

# St. Monica's

## Catholic Primary School

Reception Families  
-Teddy Bears Picnic



# Headteacher's Welcome



Headteacher:  
Mr. Gouldbourne

# Why St. Monica's?



# Key Members of Staff

Headteacher: Mr J. R. Gouldbourne  
Chair of Governors: Mr R. McLoughlin

EYFS Leader: Mrs. S. Evans

Class Teachers: Miss O. Andrews & Miss H. Horder  
Teaching Assistants: Miss P. Doherty  
Miss F. Rimmer

SENCO: Mrs. L. Fate Email: [senco.stmonicas@schools.sefton.gov.uk](mailto:senco.stmonicas@schools.sefton.gov.uk)

Business Manager: Mrs. C. Price Email: [admin.stmonicas@schools.sefton.gov.uk](mailto:admin.stmonicas@schools.sefton.gov.uk)  
Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr. J. R. Gouldbourne





# Meet the Team



EYFS Lead: Mrs  
S. Evans



Teacher: Miss H.  
Horder



Teacher: Miss O.  
Andrews



# Meet the Team



Teaching Assistant:  
Miss F. Rimmer



Teaching Assistant:  
Miss P. Doherty

# St Monica's: Our Vision

## Themed based curriculum:

**The Early Years curriculum at St. Monica's is taught in themes throughout the year with flexibility to capitalise on learning opportunities through children's interests as they arise.** This thematic approach supports inter-relation of curriculum areas to allow for mastery and depth in their learning; 'All areas of learning and development are important and interconnected' (Dfe, 2021).

**Teachers have identified the key skills of each theme and consideration has been given to ensure progression** across topics in Reception. We link these skills closely to our Year 1 curriculum and then the rest of the school - learning is progressive from Reception to Year 1.

**Themes are carefully mapped out to give depth of coverage for all areas of the EYFS framework throughout the year.** For each topic we provide first hand experiences to promote cultural capital and inspire interest and enthusiasm.



# What is Foundation Stage at St Monica's?

Early Years/ Foundation Stage is from beginning of Nursery to the end of Reception and has its own separate curriculum from the rest of the school.

Our Reception has a **play based curriculum** where the children **investigate and explore** with hands on and practical activities which promotes the children to become and continue to be **independent learners**.

Children also have more formal teaching in phonics, reading, writing and maths.





# 7 Key Areas of Learning

There are 7 areas of learning within the EYFS and all the teaching that we do relates to these areas. At the end of Reception, your child will be assessed against each of these 7 areas:

The **Prime Areas** are the most important areas of learning:

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

When the **Prime Areas** are developing well, we then move on to concentrate on the **Specific Areas** of learning, which are:

- Literacy
- Maths
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Art and Design





# What is Foundation Stage at St Monica's?

- In Reception the children will explore all areas of the curriculum with a key focus on the prime areas which include communication and language, physical development and personal, social and emotional development. In addition to this we focus on building strong foundations in maths and literacy (including phonics).
- We strive to support children to become increasingly independent, offer them a breadth of experiences and support them to develop a solid skill foundation ready for Year One.



# A Typical Day at St Monica's Reception





## Reception Autumn Timetable

	8:30-8:45	8:45-9	9-9:30	9:30-10:00	10:00-10:15	10:15-11:00	11 - 11:30	11:30-11:45	11:45-12:45	12:45-1:30	1:30 - 1:45	1:45 - 3:00	3 - 3:15
Monday	Informal entry	Register/Dinner orders	Reading Time	Literacy	Snack	Continuous Provision	Phonics	Hand-washing/Collective Worship	Lunch	Maths	Topic Input	Continuous Provision	Story
Tuesday	Informal entry	Register/Dinner orders	Music / Reading Time		Snack	Continuous Provision	Phonics	Hand-washing/Collective Worship	Lunch	Maths	Topic Input	Continuous Provision	Story
Wednesday	Informal entry	Register/Dinner orders	Reading Time	Literacy	Snack	Continuous Provision	Phonics	Hand-washing/Collective Worship	Lunch	Maths	Topic Input	Continuous Provision	Story
Thursday	Informal entry	Register/Dinner orders	PE/RE				Phonics	Hand-washing/Collective Worship	Lunch	Literacy	Feelings Circle (Zones of Regulation)	Continuous Provision	Story
Friday	Informal entry	Register/Dinner orders	Reading Time	Literacy	Snack	Continuous Provision	Phonics	Hand-washing/Collective worship	Lunch	Maths	Topic Input	Continuous Provision	Story



# Key Information

## Book Bags

Book bags can be purchased from the school office. Please ensure your child has a book bag and brings it to school **every day**.

