



St Joseph & St Theresa Catholic Primary School
Growing Together with Jesus



Curious Creators

Nursery Handbook 2022-2023

St Joseph & St Theresa Catholic Primary School, High St, Chasetown, Burntwood
WS7 3XL Tel: 01543 227220

Website: <https://www.st-joseph-st-theresa.staffs.sch.uk/year-classes/nursery>

Meet the Nursery Team



My name is Mrs Bennett.

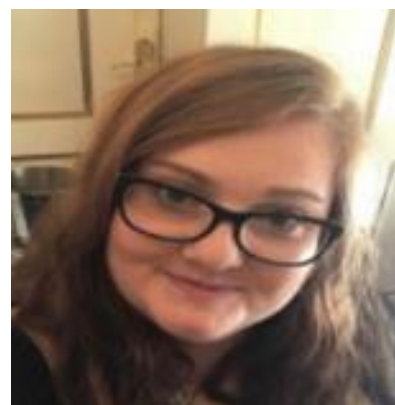
I am the Nursery Class Teacher.

I work every morning and you will also see me on a Wednesday afternoon for our Story Time session.

My name is Mrs Roden.

I am an Early Years Practitioner and am based in Nursery.

I am currently on Maternity Leave as I am due to have a baby very soon! I can't wait to bring her along to meet you all soon.



My name is Mrs Lowry.

I am an Early Years Practitioner and am based in Nursery.

I work in Nursery some mornings alongside Mrs Bennett and then run our afternoon sessions for our full time learners.



We can't wait to meet you all!



Our Nursery Class Mascot

This is *Curious Clive* and he is our Nursery Mascot. He helps us to learn about our special school virtues so that we can grow up to be kind, caring and helpful.

Every Friday, *Curious Clive* gives out a special 'Star of the Week' certificate. Our Star of the Week then gets to take *Curious Clive* and his special diary home with them for the weekend!

Everybody gets to have a turn as *Curious Clive* is very good at spotting our children:



- Using our good manners.
- Sharing and taking turns.
- Taking care of ourselves and others.
- Making good choices and talking about our feelings.
- Talking about and sharing their learning.
- Growing with Jesus to be our 'best selves'.
- Learning from our mistakes and being reflective about our learning.
- Challenging ourselves further.

Curious Clive also wants to hear about all of the wonderful things you have been doing at home too! Perhaps you have been super helpful or rode your balance bike for the first time! Your grown-ups can let *Curious Clive* know by sending him a message or video on our Evidence Me App and we can share your 'Wow' moments with your Nursery friends!

Our Nursery Routine

'The Rhythm to your day...'

A routine is something that will help you to feel safe, secure and happy during your time with us at Nursery.

Bedtime Routine:



Super Ted says it's important to get a good night sleep before Nursery. Perhaps you could have a bath and a bedtime story before bed to help you to relax. Remember to turn off any technical devices at least an hour before bedtime or your brain will struggle to switch off and relax!

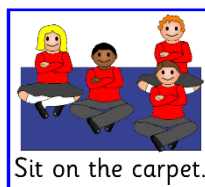


Super Ted says 'make time for a healthy and filling breakfast. This will give you all of the energy needed to learn and play! If you can, try to walk or ride to Nursery. It will keep you fit and healthy!

Wake Up Routine:



Nursery Routine: You will arrive with your grownup and wait by the Nursery entrance. A member of our Nursery team will open the gate and welcome you with a great big smile! You will say goodbye to your grownups and come into Nursery! You will hang your coat and bag on your special peg then find your name card on the table and self-register. After that, you can choose an activity. Mrs Bennett will shake the tambourine at tidy time. You will tidy up and join the Nursery team on our carpet for listening time!



Lola's Listening Rhyme
to the tune of Frère Jacques
 Eyes are watching, Ears are listening,
 Lips are closed, Hands are still,
 Feet are really quiet; you should really try
 it.
 Listening well, listening well.

