St Jude's Pre-School
St Jude's Catholic Primary School
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Fareham
Hampshire
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Thursday 22nd October 2026

Dear Parents

During Autumn Term 2 (02/11/26-18/12/26), we will focus on developing the following skills. Children will have lots of opportunities to learn, practise and build their confidence in these areas, with their progress monitored throughout the term. Our curriculum consists of aspirations, divided into four milestones and an extended curriculum. Children will be taught according to their stage of development.

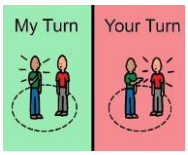
Aspiration 1 - To settle in and develop independence



Second Milestone – skills and knowledge

- Separate from main carer independently
- Take part in healthy practices such as hand washing
- Complete daily tasks with support such as changing their books and indicating their lunch preference
- Start to engage with others to express preferences and/or thoughts through words or gestures
- Start to take turns, sometimes with support
- Begin to follow rules
- Take part in pretend play, communicating and negotiating with their friends

Aspiration 2 - To take turns to speak and listen, responding to questions



Second Milestone – skills and knowledge

- Use words and/or gestures to communicate meaning
- Respond to simple questions using words or gestures
- Develop listening and attention skills when others are speaking
- Identify objects by function such as when asked, 'Which one do we eat with?' when shown a range of objects
- Follow basic instructions

Aspiration 3 - To name and express their feelings and emotions



Second Milestone – skills and knowledge

- Start to use the language of emotions whilst communicating
- Begin to show 'effortful control'. For example, waiting for a turn and resisting the strong impulse to grab what they want.

Aspiration 4 - To know and be familiar with 5-8 nursery rhymes

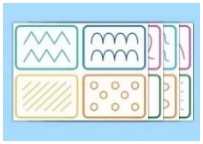


Second Milestone – skills and knowledge

- Choose the rhyme/song they would like to join in with using picture cards, gestures or by speaking
- Listen to rhymes and stories with increasing attention, starting to join in with words and/or actions

Aspiration 5 - To know how to use tools and equipment safely, whilst gaining control

Second Milestone – skills and knowledge



- Start to develop vestibular skills such as running at speed, changing direction, spinning and rolling
- Use a balancing beam and see-saw with control
- Start to develop bilateral co-ordination skills such as catching and throwing a ball of various sizes
- Developing spatial awareness
- Use resources such as 'Tap Tap', taking care with the hammer and nails/pins
- Use the ribbons and scarves with some control, showing awareness of others nearby
- Use a fork or spoon with control

Mathematics - To develop good number sense of numbers 1-5

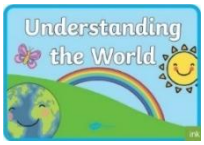
Second Milestone – skills and knowledge



- Use a five frame, explaining what they see/notice. Say if it is full or not full
- Represent 'finger numbers' up to three
- Compare amounts using language such as 'lots', 'more' and 'same'
- Use counting-like behaviour, such as making sounds, pointing or saying some numbers in sequence
- Subitise up to two items (know how many there are without counting)
- Starting to complete puzzles with support

Understanding the World – To take part in a wide range of activities to explore different cultures, religions and environments

Second Milestone – skills and knowledge



- Notice changes in the environment and explore and respond to the natural world such as the weather and minibeasts
- Explore using a range of equipment such as magnifying glasses and investigation pots
- Identify key ingredients/resources when baking/cooking

Songs/Rhymes



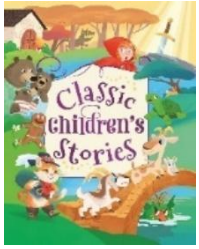
- Humpty Dumpty
- Old MacDonald
- Twinkle Twinkle
- Sesame Street Diwali song - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOudPTDMTLQ
- Christmas Songs

Poetry Basket Poems



- Five Little Pumpkins
- I can build a snowman
- Sounds of the farm

Stories



- Bonfire Night - Eliza Berison
- Remember Remember the Fifth of November - Deborah Webb
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nIh9iuNsX8s
- On the way home - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEc4z3YnRsE
- Supertato – Sue Hendra - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QlaMeNmTG6c
- The Nativity by May Eliot - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OiEtuCaOEB4
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrTFAZPQxpE

Word Aware (language/concepts we will be teaching the children)

Word Rap: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=428l9PIED_I

- Same
- Big
- Quiet

Little Wandle (Letters and Sounds)

Tuning into sounds

- Learn the sound: What's in the box?
- Practise the sound: Sound game
- Blend with the sound: Blend from the box
- Practise blending: Oral blending games

Rhyme time

R.E.