## Pick up list

- If your child attends our Nursery and you need to update the **pick up list**, please let us know before September.
- If you are new to St Monica's, please take a pick-up information form and return it to us at the teddy bear's picnic
- If there are any legal issues with regards to pick up/access please provide relevant legal documentation to the office.
- **Without any of the above, children will only be allowed to go with a parent.**

## Allergies, Dietary Needs and Medical Information

If your child has any allergies, dietary needs or medical conditions, please see your child's teacher at the end of the meeting to inform them.

**Please ensure your child is up to date with immunisations and pre school boosters before we start in September.**





# Key Information

## **Breakfast Club**

We run a breakfast club which operates from 7:30am.  
Application forms are available from the school office.  
Cost is £5

## **After School Club 'SMASH'**

We run an after school club which operates until 6pm.  
Application forms are available from the school office.  
Cost is £8.50.



# Uniform

## Winter

Grey Trousers/Skirt or Pinafore

Royal Blue School Sweatshirt

Pale Blue Shirt (short sleeved preferable)

School Tie

Black Easy Fastening Shoes

## P.E Kit

Plain white polo or T-shirt

Black or navy shorts/joggers

(no leggings or cycling shorts)

Black pumps or  
trainers (preferably velcro)

## Summer

Pale Blue shirt

School Tie

Grey Shorts

Blue Gingham Summer Dress

Black Easy Fastening Shoes (no sandals or jelly  
shoes)

**School sweatshirts can be purchased from:**

**Paul's Place, Stanley Road, Bootle (facing  
Bootle Strand)**

**Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled  
with your child's name.  
No jewellery is permitted.  
Please tie hair back.**



# Snack and Lunchtimes

## Snacks

Healthy snacks are available each morning. To drink, children are offered milk and water. They are given a variety of snacks throughout the week which will include a selection of fruit and vegetables. Your child can bring a water bottle to drink throughout the day, please note, their bottle must only contain plain, unflavoured water.

You can choose to pay snack money weekly, monthly or termly.

Snack is £1 per week.

Please pay snack money to your child's class teacher in a clearly labelled envelope.

Snack money will be used to subsidise additional activities throughout the year.



## Lunch time

We encourage all children in Reception to have school dinners. School dinners are free for all children from Reception to Year 2.

A copy of the lunch menu will be given during your child's first week. Please talk through this and highlight any food your child may like. Further information can be found on the school website.



# Partnership with Parents

We value the importance of parental involvement and strive to build positive relationships, working in partnership to support their children's learning and development. As EEF research has found 'Parental engagement in early years education is consistently associated with children's subsequent academic success' (EEF, 2018). We do this through a range of approaches:

- Transition meetings and videos
- 1:1 key carer meetings
- Parent/teacher meetings
- Stay and play sessions
- Home learning books
- Seesaw
- Curriculum workshops
- Open door policy



# How you can get your child "Reception Ready"

- **Please help your child to develop their independence throughout the summer in the following ways:**
  - Toileting
  - Dressing- jumpers, coats and zips
  - Eating with a knife and fork
- **Help your child to develop their confidence and social skills by:**
  - Playing and interacting with other children
  - Spending time with family members away from you
  - Play turn taking games and sharing
- **Help your child to develop their language and communication skills by:**
  - Singing songs and nursery rhymes
  - Reading stories every day (bedtime stories)
  - Encourage talking and conversation (all of the time)
- **In Reception the children will experience a stimulating, structured and busy day. You can help your child to adapt to this by:**
  - Ensuring a good and consistent bedtime routine
  - Limiting screen time as much as possible
  - Talking about what will happen in school and what to expect





# Transition

## Start of School Year:

Children will be part time for the first 2 days to help with settling in.

The letter in your individual folder will tell you which session your child will attend.

- **Morning session: 9:00am - 11:00am**
- **Afternoon session: 1pm - 3pm**
  
- **Monday 8th September: 8:45am - 1:30pm (children will stay for a school dinner)**
- **From Tuesday 9th September, all children will be full time. 8:45am - 3:15pm**

## Key Carer Meetings:

You will be invited to attend a meeting with your child's key carer during the first week at school. This is an important meeting, which will give us the chance to discuss your child on a personal level and help us get to know them.



# Transition Timeline

June	
<b>18th June (tonight)</b>	Parents' information meeting
<b>21st June</b>	Teddy bears' picnic
July	
	Transition morning for children who attend St Monica's nursery will have their transition in school time
<b>15th &amp; 16th July</b>	Stay and play sessions for children who do not attend St Monica's nursery (details in pack)
September	
<b>Week commencing 1st September</b>	Children's first sessions (details in pack)
<b>Monday 8th September</b>	Children stay for lunch (8:45am - 1:30pm)
<b>Tuesday 9th September</b>	Children stay full time





See you on Saturday at the Teddy Bears' Picnic

Please remember to bring along:

- Picnic food
- Picnic blanket
- Favourite teddy bear
- And of course, your child who is starting in Reception!

Time: 12:30 - 1:30