Nursery Timings

Morning Session: (15 hours Nursery) 8.45am – 11.45am
 Full day: (30 hours Nursery) 8.45am – 3.15pm
 Lunch Time: 11.45am – 12.15pm

Our Learning Environments

We have 3 learning environments

1. The indoor Nursery classroom
2. Our outdoor areas
3. The emotional environment



The Nursery team will help you to feel safe, secure and happy so that you can play and

This is where you will learn and play...



Our Family Groups

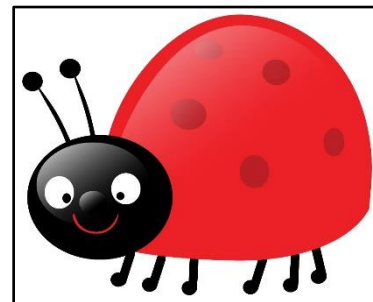
Once we have started Nursery, to keep ourselves safe and happy, we split into two groups.

The Busy Bumble Bees

The Lovely Ladybirds

We like to call these our 'Family Groups' because when you start at our Nursery, you become part of our St Joseph and St Theresa family.

Mrs Bennett and Mrs Lowry will let you know which group you are in.



Special Helper (To the tune of are you listening)

Special helper, special helper for today, for today. Lots of ways to help us, lots of ways to help us, work and play, work and play.

Special Helper

Each day, someone from the group is chosen to be our special helper. Everybody has a turn.

It is great fun being the special helper because you can sit on a special chair, wear the special helper badge and help your teachers and friends at work and play.

Here is a little song that we like to sing. Perhaps you could learn it at home?

Our Busy Week

Every Monday ...

You will receive a special bag to keep all of your home learning items safe. You will need to bring this back to Nursery every Monday morning. Your home learning pack will include:

- Our Focus Nursery Rhyme
- A set of special books such as picture books, rhyming books, traditional tales and non-fiction books
- Information regarding what we are learning about in Nursery and little challenges for you to try at home.



Every Wednesday ...

We visit our school garden. There are lots of jobs to do in the garden and so we are always kept really busy and entertained.

Every Friday...

We visit our Forest. We have lots of fun at forest school and learn all about the natural world. Don't forget to come to Nursery dressed and ready to explore!





Our Stay Healthy Bear

This is our special 'Stay Healthy Bear'. He teaches us lots of different ways to keep our teeth and our bodies healthy so that we can play & learn.

You will have a turn at taking 'Stay Healthy Bear' home for the weekend and can show him how you brush your teeth carefully in the morning and before you go to bed. He also likes to accompany us when we visit the dentist or take part in extra-curricular activities that help us to stay fit and healthy such as dance or swimming classes.



'Stay Healthy Bear' introduces our healthy snack and helps us to build our Nursery rainbow snack chart.

Here is a song and rhyme that you will learn at Nursery.

Perhaps you could practise them at home?

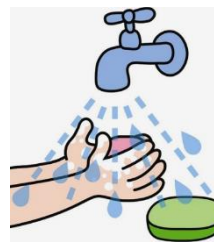


Brush your Teeth Song

to the tune of Jingle Bells

*Brush your teeth, brush your teeth,
Give them all a treat.
Brush up and down and all around,
To keep them clean and neat.*

*In the morning and at night,
Clean them twice a day.
Brush up and down and all around,
Keep fillings well away.*



Our Handwashing Rhyme

Wash your hands with super soap!

Over, under, round and through,
Don't forget to add soap too.
Clean, clean, clean and then you'll
know,
Down the sink the germs will go.
Over, under, round and through,
Don't forget to dry them too.

Our Lovely Lunchtime Club

11.45am - 12.15pm

This is **Mrs Shepherd**. She looks after our lunchtime children for our full timers. She is very kind and caring. Mrs Shepherd has special stickers for us when we eat our lunch.



For those children staying for the afternoon, parents can order a hot or cold school meal option at a cost of £1.80 per day (paid via School Money).

Alternatively, parents can provide a healthy packed lunch or take your child home for lunch between sessions.

