



# St. Lawrence Primary School

La Grande Route de St Laurent  
St Lawrence  
Jersey  
JE3 1NG

Telephone: 01534 863172  
Nursery: 01534 865524  
Email: admin@stlawrence.sch.je

9th September 2025

Dear Parents,

We are really looking forward to our year with your children in Nursery. At St. Lawrence School Nursery we follow the ethos of 'In The Moment Planning' as our basis for structuring our observation, planning and assessment cycle. It is best described as a 'child-led' approach where adults act on the interests of children and find teachable moments during play opportunities. We find this leads to higher levels of involvement and better outcomes for children's progress across all aspects of the Curriculum.

## Staff In Early Years

Nursery Teachers: Mrs Riddell (Mon-Thurs), Mrs Cattell (Fri)

Nursery Officers: Mrs Knight, Miss Manning, Miss Le Brun

Foundation Stage Co-Ordinator: Mrs Banks

Lunchtime supervisors: Mrs De Freitas, Mrs Pemberton, Mrs Knight and Miss Manning

Reception Teacher: Mrs Lowry

Reception Teaching Assistant: Mrs Pemberton, Miss Manning, Miss Le Brun

Volunteer reader: Pauline Renault

## Drop-off and Pick-up

In the morning, the children will be met at the gate by our team (from 8.45am when the gate is opened) and dropped off there. They will then independently carry their belongings into the nursery kitchen. Our nursery team will assist as soon as they are in the nursery kitchen, coaching them to manage all their jobs themselves.

At pick-up it is slightly different, parents are welcome to come into the nursery kitchen to wait for their child (from 2.30-2.45) who will be brought through to them. Please gather their lunchbox and snack box from the storage containers to save time.

If another person will be collecting that is different to the usual, please let us know so we are able to hand over your child at the end of the day. If not, we may need to call to confirm the arrangement beforehand.

## Snack

If possible, please can the children bring in a labelled snack box or labelled snack, so they might identify it themselves and put it on our snack table. Ideally this will be kept separate to their lunchbox. Their water bottle goes nearby too for regular access within nursery.

## Parking

As parking outside nursery is so limited, we ask that you only park there in the morning if you have younger children with you who might stay in the car. Instead, parking is available in our bottom playground and you can then walk up past school reception, round to nursery. The access road for the car park is the first left you come to if driving past school. Then take the left after that to drive down the lane to find the car park.

In the afternoon, **pick-up is staggered from 2.30-2.45pm**. Parents may park outside nursery, as it won't be as congested as in the morning.

### *Our Mission:*

*'To develop responsible, independent individuals who have the knowledge and attitudes to be successful in an ever changing world'.*





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## P.E

Our fun P.E. sessions begin the second week of term, on a Monday and a Thursday. We will have gymnastics on a Monday afternoon. On the Thursday Session, we have a Sports Bug instructor leading the session and this will focus on ball skills and spatial awareness games. It would be helpful if your child could wear comfortable trousers or leggings (no tights or skirts) on that day plus comfortable shoes. Also, please could all children have their long hair tied back for safety reasons. In the gymnastics lesson the children will be in bare feet, so they will have plenty of practise putting socks and shoes on and off over the course of the term!

## Named items

Please could **everything** that comes into Nursery have your child's name on it please. Each child needs 2 sets of spare clothes and underwear, a lunch box, a snack box, a water bottle with water, some wellingtons, a mud suit, a sunhat and a waterproof coat. Thank you.

## Library books

Every **Tuesday**, children will get the chance to go to our main school library and choose a book to take home for the week, with our lovely volunteer Pauline. Pauline talks to the children about the book, asking them questions about what they have read, then helps them to select their new book.

## Mix-up

Two afternoons a week we will 'mix up' with the Reception Class and share both spaces for the afternoon. This will happen after Half Term. We have found this invaluable especially for our Nursery children. They become very confident within the Reception environment and build relationships with the Reception staff which helps when they transition there next September.

## Trips

We hope to arrange for one-two trips before Christmas, including a 'Woodland Wander' at Hamptonne in early October. In advance of the trip, we will send a confirmation of the date and all details, plus we might appeal for helpers to join us. The children always love this trip as we point out all the seasonal changes and the children get to observe lots of creatures!

