Turley