



18.9.2023

Year R Newsletter

This newsletter will be produced on a weekly basis and contain any notices and reminders as well as ideas of how you can support your child at home.

We have had a wonderful start to the term, the children have amazed us at how well they are settling in. We are looking forward to establishing routines and expectations with the children over the next few weeks as we get to know each other. Remember, to check on tapestry for photos of your children from their first days at school.

Book bags

To help the children become as independent as possible I recommend that every child brings a book bag to school rather than a rucksack style bag. The children can open and close these easily themselves and they will fit their reading folders (which will be sent home in the next few weeks) in them perfectly as you can see in the photos.

We use a mobile cloakroom in Sunflowers class where there is not room for bags on the children's pegs, book bags can be easily stored in boxes. In Year 1 children can use rucksack style bags.



School dinners

The children have been enjoying choosing what they would like to eat for their school dinners. Before we go to the dinner hall, the children are told what the menu is and they decide what they would like to eat. At this stage the children often choose the same meal daily (eg. jacket potatoes) and while we encourage them to try different things we will not force them to eat something that they do not want. As they get more used to the routine they may want to try different foods themselves. If the children are not eating very much at lunch and we feel that a packed lunch might be more appropriate, we will let you know.

Many children still need to learn how to use a fork and knife for their dinner so continued practise of this at home will be a great help.

Drop off and collection

Thank you for getting your children to school promptly at 8.25am. To help the children get settled quickly it is very important that we make the drop off process as quick as possible.

- Make sure the children have their bags and coats with them before entering through the gate.
- Please communicate any messages that you may have to the school office via email which will be forwarded to the class teacher.

Now that collection is from the playground the end of the day should run smoothly. As excited as you may be to see your child, please discourage them from running to you so we can avoid any accidents. Children will be dismissed from the adult one at a time as the line moves along.

School Uniform

Our school uniform policy can be found in your welcome pack and on the school website (<https://www.st-anselms.kent.sch.uk/uniform/>) but here are a few reminders:

- Polo shirts should only be worn as part of the summer school uniform and should be the burgundy shirt with the school logo. For winter uniform, your child should be in a white shirt with a school tie, we recommend a short sleeve shirt to avoid wet sleeves.
- Black school shoes are permitted but not black trainers or boots.
- Long hair should be tied back from the child's face and hair accessories should be subtle and school colours.
- No jewellery, including earrings should be worn
- All items of clothing should be labelled. Please show your child what their label looks like and where it is so that they can easily recognise their own items. Similarly, book bags and water bottles should also be labelled. If you do happen to end up with someone else's belongings please send them back in to school the next day so it can be returned to its rightful owner.

Continue to practise putting jumpers and cardigans on and taking them off so that the children can do this more independently, especially if their jumper

If you have any questions please email the school office.

Thank you for your support.