

8/9/2025

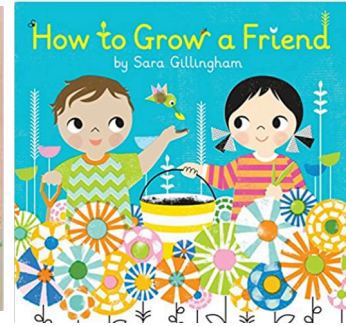
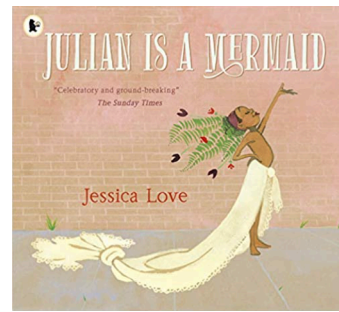
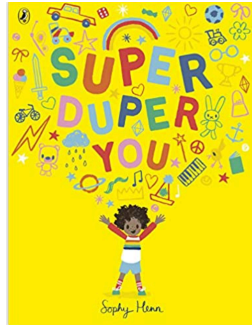
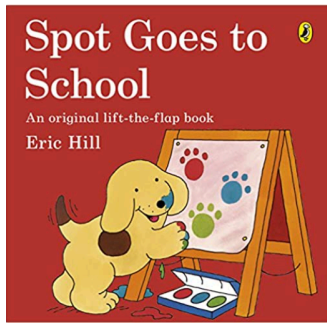
Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to St Matthew's, whether you are returning after a rather long break or joining us for the first time this year. We look forward to working alongside you all to achieve the best possible Early Years education for your children. This year I will be teaching the Early Years children. Mrs Collaki, a higher level teaching assistant, will be teaching the children every Wednesday. Our main focus for the next few weeks will be settling the children into school routines, acquiring positive learning behaviours and building friendships.

- Termly topics will be in the form of Big Questions. Our Autumn 1 Big Question is 'Who am I? The big questions will allow a more open-ended approach to the topic, with cross-curricular learning activities largely based on the children's interests.
- In class we will be using class floor books and individual learning journeys to record children's learning and ideas.
- Each term we will have a set of key skills that the children will be working on. The key skills for this term are outlined below:

Nursery Key Topic Skills	Activities/Resources/Experiences
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I can speak about myself, my family and my home<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ I can name the members of my family○ I can say my name and how old I am○ I can say what I like and what I don't like○ I can say how I feel• I can learn a few simple action rhymes• I know where things are in my Nursery classroom• I can use my senses to explore things around me• I can name common body parts	Weekly Circle times talking about, ourselves, our families, like dislikes, feelings and emotions Self-portraits – drawing, painting and collage Using senses in experiencing various textures . e.g. foam, toothpaste, playdough, sand, water, paint Exploring the sounds of musical instruments Tasting fruit and vegetables Acting out stories and nursery rhymes

- Each term we will have a set of key picture books which will be used as a stimulus for discussions, mark-making opportunities and cross-curricular learning. Some of this term suggested texts are:



Vocabulary:

Family members: mum/mother, dad/father, grandmother, granddad/grandfather, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, cousin

Body parts: head, neck, stomach, chest, leg, arm, knee, foot/feet, toe, finger, thumb

Feelings: happy, sad, excited, silly, sick, angry, feel

Routines: teacher, classroom, tidy up, playground, table chair, draw, write, trace, cut, stick, paint, sit, run, class your legs, fold your arms, listen, look at me, wash your hands, share, take turns

In addition to the Parent Information pack on our school website, the following information will also be helpful as your child starts at St Matthew's:

- **School Uniform:** All the children must come to school wearing the correct school uniform. (Elasticated school uniform trousers or jogging bottoms are often a better choice for nursery children than trousers with the zip and a button as they encourage to develop independence) Please ensure that all uniform items are clearly labelled as this helps to return lost items to the right children. It is important that the children wear appropriate footwear – comfortable black school shoes with Velcro fastenings help with developing independence.
- **Water Bottles:** Please can you send your child to Nursery with a labelled water bottle, which will be made accessible to them throughout the day.
- **Book Bags:** These are an important part of school life as they help to bring home books, letters or art work that the children have made. The book bags need to be brought to school every day. Please make sure your child's name is clearly labelled on their book bag. Books will be changed on Mondays.
- **Spare Clothes:** Each child needs a set of spare clothes in **a clearly labelled string draw bag**, e.g. St Matthew's PE bag, which will be kept on your child's peg.
- **Snack Time:** Fruit and milk will be made available to the children every day. We will encourage children to try all of the fruits that are provided. If you haven't yet told the school office about any medical or allergy information about your child, please do pass this on as soon as possible.
- **Safety:** To ensure the safety of all pupils, the use of mobile phones and taking pictures of the children by parents is not permitted in our Early Years setting.
- **Medicines:** Only prescribed medicines in the prescription packaging may be administered at school and all the relevant paperwork must be completed by the parent/carer prior to any

medication being administered. General medication (such as Calpol, cough medicine, eye drops) cannot be administered by any member of staff.

- **Celebration Assembly:** Our whole school Celebration Assembly takes place every Friday at 2:50pm; all parents are welcome to attend. The black playground gates on St Ann's Lane are opened at 2.45pm so that parents can join us for this special assembly in the school hall.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to talk to me at school at the end of the day, or make an appointment by emailing the school office.

Yours sincerely

Ms Ola Jezewicz

Nursery Class Teacher