



Welcome to Reception

"The best that we can be"

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Mrs Buckland

EYFS Teacher

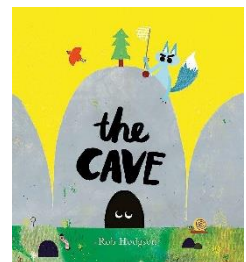
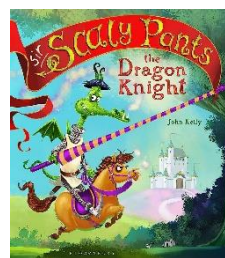
Deputy Head

Special Educational Needs Coordinator

Hello! I'm Mrs Buckland and I am so pleased that your family will soon become part of our special LSJ community! We know that starting school is an exciting (but very big!) step, and our dedicated team are here to support you with your child's journey through Reception.

What are some of my favourites?

I absolutely love Disney! My favourite animal is an elephant and I would love to see one in the wild! I love reading and story time is one of my favourite parts of the day. Some of my favourite story books to read aloud are 'Sir Scaly Pants the Dragon Knight' and 'The Cave'.



Mrs Philbin

EYFS Teacher

Hello! I'm Mrs Philbin and I am new to the LSJ community this year. I am so excited to be a part of your child's first year of primary school and I am looking forward to supporting you and your child on their journey in Reception.

What are some of my favourites?

I absolutely love reading and writing! My favourite thing to write are stories. I also love being creative - I really enjoy drawing and painting! My favourite colour is pink and my favourite food is pasta!

Hello, I am Miss Peever.

I love working in Reception class and I have worked in this class for a long time.

When I am in school, I love to make things in the creative area! I also love to draw and paint pictures. I love sharing stories with the children at story time. I enjoy doing lots of different voices for the characters. My favourite story to read is "No Bot".

I can't wait to meet you all! We are going to have so much fun!

Hello, my name is Mrs Bates!

I love to learn outside especially in Forest School! We can have lots of fun making dens and exploring our small world.

My favourite books are traditional stories such as 'The Three Little Pigs'.

My passions are early writing and phonics.

Hello, I'm Miss Bates!

I love arts and crafts – being creative is one of my favourite things to do!

I am excited for a new adventure in EYFS! I have a passion for SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) and for helping children develop in lots of different areas.

Two of my favourite films are Toy Story 2 and Moana!

I look forward to meeting you soon!

Hello friends!

My name is Cecil and you'll find me nestled in our class book corner reading some of my favourite stories (and possibly nibbling some of the pages too!).

I love to read 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and I can't wait to hear what books you enjoy reading!

See you soon!



Miss Peever
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Bates
Teaching Assistant



Miss Bates
Teaching Assistant



Cecil the Caterpillar
Our Reading Buddy



Drop off & Pick Up

Our Reception day begins at **8.50am**. Children will enter Reception using our classroom door which can be accessed through the Early Years outdoor area. Our school day finishes at **3:20pm** and children can be collected from the classroom door.

For safeguarding reasons, there will be a password system in place for anyone picking up your child who is unfamiliar to us. The person collecting your child will need to have to password and communicate it to staff on the door.

To help us keep all children safe we ask that parents/carers leave children at the Reception door to ensure the children settle as quickly as possible. A member of Reception team will always be on hand to welcome your child into school and support them in completing their morning activities.

Please ensure your child **does not** bring any toys from home into Reception as we cannot take responsibility for any lost or damaged toys. We have plenty of exciting things to explore in our classroom and so we appreciate your support with this matter.

Learning Journal

We use the online learning journal 'Tapestry' to capture all of the wonderful things children learn and achieve during their time with us in Reception. Families are able to access this journal at home to keep up to date with their child's school journey.



If you'd like to share any of your child's learning or achievements from home, we invite families to use our 'Class Dojo' platform to share this with us so we can celebrate this in school.

Class Dojo

We use 'Class Dojo' to communicate with parents/carers. Class Dojo allows us to keep you updated with Reception news, upcoming events and exciting things that might have happened during the school week.



ClassDojo

Class dojo does have a messaging feature where school can contact parents/carers directly and vice versa. If you do message a member of staff on this platform, whilst we will endeavour to reply to you as soon as we can, please be patient when awaiting a reply.



Uniform

Uniform encourages our children to feel part of our school community here at Latchford St James. In Reception, our children will participate in a range of daily activities, such as, painting, sand and water play and outdoor learning. For all of these activities we have aprons and overalls. We do try our best to stay clean, but learning can occasionally be messy! Please ensure all of your child's uniform is clearly labelled with their name. Our main uniform provider is Touchline.

Children will participate in PE lessons each week. Therefore, it is important that your child has a full PE kit.

Children in Reception have daily access to the outdoor area (regardless of the weather). Therefore, it is vital that they bring a waterproof coat every day. In Summer, it is advisable for your child to have a sun hat and sun cream applied daily before coming to Reception.

Snack

Children receive free milk and fruit daily. We also provide an additional morning snack at a cost of £1.50 a week per child. Snack money must be paid in cash and sent in a clearly named envelope.

Please see your starter pack for a letter that provides further information about snack. Please also refer to the snack letter if you wish to pay termly or half termly.

Reading at Home

Children will be given a reading book and reading diary to take home, this will be changed every Monday and Thursday. We encourage you to read each book three times so the story becomes familiar to the children and sign the reading diary following each read. It is important that children have the opportunity to listen to and discuss their stories. This will have a positive impact on their learning and development.

Book bags and reading books/diaries need to be brought into school every day.

Please check your child's book bag every day as any letters or messages may be put in here to inform you of important information or upcoming events.

Independent Learning

At Latchford St James we encourage children to develop their independence skills to support their learning. Please support us in doing this by encouraging your child to help dress and undress themselves, by practising zipping their coat up all by themselves and to use cutlery independently.

We expect that children who are starting Reception to be toilet trained, however, accidents can happen. We do have spare clothing in school but if you would like to provide a spare set of clothes/underwear these can be popped in to your child's PE kit bag.



Andrew Hayes
Headteacher

"This is a
welcoming and
friendly school."

Ofsted

October 2022

Welcome

As Headteacher of Latchford St James Church of England Primary School, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and your child – a welcome that will be echoed by all members of the community that make our school a special place.

We aim to provide a happy, safe and stimulating Christian environment so that all of our children can learn and grow physically, socially, spiritually and intellectually to build successful futures.

Our school community is driven by the belief that all children are created in God's image and are therefore unique, special and valued. Our Christian values underpin all that we do and enable us to nurture strong relationships with our whole school community.

From the first day the children arrive in our care, whether Nursery, Reception or later on, we take the time to get to know them and you, their family. We keep parents and carers updated about their child and staff are happy to talk about what – and how – children are learning in school.

Andy Hayes



Term Dates 2023/2024

Term	Date of Opening	Date of Closing
Autumn	Monday 4 th September 2023	Friday 27 th October 2023
	Monday 6 th November 2023	Thursday 21 st December 2023
Spring	Thursday 4 th January 2024	Friday 9 th February 2024
	Monday 19 th February 2024	Thursday 28 th March 2024
Summer	Monday 15 th April 2024	Friday 24 th May 2024
	Monday 10 th June 2024	Friday 19 th July 2024

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