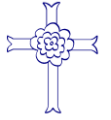


St. Theresa's Catholic Primary School
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Welcome

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

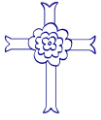
Thank you for choosing St. Theresa's Nursery Foundation Stage for your child. We are very aware of the trust you place in us when you choose us for the first steps your son or daughter takes in their education. We very much want to be an extension of your family for your child and hope that you will quickly feel part of the community of St. Theresa's families and friends.

At St. Theresa's we aim to work together to create a happy, purposeful and caring atmosphere in which children can grow and develop fully as young people. We want them to fulfil their true potential in all areas.

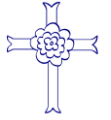
We hope that you will see your child's education and development as a partnership that we can share in together.

We look forward to welcoming your child to school and getting to know you well in the future.

N. Kirkman



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Mission Statement of St. Theresa's

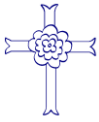
In St. Theresa's we fully value everyone, in the love of Jesus, encouraging them to feel confident, happy and secure in work and play.

We aim to prepare our children for life -

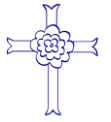
- By teaching children to care and be considerate, to be tolerant and respectful of others, so enabling them to grow and be responsible within the community.
- By giving them reasons for hoping and living, through our teaching of the Catholic Faith.
- By being a place of learning and development, discipline and organisation, working closely with parents and keeping them well informed.
- By giving them a well balanced education, based on an individual child's needs and meeting the National Curriculum requirements.

St. Theresa's Core Professional Purpose Statement

Caring and Learning Together



St. Theresa's Catholic Primary School
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Who looks after your child?



Caring and Learning together is at the heart of life at St. Theresa's Nursery and within our school.

At St. Theresa's we believe that we all have a responsibility to care for one another, therefore, children are encouraged to be kind and caring towards one another and also respect one another's feelings and differences. This is modelled for them by all the adults in the school too. Children are helped to understand our special kindness motto of "Kind hands, kind words, kind feet" from their earliest days here.

Your child will be cared for most closely by the adults who work in Nursery and the Foundation Unit. All children have a special Key Worker who will liaise with you to ensure that you have the opportunity to speak with one person in school who knows your child best and who will monitor your child's development and learning closely. The adults who your child will get to know best at first are:

Foundation Department Staff:

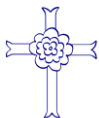
Mrs J Roberts: Teacher
Mrs S Bowen: Teacher
Mrs S Andrews: Teaching Assistant
Mrs L Gibbs: Teaching Assistant
Mrs A Cuddihy: Teaching Assistant
Mrs C Edwards: Teaching Assistant

Other people at school:

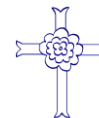
Head Teacher: Mrs N Kirkman
Deputy Head: Mrs A McConnell
Chair of Governors: Mr B Larkin
Bursar: Mrs S Simcott
Admin Assistant: Mrs Oldfield
Mrs Simcott and Mrs Oldfield work in the school office. They help pass on messages and can often help with any queries you may have regarding matters in school. Please telephone them if your child is going to be off school so that we can let Nursery know.

Please note that we will not let anyone take your child from school without hearing from you first.

Thank you (Tel no: 01244 470860)



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General Information

St. Theresa's Catholic Primary School 4 - 11 year olds
Nursery 3 - 4 year olds

Address Kipling Road
Blacon
Chester
CH1 5UU

Telephone 01244 470860

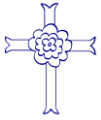
Email admin@st-theresas.cheshire.sch.uk

Headteacher Mrs N Kirkman

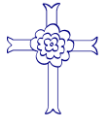
Deputy Headteacher Mrs A McConnell

Chair of Governors Mr B Larkin

Governors
Mrs J Walsh
Mrs N Kirkman (Headteacher)
Mrs L Martin
Mr S Baker (Vice Chair)
Mrs T Safina
Mrs J Griffiths (Staff Governor)
Mrs G Morton (Parent Governor)
Fr. W Damah
Mrs E Swarbrick (Parent Governor)



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Curriculum

In Foundation Stage we cover the 7 areas of learning which form the areas of development that we focus on. These are assessed carefully and your children's progress is recorded in their Learning Journals. You have the opportunity to share in this process by adding your information about things which the children do at home to the record. We encourage you to do this as often as you feel you can and we will discuss how you can do this with you once your child starts in Foundation Stage.