Our Afternoon Activities

12.15pm - 3.15pm every day



We offer 30 hour provision for those eligible (see www.gov.co.uk) within our Nursery setting. Mrs Lowry and Mrs Roden (currently on Maternity Leave) run our afternoon sessions.

You can enjoy a range of enrichment activities which we view as 'mini clubs' that support all areas of learning covered within the new early year's framework and work within our shared overarching Early Years pedagogy. All activities support and develop vital and ongoing communication and language skills.

End of the day collection is from the Nursery entrance at 3.15pm.

Evidence Me - Online Learning Journey

In Nursery, we use the 'Evidence Me' app to share and receive snippets of learning and those all-important 'WOW' moments! In order to access this online tool, please complete all permissions which will be sent via Parent Mail.



Parent Contributions: We kindly ask for donations of £5 at the beginning of each term. This is used to purchase items such as play dough and baking ingredients as well as seeds for the garden. This all helps to enhance our curriculum and learning opportunities. Please place cash inside a named envelope and hand to Mrs Bennett at the beginning of each term.

Happy 4th Birthday Children!

During your time at Nursery, you will celebrate your 4th birthday! We have a very special birthday cake and you will blow the candles out as your Nursery friends sing happy birthday to you! Curious Clive will give you a special birthday card, badge and some birthday bubbles!

It is Curious Clive's 4th birthday in September and you will be invited to his special birthday party too!



Our Nursery Uniform

Looking smart ready for the day!



As Early Years have such an active curriculum, with lots of time spent outside moving and developing our physical skills, we wear an active uniform. You will need to wear your uniform every day and bring any additional clothing needed with you depending on the weather.

- Royal blue V-neck jumper or cardigan with embroidered St Joseph and St Theresa logo
- White polo top (embroidered logo optional)
- Black jogging bottoms or leggings
- Black or grey socks
- Black **VELCRO** shoes or trainers

Uniform Suppliers for embroidered school logo items:

- A and J Designs Chasewater Country Park, Pool Road WS8 7NL
- Uniforms Plus, Burntwood Town Shopping Centre WS7 1JR

If you need help supplying your child with a school uniform, please speak to Ms Walker or Miss Palmer and they will be able to support your family with this.

Ask your grownup to **label ALL of your clothing with your name**. The wearing of jewellery and other fashion items are not allowed for reasons of health and safety.

Learning Outdoors: We learn and play both indoors and outdoors on a daily basis. Therefore, you will also need:

- A pair of named wellington boots to keep in Nursery.
- A coat with a hood (named).
- A pair of spare socks.



A Checklist for your Grown Ups

Complete the photograph consent form, toileting permission slip, pupil information form & Evidence Me agreements via Parent Mail.	
Talk to Mrs Palmer in the school office if you think you may be eligible for pupil premium entitlements.	
Read through the information pack again at home and discuss with your child all the exciting things to expect when they start school.	
Purchase and label school uniform. Encourage your child to practise getting dressed and undressed.	
Spend a little time sharing your child's name card with them so that they can recognise their own peg/ locker.	
If your child hasn't visited a dentist lately, book a check-up appointment ASAP.	
Establish a good bedtime routine. Share a bedtime story and reduce/ limit use of technical toys.	
Establish a balance diet. Encourage your child to try different fruits and vegetables. Download the 'Make a Rainbow' chart from our class page on the website.	
Play games that support and encourage sharing and turn taking.	
Share the 'Marvellous Me' Pack with your child. Complete and return forms as well as photographs for our family wall and photo album.	
Talk positively with your child about starting Nursery. Share books or stories about first days and changes.	
Teach your child to say 'please' and 'thank you.'	
Teach your child how to ask to go to the toilet, use the toilet and wash their hands. You may want to teach the 'Wash your hands' song.	
Get plenty of fresh air. Children should aim to be physically active for at least 3 hours each day.	
Enrol in a local library.	
Take a look at the school website and familiarise yourself with how we teach Phonics at Nursery.	
Don't forget to take a photograph of your child's first day in their uniform!	
Have fun and enjoy lots of family time together! They grow up fast!	