LOVE GOD
LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR

St Charles

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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September 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Nursery! We are very excited to welcome a new cohort to the St Charles family and look forward to getting to know you and your child over the coming weeks and months. This letter contains details about learning in Nursery this term as well as useful information so please read carefully.

Our Nursery curriculum questions this term are **'Who am I and Who are my Friends?', 'Why are the Leaves Changing Colour?' and 'What Happens When it Gets Cold?'**. We will be teaching according to the new development matters document for 3 – 4 year olds. During the first half term we will concentrate on settling into school and the **3 Prime EYFS Areas**:

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Children will spend the first half term settling into the daily routine of Nursery. They will learn to follow our classroom and school rules as well as learning to play and work together in a friendly and kind manner, learning to share and take turns and being able to ask an adult for help.

Communication and Language and Literacy

Children will communicate their wants and needs using a simple sentence, ask and answer simple questions, understand and respond to simple instructions. Children will be learning to sit on the carpet for a short period of time, listening to familiar and new stories, songs and rhymes. Children will also take part in rhyming and rhythmic activities.

Physical Development

This half term we will also have a particular focus on children being able to:

- Climb confidently and is beginning to pull themselves up on nursery play climbing equipment
- Imitate drawing simple shapes such as circles and lines
- Run skillfully and negotiate space successfully, adjusting speed or direction to avoid obstacles
- Begin to use three fingers (tripod grip) to hold writing tools
- Feed themselves self competently
- Drink from a cup well without spilling
- Clearly communicate their need for the toilet

We will also begin to work in the **4 Specific Areas:**

Mathematics

We will be learning about numbers through songs and rhymes on a daily basis. We will be following the White Rose maths scheme and covering topics including early number, building with shapes, recognising and creating repeating patterns, comparing quantities and using positional language.

Understanding of the World

In Understanding of the World, children will be learning and expected to:

- Show an interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them
- Remember and talk about significant events in their own experience
- Recognise and describe special times or events for family or friends

Expressive Arts and Design

Creative activities will be linked to our topic and include art, music and role play. Children will also have the opportunity to explore different media such as clay, play dough and paint.

Religion

Our RE topics for the Autumn Term are, **'Creation and Covenant'** where we will be learning what it is like to be part of God's family and how to make God happy, and **'Prophecy and Promise'** in which we will cover The Nativity. In addition, the children will be learning school prayers and how to make the sign of the cross. We will introduce the children to the Nursery 'Prayer Bear', who will be sent home weekly with a member of class to encourage continuing prayer at home.

Outside learning

Nursery children love being outside and our fantastic outdoor classroom provides them with many opportunities to explore and learn in ways that are not possible indoors. As the weather gets colder we still intend on spending much of our day outside. **It is therefore essential that children have weather appropriate clothing that will keep them both warm and dry.** We have a very popular mud kitchen so please be aware that your child might get clothing dirty. All children will need spare clothes to keep at school in case they get wet. Please make sure that everything is labelled. Wellies are not currently necessary, but shoes do need to be waterproof.

In this letter we have set out guidelines as to what we will be teaching. However, it is important to know that each child will be taught according to their needs/ability/stage of development and our topics may vary as we follow their interests. Please see the 'What we are learning this week' display on the nursery window to find out up to date weekly plans.

The EYFS curriculum has changed since 2021, and with it, we have changed how we observe and record the children's learning and progress throughout the Nursery year. We will no longer be creating large individual profiles for each child and will instead be focusing on daily group observations and creating a class record of our time together. We will send your child home with work they have produced throughout the school year.

Please remember that your child needs a clear water bottle in school. Please also ensure that it is named. In Nursery the children are provided with a piece of fruit in the afternoon. However, your child can bring fruit from home if he/she chooses to.

We would love to hear about what your child has been getting up to outside of school. Please email pictures and comments to the nursery email address (nursery@st-charles.rbkc.sch.uk) so we can celebrate them at school.

Examples of what you might want to share are with us any significant moments in your child's learning such as counting to 5 independently, dressing themselves independently, helping parents with chores or pictures of places they have visited such as parks, museums or other places of interest.

We are holding a phonics workshop for Nursery and Reception parents in early October. Phonics is a hugely important part of our curriculum, but parents often tell us that they lack confidence themselves. Because of this we encourage everyone to come and join us and learn what we do at school and how they can support their child at home. We will let you know the date as soon as it is confirmed.

Nursery Parents are invited to our Reception admissions meetings which will take place on Wednesday 11th November at 5pm and Wednesday 18th November at 9:20 a.m. There is no automatic transfer from Nursery to Reception so all families must apply for their child's place through the official channels. We will give all the information you need at these meetings so it is important that you attend.

We thank you again for your involvement, when school and home work together the children always benefit. Please feel free to arrange a time to speak to me if there is anything you wish to discuss.

Thank you for your support,

Yours sincerely,

Meriel McCauley (Nursery Teacher)