The seven areas of learning are split into Prime and Specific Areas - they are as follows:

PRIME:

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

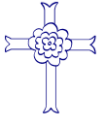
SPECIFIC

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive Arts and Design

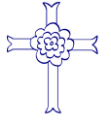
As a Catholic School we are highly privileged to share in the spiritual development of your child.

We take this aspect of our responsibility very seriously and want to gently help your child grow in a personal relationship with God through their knowledge of Bible stories and the prayers they learn with us in school.

Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you want any further information about this or any other area of our Curriculum.



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Learning and Assessment:

In line with guidance and best practice we have designed our learning opportunities to ensure that there is a balance of Child Initiated and Adult Led Activities.

Assessment

Your child is assessed from our knowledge of their understanding and progress in learning through a balance of Child Initiated activities and Adult Directed activities.

The children's progress is recorded in their Learning Journals. We encourage families to contribute to the children's journals as they play and learn with you at home.

Family Mornings and Afternoons

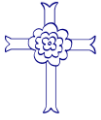
We hold family mornings and afternoons on a regular basis. On these occasions you will be invited to come to school to share in your child's experiences and see how we structure their learning and play. If you wish to learn how to develop these ideas at home please do not hesitate to ask your child's Key Worker.

Snack

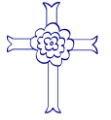
Children have a healthy snack together in the morning and the afternoon. We ask for a contribution of £1.25 per week towards this from families. We ask that this is paid via our online system, ParentPay each week or termly in advance. Thank you.

Allergies

If your child has an allergy please inform a member of the Nursery staff. Please note that we are a completely Nut Free school as children in our care do have nut allergies currently.



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Learning Indoors and Outdoors

Learning in the Foundation Unit takes place both indoors and outdoors everyday.

This means that children need to be dressed suitably for outdoor learning and activities as well as indoor activities.

In winter children need mittens, hats and warm, waterproof coats. (Please help your child to begin to learn to do up buttons and zips etc) Every child should also have a pair of Wellington boots to wear on the wet grass and (when we are lucky enough!) in the snow.

In the summer children need long sleeves to protect them from the sunshine and a summer hat. We are not able to put sunscreen on for the children so please do this for them at home - Thank you.

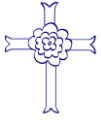
Please clearly label all of your child's clothing with their name.

What else does my child need to bring to nursery?

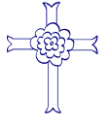
- 1) Change of clothes bag or nappy bag. Wipes, nappies and cream must be provided by parent.
- 2) Water bottle
- 3) Reading folder (Monday)
- 4) Snack money (Please pay online via ParentPay)

Please do not send your child in to school wearing any jewellery.

Hair. Children with long hair should have it tied back for school at all times. If a child has a long fringe this should be clipped to one side or a plain head band may be worn so that vision is not obscured during learning / play etc



St. Theresa's Catholic Primary School
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Keeping Safe and Happy

At St. Theresa's Foundation Stage we want to ensure that all our children are happy and learn how to treat each other and their environment and equipment well.

We have 3 simple rules which we remind the children of regularly and use to reinforce good behaviour and kindness.

Our Foundation Stage Rules are:

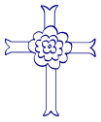
- Kind Hands
- Kind Feet
- Kind Words

It will be helpful if you can talk to your child about these ideas and what it might mean for them when they join us.

