

Life in All its Fullness - Come and See



EYFS

Autumn 2026 Newsletter



Welcome to the EYFS!

For those who are new welcome to St Andrews and for those who are returning from the Summer holidays, welcome back!

We are very excited to start the new school year and learn about the world around us!

Curriculum

In the Early Years Foundation Stage there are 3 prime areas:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- Self Regulation, Managing Self, Building Relationships

Communication and Language- Listening, attention & Understanding, Speaking

Physical Development- Gross Motor skills & Fine Motor Skills.

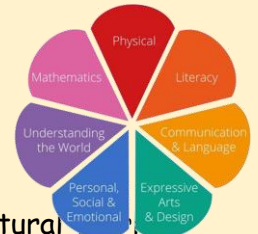
In the Early Years Foundation Stage there are 4 specific areas:

Literacy- Comprehension, Word Reading & Writing

Mathematical Development - Number & Numerical Pattern

Understanding the World- Past & Present, People, Culture & Communities, The Natural World

Expressive Arts and Design - Creating with Materials & Being Imaginative and Expressive.



Autumn term

Our first half term theme is 'Celebrating Me', which provides a fantastic opportunity for both staff and children to build strong relationships and settle into the rules and routines of the classroom. Nursery and Reception's story focus will be *The Gingerbread Man* by Mara Alperin. This much-loved tale offers rich opportunities to spark conversations about our families, friends, and the things we enjoy. Through role-play, storytelling, and creative activities, children will be encouraged to share their own experiences, and celebrate what makes them unique.

In the second half of the term, EYFS will begin to explore the wider world around us through the engaging text *Festivals* by Jane Bingham. We will be focusing primarily on Fireworks Night, La Tomatina, Diwali, and Christmas. Children will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on creative activities, storytelling, and discussions that highlight the values, traditions, and sensory experiences of each festival. Through these explorations, we aim to nurture curiosity, respect for diversity, and an appreciation of different ways people come together in celebration.

Nursery- Shared reading books

Nursery will start by bringing home a storybook to share with their family. You can read the book together and talk about what has happened in the story, who is in it and where the story is set. Nursery will also be starting phonics and looking at Phase 1 in the next few weeks.

Reception- Phonics/ Reading

Within the next few weeks Reception children will be starting their phonics and learning Phase 2 graphemes. After half term, Reception will be sent home with a reading book of pictures to build communication and language or the first few Phase 2 sounds. Please ensure you read with your child every night, it only has to be a couple of pages and it will be a huge benefit to reinforce the reading skills they learn in class. We will let you know which days to change your books on when they are sent home.



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RE – Autumn 1: **Why is the word God so important to Christians?** explores the understanding the Christian belief that the universe is not random but the creation of a holy God, who designed and gave life and purpose to our world. Autumn 2: **'Why do Christians perform Nativity plays at Christmas?'** lays foundations for understanding that Christians believe they encounter God in the historical person of Jesus. They celebrate Jesus' nativity (birth) because it is the coming of God to earth as God 'incarnate'.

P.E and Games

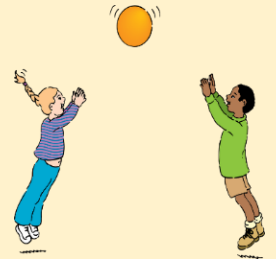
P.E lessons for **Nursery** will take place on a **Monday**.

P.E. lessons for **Reception** will take place on a **Tuesday and Friday**.

Reception will need to come into school already dressed in their **NAMED** PE kit.

The children will be working on their spatial awareness skills in the first half term and in the second half term they will be working on their ball skills using their hands.

We kindly remind you to make sure that your child is wearing a **sensible** pair of trainers for PE, preferably Velcro as it makes it easier for your child to take their shoes off and on.



Relationships and Health Education

(Personal, Social and Emotional development) - To the children this is known as Jigsaw.

In the first half term, the children will be learning about 'Being Me in my World'.

The children will be learning about a sense of belonging, being part of a school community and the wider community and rights and responsibilities.

In the second half term the children will be learning about 'Celebrating Difference.' The children will be learning about diversity and how it is ok to be different.



School Checklist

An Autumn term reminder- Please remember that your child needs to bring the following items to school:

- Bookbag or small backpack (**named**) to hold reading books and any letters that are handed out.
- A **named** hooded coat, hat and gloves as the weather gets colder (**everyday**).
- **Named** water bottle **with water only**.
- A spare change of underwear/uniform may be helpful to keep on your child's peg, though we do have spares in school (**replenished when needed**).



Further information

Any home learning will be sent through our Home Learning records. We know that young children learn best through short, playful, and regular opportunities to practise key skills at home. The learning in the journals will be consolidating something they will have already been taught in class. We will be sharing their home learning completed together and keeping updated on their reading progress. We will also check Tapestry weekly for messages and sharing their achievements in class.

'Welcome to CIL' Come and See Morning:

Date: 1st October 2026

We are really looking forward to a fabulous term, with lots of new learning and experiences for the children, celebrating **life in all its fullness**.

Miss Musgrove, Mrs Raffill and The EYFS Team