- Oxford Owl – Lighting the Path
- Prophesy and Promise (Season of Advent/Season of Christmas) – (2nd November – 11th December 2026)
- Galilee to Jerusalem (Season of Christmas Ordinary Time) – (14th-18th December 2026)

Cultural Capital - We build children's cultural capital by introducing them to new experiences, people, places, stories and ideas, while celebrating the valuable experiences and knowledge they already bring from home.



- 'Me and My Family'

  Family traditions
  Family/animal homes

Individual School Photographs

- A photographer from 'Yellow' will be visiting the school on the morning of Monday 9th November 2026. They will do individual photographs of the pre-school and school children. If you would like your child's photograph taken, please let me know either in person or by email. The photographer will be taking the pre-school photographs at 9:30am. If your child does not normally attend on a Monday, and you would like them to have their photograph taken, please arrive at 9:15am.



- If your child will be having his/her photograph taken with an older sibling in the school, please follow the instructions that were sent out by the school office.

- Please let me know your requirements regarding school photographs, even if you do not wish for your child to have their photograph taken. You will be shown a proof and will then be able to decide if you would like to place an order. There is no obligation to buy.

Wellies

- If you have not already done so, please provide a named pair of wellies to remain in pre-school. The children really enjoy their 'wellie walks'. Please do not send your child to pre-school in wellies unless they have shoes in their bag, as it is very uncomfortable for them to remain in wellies all day. It is also difficult for them to push their trousers down far enough when using the toilet.



Parental Involvement



- We would like to update our snack choices/food tasting activities to include more multicultural food. If you have any suggestions, please email the name of the food and where it can be bought, if it is not generally available in local supermarkets.
- If you would like to share family celebrations such as birthdays, weddings, festivals etc., please upload photographs on Tapestry for your child to share with their teachers and friends.
- We would like to increase the number of activities/resources relating to different cultures and religions, particularly those relevant to our pre-school families. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

Half Term Week



- Half Term Week – Week beginning Monday 26th October 2026
- St Jude's School and Pre-School will be closed for half term. If you would like another copy of the term dates, please let me know. They are also available on the school website.

Arriving and Collecting at Pre-School



- Pre-School morning sessions start at 9.00am. The door will open at 8.45am for children to arrive early if they wish. Please ensure that your child arrives by 9.00am unless it has been pre-arranged. We are now using a new registration system, which requires attendance to be recorded at 9.00am. Children arriving after this time will be marked as late, and we are required to record a reason for their late arrival.
- To help minimise disruption to the children's learning, we kindly ask that parents do not arrive before the end of their child's session unless this has been pre-arranged. Early arrivals and the ringing of the bell during activities such as group time or story time can be distracting for the children. A member of staff will open the door when the children are ready to leave.

Full/half full/empty



- As part of our maths curriculum this term, the children have been exploring full/half full and empty. Please click on the links below:
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fwd7Lp6Fpu0
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7Ds6-rnvi0
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Jetr7Tq-eA

Important Dates



- 02 November 2026 – Inset Day
- 05 November 2026 – Bonfire Night
- 08 November 2026 – Diwali
- 09 November 2026 – Individual photographs
- 09-13 November 2026 – World Nursery Rhyme Week
- 11 November 2026 – Remembrance Day
- 16-22 November 2026 – Road Safety Week
- 18 December 2026 – Last day of Autumn term

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely



Ms Paula Cantillon
Pre-School Manager

Hampshire Services for Young Children
Forces Friendly Provider