## Lending library

We are fortunate to have been gifted some books for our nursery lending library by The Book Trust. Please feel free to take a book home to share, signing it out on the clipboard and ticking when it has been returned, in the nursery kitchen. (This is in addition to our weekly library book brought home on a Tuesday).

## Save the date

Please save the date **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December from 9.00-11.00** to come into school for a festive morning! The children will perform a Christmas show, there will be chance to make Christmas decorations together and to take a look at your child's learning journey folder plus maybe a mince pie or two...

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## Sharing and celebrating

If your child is proud of something they have made at home, has been somewhere interesting, enjoyed a particular story, or just has something they would like to share with the other children, we always welcome photos being sent in to us. Please feel free to email so we can share the photos via the whiteboard. Usually on a Monday morning we will talk about the weekend, so then is a perfect time to share.

## Our Early Years Vision:

(full copy available on the website: [EYFS-Policy-updated-June-25-.pdf](#))

We feel it is important that children have access to a **play-based curriculum** which challenges the children and enables them to be **active, autonomous and unique** learners. We do this by providing an approach based around 'Continuous Provision.' **In the Moment planning** is when we extend and teach children whilst they are involved in their play. This ensures the teaching is **personalized** and can suitably extend children's skills, thoughts and ideas. Once we have made observations, we can make judgements on where the child is, where they need to be, and we have a clear knowledge of their next steps.

## How you might support your child's learning at home

There are many ways in which you might support your child's learning this year at home, helping to reinforce what they are learning in school at the time and helping to strengthen their skills. We will communicate regularly what we have been learning in school that week, however, here are some further ideas, by topic:

### Reading

Read frequently to your child and make sure you discuss the book and ask lots of inference questions (the subtle 'reading between the lines' questions). Ask them lots of questions about what you have read, talking about the characters – how they feel, how they look, why they act a certain way. Encourage your child to listen and talk about the story - you should use open-ended questions. Talk about how stories are structured – that they have a beginning, middle and end. See if your child might retell the story at a later time.

From the start of the Nursery year, we work on increasing the children's phonological awareness (their skills in learning to listen to sounds) however we embark on teaching phonics formally from our 'Read Write Inc' scheme, adopted throughout the school, in Summer term. It is important we refer to the correct sounds with the children at home too. They come to learn the pure sounds which are demonstrated in this video: '[How to say the sounds](#)' for example the sound 'm' is pronounced 'mmm' rather than 'muh'.

### Communication

You might play games together to encourage discussion and turn taking; Talk about their emotions and how they are feeling at different times (happy, sad, angry, confused etc); Engage in meaningful talk with your child to model how to have a conversation.

### Independence and social skills

We ask that you try to support your child to be as independent as possible. Please encourage them to use the toilet independently. Reinforce and model how to share toys with others. Teach them the art of patience! Sometimes they have to wait to play with a toy or speak to an adult. Reinforce the importance of using kind hands and words.

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## Maths

In terms of helping develop their early Maths skills, you might help by observing quantities together and teaching your child 'how many' objects a number represents, counting objects 1:1 and subitising (recognising the number of objects without counting each time, for example they might learn to recognise the numbers on a dice without counting the dots). We also focus on helping them understand comparison (how many more or less), composition (numbers can be made up from two or more numbers). number bonds (how to make '5' in different ways, for example) and part whole models. Children will also further explore pattern, shape and measure in Nursery.

## Keeping in touch

There are many ways in which I seek to keep in touch with you.

- The WhatsApp group will have regular updates from me.
- Photographs which are unnamed are put on the school facebook at regular intervals (unless you have asked for your child not to be on social media).
- Learning journey folders will be starting soon. These will regularly be shared with Parents and more information will follow shortly.

If you have questions or concerns about any issues, please do not hesitate to come and see me or to email me [k.riddell@stlawrence.sch.je](mailto:k.riddell@stlawrence.sch.je). If you require a reply quickly, please direct anything to our school office ([admin@stlawrence.sch.je](mailto:admin@stlawrence.sch.je)) in case we are busy with the children and do not get chance to access email during the course of the nursery day.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Riddell

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