



*We are called to be the hands and face of Jesus as we learn, love and grow together*

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### **Class Information Letter – Nursery**

Welcome to the new school year. We would like to welcome you and your child to Nursery at St Vincent de Paul. Nursery is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage which is a very important stage as it helps your child get ready for school as well as preparing them for their future learning and successes.

We hope you find the following information useful.

#### **Behaviour and Rewards**

Our school uses the Hertfordshire Steps approach which supports a therapeutic ethos, early intervention and professional responses to behaviours. We have developed three universal school rules which each class has spent time exploring and these are:

- Be ready
- Be respectful
- Be safe

In Nursery the reward systems includes verbal praise, achievement stickers and group celebrations of 'Wow' moments for a variety of different reasons, including behaviour and successes.

#### **Curriculum**

Here is information relating to the Autumn Term curriculum. If you look on the school website you will see how this fits into the curriculum for the entire Key Stage. This may help you to plan interesting visits that match your child's syllabus.

In **RE** we shall continue to follow the Liturgical Year. This term, beginning with Ordinary Time, leads up to the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas. Our themes will be, '**God's Wonderful World**' and '**God's Family**'. We will be reflecting on God's love and care for each one of us. We will learn about Creation and think about ways we care for the world. We will learn how we can use the gifts God has given us to show our love for Him by helping one another and people in other parts of the world. In Advent we will reflect on ways to respond to God's greatest gift His only son Jesus.

Each term you will also receive a termly RE Newsletter which will help you to support your child's learning and faith journey throughout the liturgical year.

Our topics for this half-term are **We are Special** and **Into the Night** and **Christmas**. We will be learning about ourselves, getting to know each other and the people around us. After half term we will be learning about nocturnal animals and night and day. Our topics are always flexible as we aim to develop the children's learning through their own interests. Children in the Nursery class learn best through playful activities and having fun so activities are designed with this in mind.

The areas of learning and development for the children are divided into 3 prime areas and 4 specific areas and are shown in the following table.



<b>Prime Area</b>	<b>Focus</b>
Communication and Language	Listening and attention Understanding Speaking
Physical Development	Moving and handling safely Health and self-care
Personal, Social and Emotional	Making relationships Self-confidence and self-awareness Managing feelings and behaviour
<b>Specific Areas</b>	
Literacy	Letters and sounds phase 1 Auditory discrimination
Mathematics	Early Number skills Shape, space and measure
Understanding the World	People and communities Environment and living things Technology and applications
Expressive Arts and Design	Exploring and using media and materials Being imaginative

### **Physical Education**

Our P.E. day is Friday. Throughout the whole school all PE kits consist of navy shorts and white round necked t-shirt stored in a small drawstring bag (not ruck sack). Children will need their P.E. kit every Friday only during the summer term and it is advisable to leave the PE kit in school and only take home at half term.

### **Home Learning**

Home learning is set on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. On each of these days one colour group will choose a book to share with you at home and return it the following week on their designated day.

### **General information:**

Our next parent Consultations will be on: **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018: 8.45am – 11.45am**  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018: 8.45am – 11.45am**  
***N.B. Nursery will be closed to pupils for both sessions***

Water Bottle: All children are encouraged to drink plenty of water during the day, we supply your child with water at all times.

Children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable every day. Children in other year groups may bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable for a morning snack if they wish.

NO jewellery should be worn in school including earrings. Those with pierced ears must remove the earrings during school hours. If you wish your child to have their ears pierced this should take place at the beginning of the summer holidays to ensure the ears are healed before returning in September.

Long hair must be tied back during school hours.

Plimsolls: all pupils must have a pair of well-fitted plimsolls in school. Please ensure all clothing and personal items are named. Lost property is now in a blue box directly outside our main office area and is accessible at all times.

Thank you in anticipation of your customary support. We look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the year.

### **The Early Years Nursery Team**

