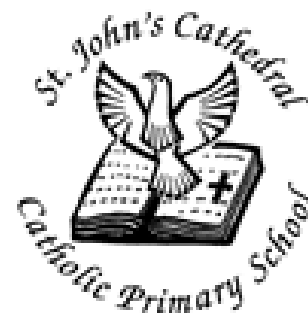


**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WITH NURSERY)
Cottage View
Landport
PORTSMOUTH
PO1 1PX**



Headteacher: Miss C.M. Hobbs B.Ed (Hons)

**Tel: 023 92821055 Email: admin@stjohnscathedralschool.org.uk
Fax: 023 92815065 www.stjohnscathedralschool.org.uk**

8th October 2009

Dear Parents,

The children are really beginning to settle down into Reception and adapt to the new classroom routines well. I hope that you will find the following information useful and that it will keep you informed of what the children will be covering this term and how you can support them.

The children will be following the Foundation Stage Curriculum which encompasses all the areas of learning, Literacy, Numeracy, Personal and Social, Knowledge and Understanding of the World, Creative and Physical.

Our topics this term are 'Bears' and 'On the Move'. Through these we will focus on texts with predictable and patterned language and letters and their sounds. We will be reading, writing and ordering numbers, naming shapes and making patterns. We will develop skills of observing, comparing, sequencing and predicting and develop control when holding and using tools such as scissors and brushes.

During the year your child's progress will be continually assessed and a Foundation Stage Profile of their achievements completed. At Parents Evening later this term I will be sharing your child's profile with you and explaining in more detail their progress.

We have three P.E. lessons each week on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Please can you ensure that your child has a named P.E. kit in school with either plimsolls or trainers that can be worn outside.

Can I remind you that for your child's safety they should not wear any jewellery to school. Please make sure that children with pierced ears wear studs only. On P.E. days children should not wear earrings.

R.E. is a very important part of our curriculum. We develop further our knowledge and understanding.

This is achieved through our study of:

The Mission Statement



Prayers, Saints and Feasts
Creation
St. John's Gospel
Advent/Christmas

Your children are at the earliest and most important stage of reading and need all the support possible to help them become independent readers. We do try to hear them read at least three times per week at school but as you can appreciate with 30 children this is not always possible. It makes such a difference to the children's progress if you can find 10 minutes every night to listen to them read. Please could you also make sure that you write a comment in the reading diary, albeit just a note to let us know that you have read the book with your child.

Your children will also be bringing home letters and words to read and recognise. Your help in supporting them is much appreciated.

You are welcome to join us for our Class Liturgy in the Cathedral on Thursday 26th November at 9.30 a.m.

Please feel free to come and see me if you have any worries or queries. I'm looking forward to a really enjoyable year with your children.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. A. Beaton
Reception Class Teacher