



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

Headteacher: Mr J White BEd (Hons) NPQH

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary School

Bedwell Crescent, Stevenage, Herts., SG1 1NJ

Tel: 01438 729555

Email: admin@stvincent.herts.sch.uk

www.stvincent.herts.sch.uk

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Class Information Letter – Year 1

Welcome to the Spring term and a belated Happy New Year to you all and thank you for all the lovely gifts, cards and kind messages.

Last term, the children thoroughly enjoyed our day out at London Zoo. The Living Nativity proved a great success with children and adults alike.

Here is information relating to the Spring Term.

Behaviour and Rewards

Our school uses the Hertfordshire Steps approach which supports a therapeutic ethos, early intervention and professional responses to complex, challenging or high risk 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 year 1 the reward systems include merit points (Miss Culkin) and a positive behaviour record (Mrs Heath).

In RE we shall continue to follow the liturgical year. Epiphany is followed by Candlemas and then Lent. Our topics are Families and Celebrations and Following Jesus. Our first topic is designed to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of what it means to belong to the family called the Church and explore the celebration of Baptism. It introduces the topic by exploring what it means to belong to a family and the school community. The children will learn about the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple and that the title 'Jesus, light of the world' comes from this story. Following Jesus gives opportunities for the children to learn about Jesus' choice of his first disciples or friends – the fishermen. The children will hear the Parable of the Good Samaritan and reflect on its meaning. They will listen to the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and think about how they can welcome Jesus. They will learn that Jesus died on Good Friday and that God raised him from the dead on Easter Sunday.

In English we will be studying stories with patterned language and moving on to focusing on traditional tales, where we will be looking at characters, settings and building up to writing our own traditional stories.

In maths we will continue to increase our understanding about length, height, mass and sequencing events – Days of the week and months, number and place value addition, subtraction, ordering and comparing numbers up to 20, coins and combinations to 20p, counting in 2s, 5s 10s, non-standard measures and introducing simple standard measures. Our focus will be on teaching the children the correct vocabulary to explain their maths thinking and to enable them to show how a problem was solved using maths equipment, drawings and models.

Science Our topic this term is 'Materials'. We will be investigating a range of different materials and their features, looking in particular at their states of matter. We will also be looking at the differences between natural and man-made resources.



Computing We will be learning to use technology to create, organise and store digital content. We will use software called Purple Mash.

Topics Our topic this term is Once upon a time and as part of this in our History work we will be looking at Kings, Queens and Castles.

Physical Education

Throughout the whole school all PE kits consist of navy shorts and white round necked t-shirt. Children will need their P.E. kit every Tuesday and Thursday (Miss Culkin) and Tuesday and Thursday (Mrs. Heath) but it is advisable to leave the PE kit in school and only take home each half term.

Our next parent Consultations will be on: **Monday 11th February 2019 : 3.30pm – 7.30pm**
Tuesday 12th February 2019 : 3.30pm – 5.30pm

The children will be attending Parish Mass regularly during the term.

Home learning is set on Fridays to be returned no later than the following Wednesday. Home learning will include reading, handwriting practice, spellings, numeracy activities and occasional RE or topic research. Later in the term spellings will be given out on Monday and will be checked the following Monday. Please ensure your child brings in their reading book each day and continue to read with them each day.

General information:

Water Bottle: All children are encouraged to drink plenty of water during the day, therefore, please supply your child with a refillable sports top water bottle. This must ONLY contain water, NO juices.

Children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable every day.

Jewellery. 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.

Children in Reception and KS1 are expected to bring their Reading Books in a school Book Bag each day.

Thank you for all your support throughout the year. If you wish to discuss anything else please don't hesitate to contact us either at the door in the morning or at pick up. Or by email sculkin@stvincent.herts.sch.uk and cheath@stvincent.herts.sch.uk

The Year One team
Miss Culkin, Mrs Heath, Mrs Estall, Mrs Unwin, Mrs Doyle and Mrs Osmond

