



Diocese of Portsmouth

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

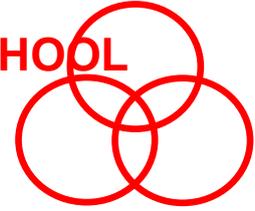
Radley Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3PP

Tel: 01235 521558 Fax: 01235 532778

e-mail: office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



April 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to St Edmund's Nursery!

We are delighted to welcome everyone to Nursery this term and are pleased to see how well our new children are settling in, and how friendly and welcoming the established children are being. We are looking forward to getting to know you and your child over the next few weeks and we hope that your child will enjoy their time in Nursery.

Our topic this term is 'Our Amazing World' and we will be looking at lots of different aspects of our world including all kinds of animals, hot and cold places, travel and transport, trees and plants, and holidays.

In preparation for Reception this September, the 'Bumblebees' group (who have bee name cards and coat peg labels) will begin having a regular Phonics and Maths session several times a week to get them used to systematic whole class teaching sessions. These lessons will start this week. During this time, the younger 'Ladybirds' group will have the opportunity to develop their relationships and learn through play together in the Middle Room.

The Nursery class morning session runs from 8.50 to 11.50a.m., and the afternoon session from 12.00-3.00p.m. Many children stay for a full day from 8.50-3.00p.m. Children and parents will be able to come straight to the classroom door under the canopy when they are dropped off. The full-time children will also be collected from this door at the end of the session. If your child is arriving or leaving at lunch time, then please drop off or pick up at the cloakroom door.

During a typical Nursery session, the children come in and find their name card to self-register. Lunch boxes are put in the red box and coats and bags are hung up. The children are then free to access the activities and resources in the Nursery classroom, the middle room, the Reception classroom and the outdoor area. As the children play and develop their friendships they are observed by our experienced staff who watch the children and play with them, and extend their thinking and learning through careful questioning, explanation and modelling language. There are 7 areas of the Early Years curriculum- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), Communication and Language (CL), Physical Development (PD), Literacy (L), Mathematics (M), Understanding the World (UW) and Expressive Arts and Design (EAD). Resources and activities which develop learning in all of these areas are always available throughout our setting. As a Catholic school we also teach RE and help the children learn that they are all special and all loved by God. During the course of the morning the children may choose to come and have a snack of fresh fruit and vegetables with milk or water. Every morning session ends with a group time which includes a story and some singing.





Diocese of Portsmouth

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

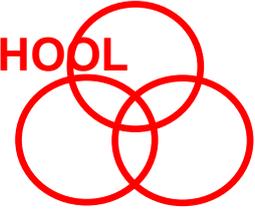
Radley Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3PP

Tel: 01235 521558 Fax: 01235 532778

e-mail: office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



During lunch the children are supervised by our experienced teaching assistants. The children then go and play in the outdoor area or the Nursery or middle rooms with their Reception class friends until 1 p.m. when we register the children. The afternoon follows a similar format to the mornings, with independent play and learning, a snack time, tidy up time, a story and singing before going home.

We record and assess the children's learning using the 'Tapestry' online learning journal. Parents are able to view what their child has been doing at Nursery through observations, photos and videos. If you have not yet signed up for Tapestry, then please give your email address to Mrs Semple and she will set up your account.

Each week we will have three children who are our 'Focus children' for the week, and every adult in our setting will give these children a little more attention and observe and note their play and interactions. Children usually have two 'Focus Weeks' during each academic year, and the children who have started this term will have a Focus Week before the summer holiday. We will let you know when it's your child's turn to be a 'Focus child' and you will have the opportunity to suggest any areas of learning that you would particularly like us to focus on, and will be offered a meeting to discuss your child's progress at the end of their focus week.

Our 'Stay and Sing' music sessions have begun again in the Nursery classroom. Parents are welcome to bring younger siblings to 'Stay and Sing' which is a half hour long Music session at 9 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Children can come to school in their own clothes, but please make sure that their clothes are easy for them to manage independently when they go to the toilet- trousers or skirts with elasticated waists are ideal and skinny jeans and dungarees are not! Some children like to have a school Foundation Stage sweatshirt- these are available for sale from the school office. It would be helpful for each child to have a named pair of wellington boots that they can leave at school to wear for outside play in wet or cold weather, although we do have some spare pairs of our own. We will always try to spend some time outside every day, even if it is raining. Please also make sure that your child has a named coat with them at school if the weather is cold or wet, and a named sunhat if it is hot. We are not allowed to apply sun cream so please ensure that children come to school wearing sun cream if it is going to be a hot and sunny day. It is also important that each child has a bag they can leave at school containing some spare clothes just in case of accidents. We are always grateful for donations of spare clothes, so if you have any pants, socks, trousers/leggings or tops that no longer fit your child we would be very happy to receive them! We do have some spare school uniform we can lend to children, but very little to fit 3 year olds.

After half term in May we will begin practising our races for Sports Day. Please ensure that your children come to Nursery each day in shoes that are safe for running in such as trainers or canvas 'Doodles' style shoes. Slip on shoes/ jelly shoes/ flip flops etc are not appropriate for Nursery anyway, as the children are always offered the opportunity to run and climb every day and need to be wearing safe and supportive footwear.





Diocese of Portsmouth

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

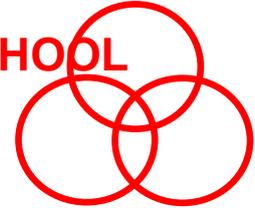
Radley Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3PP

Tel: 01235 521558 Fax: 01235 532778

e-mail: office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



In line with our whole school policy, children are not permitted to wear jewellery, including earrings, to school.

The children are offered a snack and drink during the morning and the afternoon. We will provide the children with a piece of fruit or vegetable and milk or water to drink. You do not need to send any food or drinks to school with your child other than a healthy packed lunch if they are staying at school for a full day.

We shall be joining Reception class to present a class Assembly in the Hall on Wednesday 15th May at 2.20 p.m. All children who attend Nursery on Wednesday afternoons will be included in this assembly, and you are all very welcome to come and watch.

We always offer a range of learning opportunities for your children in our setting. Sometimes we like to do special activities such as cooking, food tasting or making cards and gifts for special occasions. In order to help us cover the costs of materials we ask for a £5 donation each term, using the attached envelope.

We are always grateful for donations of old greeting cards, children's comics/magazines, sweet wrappers and wrapping paper to use for cutting and sticking; and empty cardboard boxes for junk modelling. Clean yoghurt pots are also useful as paint/glue pots.

Please come and talk to us if you would like to discuss how your child is settling in at Nursery. If your child's health or family circumstances change, then please do let us know.

With best wishes,

Mrs Fiona Semple, Mrs Anne-Therese Moloney, Miss Michelle Stokes, Mrs Malgorzata Wojarska, Mrs Tina Astone and Mrs Liz Painton.