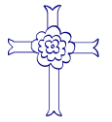
Library Books

Library books will be sent home with the older children on a weekly basis. Please share these books with your child and help him or her to learn how to care for books.

Books come home on a Friday and are returned on a Monday.



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Helpful Hints!

It will help your child if you can do some of the following things to develop their love of learning and creativity:

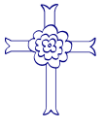
- Read and tell your child lots of stories and sing songs with them.
- Talk and listen to your child, enjoy having conversations with them.
- Have a regular bedtime and quiet time together before sleep - you could have a story together.
- Visit the library and choose books together.
- Help him or her to recognise their name in print. (In lower case letters with a capital letter at the beginning.)
- Don't encourage 'baby talk'.
- Let your child help you at home.

It will help your child if you can do the following to help him or her be as independent as possible in Nursery:

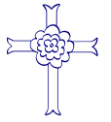
- Choose shoes and clothing that children can begin to put on for themselves.
- Encourage children to tidy up after themselves.
- Encourage children to begin to dress and undress themselves.

We recommend the following to ensure that your child keeps as healthy and well as possible:

- Encourage him or her to wash hands after using the toilet.
- Help your child to begin to learn to wipe or blow his or her nose.
- Check your child's hair regularly for nits and lice. If you do find some please let us know so that we can inform families to check their children's heads too. (We keep details anonymous we promise!)
- Never send your child to Nursery if they are ill. They will not settle and will find it hard to come back when they are better if they feel unhappy with us. Please inform the office on their first day of illness that they will not be attending school.



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When your child starts Foundation Stage

When your child starts Nursery (or Foundation Stage as it is often now called) we operate a staggered start for all new children so that each child gets the right amount of attention and support to ensure that they settle happily. The teachers and staff at school will arrange the session that you will be allocated and as far as possible we try to match every family's needs. This will be discussed with you when you meet the staff once your child has been given a place in Nursery.

You will be invited to stay with your child to help them feel settled and confident in their new setting. This arrangement lasts for as long as Nursery staff and families feel it is necessary.

MORNING SESSION: 8.45 am - 11.45am

AFTERNOON SESSION: 12.00pm - 3.00pm

Please do arrive on time for all your child's Foundation Stage sessions and pick your child up on time too. This helps us with all the planning and arrangements that take place before and after the children are with us. It also ensures that your child has a regular routine that they feel happy with.

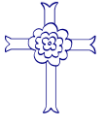
If your child is ill please telephone school to let us know that he or she will not be attending that day. (01244 470860)

Thank you for reading this prospectus. We want it to be a helpful introduction to our relationship with you and your child we hope it has been useful and that you will keep it in a safe place to refer to when necessary.

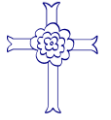
Please do not hesitate to speak to any of the school staff or me if you have any worries concerns or ideas that you would like to share with us

Thank you

N. Kirkman
Headteacher



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Other Information

Building Fund and School Funds

As our school is a Catholic School all our parents are asked to voluntarily support the Education of their child by contributing to the Building Fund. Catholic schools are not fully funded by the Government and because of this we ask for voluntary donations from parents who have chosen to send their child to a Church School. We are asked by the Bishop to collect a contribution per child to send to the Diocesan Finance Committee to support the upkeep of Catholic school buildings. In our school we ask for this donation at the start of every school year. In 2021/22 the Diocese have suggested a voluntary contribution of £15 per child, or a sum which families felt they could afford towards this amount

Fund Raising

We raise money to help buy library books, equipment and all those extra things that we would otherwise be unable to afford throughout the school year.

Helping Others

We raise money for various charities during the year including The Diocesan Catholic Children's Society, the Children's Mission Society, CAFOD and Operation Christmas Child.

If you have any ideas about how you can help us in these areas or any others that are mentioned in this booklet please do come and talk to us. We look forward to hearing from you!