Welcome to Reception

I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce the staff, tell you a few bits of information and share some invaluable key skills you could practise at home.

Reception Staff:

We have a class teacher and full time teaching assistant

Mrs Ogden: Class teacher

Mrs Everett: Full time Reception Teaching Assistant

Daily Routine:

(There is a more detailed power point on the Website <https://stbenedicts.cheshire.sch.uk>)

School opens at **8:40** and all children should be in school, sat on the carpet, ready for registration by 8:50. Lessons start at 850am with phonics. Phonics is vital for early reading so it is important that your child is ready for the start of the lesson.

Gates open at **3:30** .Children are picked up from the side door of the classroom, parents should wait in the large playground.

**Attendance** is very important for your child’s development and missing a day a week adds up to 8 weeks lost over a year. Helping your child to set a good attendance starts in Reception. We can administer medicine when needed.

Children should wear their PE kit on the days we have PE.

We send home a reading book on a **Monday** and **Wednesday**, initially this will be a picture book for you to share and make up a story from the pictures, as we learn some sounds this will change to a story book. On **Friday**s the children will log onto a phone/tablet/computer at home, to re-read a book they have been practising at school. We also send a ‘reading for pleasure’ book, these are books you would find in a library, we ask that you read and share them withthe children to help encourage their love of reading. 10 minutes reading every day has a huge impact.

Reception children are entitled to a free lunch and healthy snack. To book lunches you need to log into Arbor. See separate document.

The class will have parent representatives who will set up a what’s app group, this is private to Reception parents and is a great way to share information, remind each other of upcoming events and ask questions. This space should be an informative and kind space. As we encourage children to use social media responsibly, we ask the same of parents.

In the morning, Teaching Staff are busy settling and welcoming the children. If you have any messages please email admin@stbenedicts.cheshire.sch.uk, if urgent please speak to the Receptionist in the office or the member of staff on the gate.

Finally, a plea from all staff; we have hundreds of uniforms, bottles, lunchboxes etc, that are all identical. **Please can you ensure that anything you send to school has your child’s name on it**. It is impossible to match a jumper or tie, for example, to a child once they take it off!

We look forward to working with you. Please check out the invaluable Home Learning that you can do to support your child on the next page.

Kindest regards

Andrea Ogden

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| **Home learning Autumn 1 (see below)**We know you are keen to help your children to progress and want to support at home. Homework at St Benedict’s focusses on key skills that are repeated until they are securely embedded in long-term memory: 1. **Daily reading**
2. **Recognising numbers (in the environment i.e. on doors in signs)and practise ordering and writing them.**
3. **Initially practise recalling letter sounds and then begin to blend words.**
4. **Additional ‘key skills’**
5. Read every day and have books read to them each day. Encourage children to spot and recognise letters, start to blend letters. Focus on understanding (ask them questions about the text/ pictures) and start to be able to recall the story, beginning, middle, end. Model reading with expression to the children so the stories are engaging and interesting.

 2&3) We recommend games such as I Spy, Memory Game (turning one of four cards to find  the matching number/letter) and Snap. We encourage children spend 10 minutes playing  on education **ICT games** such as Education Shed and those listed in **Key Skills** (one or two five  minute sessions a week). Practising these skills will really help them to embed and  remember them.  Numberblocks<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b08bzfnh/numberblocks> and  Alphablocks <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks> are great programs for the children to watch to  support learning.4) The following tasks are short two minute tasks that you can repeat regularly to embed them into your child’s long term memory. Even when you think they have mastered it, it is useful to go over it to ensure it is embedded. Start at the top of the list. When your child has really mastered the skill over the period of a week, move onto the next skill. Then go back to the top of the list to go over them again. This learning is fundamental to their building blocks so it needs to be repeated over and over!  |
| 1. Number formation

<https://stbenedicts.cheshire.sch.uk/uploads/6/7/9/2/6792245/number_formation_rhyme_cards.pdf> | 1. Letter formation

<https://stbenedicts.cheshire.sch.uk/uploads/6/7/9/2/6792245/pronunciation_guide_autumn_1.pdf> |
| 1. Recognising and counting numbers 1-5

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/todays-number-up-to-20><https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/underwater-counting><https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/ladybird-spots> | 1. Letters and sounds

<https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/spookySounds/index.html> <https://www.phonicsbloom.com/uk/game/fishy-phonics?phase=2><https://www.topmarks.co.uk/phonics/balloon-phonics-cvc-game> |
| 1. Adding numbers to 5

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/addition/addition-to-10><https://www.visnos.com/demos/addition-subtraction-facts> | 1. Rhyming and Alphabet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75p-N9YKqNo><https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B5-y__faQrY><https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVophT8naUM><https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4PW3_LErVZk> |