



# ST. GABRIEL'S CATHOLIC PRE-SCHOOL

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Ofsted Registration Number - 305319



## Autumn Term 1st half 2023

Welcome to a new exciting term at Pre-School. It has been lovely to see your children settle in so well and enjoy making new friends. We are looking forward to getting to know them over the year ahead.

### Our topic this half-term will be 'Marvellous Me'

Within this we will be doing different themes each week which are based on our phonics:

- My House
- My Family
- My Local Area
- Pets
- Things I like to do
- All About Me

We will have a quality text each week and their activities will be based around this book. We will talk about who is in their family, how we are the same and what makes us different. If you could please send in a family photo we are going to frame these and put them up in the classroom, this will give a lovely link for the children from home to school.

We will also be talking about how we look after ourselves, healthy food, exercise, friendships and emotions.

### Maths

We will be following White Rose from Master the Curriculum. We will be doing the following topics:

- Colours
- Matching
- Sorting

We will also have a key text for our Maths each day and learn a different nursery rhyme each week.

We offer continuous provision which helps to support and encourage children to have a life-long love of learning. We believe that children learn best through play and exploration, throughout the pre-school environment, inside and out. Your children will be busy and engaged in a wide range of activities that they will have chosen, from the mud kitchen, to the construction area, the small world play, to the cosy book corner, there are plenty of play based opportunities.

### Drop off and Collection

In the morning please use the buzzer and tell us the name of your child, do not let other people in unless you announce their names too. The same applies at the end of the day, if anyone else is picking up your child please send us a message via Dojo, and make sure they know your unique password. The main gate is open from 2.55pm if you arrive any earlier please just press the buzzer and the school office will let you in.

To avoid queuing at drop off and collection, we are implementing a new signing in and out system. We will now leave a blank daily register outside which is your responsibility to ensure your child is signed in and out for the day.

**The Pre-school day is still finishing at 3pm, there will be a late charge if you collect your child after this time. If you have other children in the main school please remember to collect your Pre-school child first.**

Remember to label all items: clothing, water bottles, lunchboxes etc. Especially uniform as we very quickly end up with a pile of unnamed cardigans and jumpers. Please send your child in with a bag of spare clothes, including socks and pants. This can stay on their peg and will be sent home to be refilled if there are any accidents.

### **Snack**

We do a rolling snack throughout the morning, this is working beautifully and the children are happily embracing the independence. They are serving themselves using spoons/serving tongues (this will develop strength in their hand and fingers preparing them to become writers), pouring their own drink (hand eye coordination) and washing their own dishes. This allows the other children in the class to continue in their play without interruption. The snacks continue to be healthy, nutritious and varied each day.

We continue to ask parents to support us in this by contributing to our snack cupboard and fridge! If you could donate any items to replenish our stock, it is greatly appreciated. If you are able to bring fresh foods, please do this at the beginning of the week. If it is dry foods (good dates) anytime is good. They are offered milk or water to go with this.

Also, if your child brings a packed lunch can you please cut up grapes and small tomatoes lengthwise as they are a choking hazard.

### **Book Bag**

All children have now been issued with a book bag, we have a lending library outside our Pre-school, children are welcome to swap books whenever they please. There is a yellow book inside which is for you to record any favourite part/character they could draw a picture if they want to, this is not homework its just there for you to enjoy as a family.

There is also a blank photograph album in the book bag, this is for you to do at home to put photos of family, friends, pets etc. If you would like us to print any photos for you please email them to [preschool@stgabriels.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:preschool@stgabriels.cheshire.sch.uk) if you could please hand these in by October half term we can keep these in Pre-school. It helps them to settle and becomes a talking point, these will also follow with your children to reception class which offers familiarity.

The lunch menu and term dates are on our notice board outside Pre-school.

Please feel that you can come to us with any concerns or worries you may have, any questions, or just a catch up, we are available at the beginning or end of each day, and via email or class Dojo during Pre-School hours.

I have emailed out all invoices today, if you haven't received one or have any questions please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny Cookson