



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

Class Information Letter **Year One Mistral Autumn 2021**

Welcome back to school and thank you for ensuring your child was well prepared for the beginning of term, we were very pleased to see them, and they are all settling well into the new routines of Year 1. The adults who will be working in Year 1 Mistral this year are Mrs McCarthy (Class teacher), Mrs Watkins (Teaching assistant), Mrs Raposo, Ms Foley, and Mrs Wallace (1-1 learning support).

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 One we praise the children for their behaviour and good choices. We use these as models for others to promote our expectations.

Curriculum

Please find below an overview of our Autumn Term curriculum coverage:

Religious Education:

Our topic for the first half term is **God's Great Plan** - The children will learn about the beauty of God's world and explore and respond to the wonders of creation e.g., the seasons. They will also hear about the story of Creation from Genesis and talk about its meaning. They will be reflecting on the knowledge that God made us because he loves us and develop their understanding that we show God we love him by looking after the world and each other. They will learn that we can spoil God's creation and that we have a responsibility to look after it, as well as hearing an appropriate part of the story of Noah and the Flood and its message of salvation and hope.

Our topic for the second half term will be **Mary our Mother** – The children will know that God sent Angel Gabriel to be the mother of His son, and we will hear about Mary's visit to her cousin, Elizabeth. We will learn that Mary is our mother too and how we can pray to her using her special prayer, the Hail Mary. We will reflect about how we prepare and celebrate for the birth of Jesus.

Each week you will also receive a link to **The Wednesday Word** which will help you to support your child's faith journey throughout the liturgical year.



We shall continue to follow the liturgical year, beginning with Ordinary Time, leading up to the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas.

English:

This term in English we will be using both fiction and non-fiction texts to explore different animals and the season of autumn. Children will also explore stories with predictable phrasing and patterned language as well as some poetry. We will be writing, labels, captions and lists, and simple sentences using capital letters and full stops. We will also be learning how to leave a space between each word when we write. In Phonics we will continue to revisit phases 2-4; this will include recognising and spelling 'tricky words'. This term we will be introducing cursive writing. These are letters that are written with a lead in as well as a flick at the end of each letter. More information about this will follow.

Attached to this letter is a tricky word mat for phase 2-5 and the alphabet with the cursive script.

Maths:

We believe in the importance of early number and the understanding of early mathematics is fundamental in supporting the children's learning. This term we are looking at place value and this comprises of counting forwards and backwards, comparing and ordering groups and numbers. We will be developing understanding of mathematical terms such as equal, more, greater, less, fewer, the number line and ordinal numbers. We will also look at addition and subtraction and the part-whole model, number bonds to 10 and fact families, such as $3 + 2 = 5$ and $5 = 2 + 3$ etc. Towards the end of the term, we will be looking at shape.

Your child can log on to Number Bots for further maths practice. Your child will have their own log-in details which can be found in their reading record book.

Science:

The children will be learning about different animals and people, how we live, eat and our senses. We will also identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees and identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.

Computing:

The children will be learning how to keep safe on the internet, combine text, images, and possibly other features to create either a printable document or a simple multimedia presentation. Please remember that children can access Purple Mash to consolidate their learning at home. Children are logged into Google Classroom and their personal login details are in their reading record book along with their Purple Mash and Number Bots logins.

Geography

We will study locational knowledge and hot and cold areas of the world

Art/Design Technology:

The children will be developing their drawing and sketching skills by using and recognising lines and marks in a range of media. They will be colour mixing and creating collages using different materials. After half-term in DT, the children will be paper engineering by cutting, joining, folding, and making Christmas cards.

Music

This term we have launched our use of a new scheme called Charanga Music. We will be looking at introducing beat and adding rhythm and pitch.



Physical Education

This term we are lucky enough to work with Premier Sports. The children will be exploring gymnastics and multi-skills. Our days are alternate Tuesday and Wednesdays and every Thursday. We believe it will be easier for parents to send children prepared for P.E. on all 3 days. Pupils should attend school in their PE kits on their designated days and ensure they have a water bottle.

PE kit consists of navy shorts and a plain white T-shirt and trainers. This can be worn with navy or black plain joggers and a school jumper to ensure that your child remains warm during the colder weather.

PSHE:

PSHE remains a vital component in our return to school recovery plan and will have an even greater presence in the curriculum this term. In Year 1 we will be focussing on Ourselves and our feelings.

Home Learning

At the beginning of this term we allow the children to become accustomed to the change from Reception to Year One, therefore we will start our home learning nearer to the half term break. Home learning tasks will be set and sent home each Friday to be returned to us by Wednesday. We may also use Google Classroom or Purple Mash.

Our Google Classroom is accessible via the following link: <https://classroom.google.com/>

All children have been provided with their own log in and password which can be found in their reading record book.

Reading continues to be an important focus and we are keen that the children read as much as possible. We also recognise the value of children being read to both at home and at school. Our class page on the school website has links to recommended reading books for our class. As the children progress with their reading it becomes more important to question them about the text they are reading, the types of grammar and punctuation in the sentences and the author's choice of vocabulary. As far as possible, please ensure that your child reads at home as often as possible; this may include books from home and phonic practice, such as tricky words and phonic recognition. Please remember to talk with your child about the text they are reading to develop both their reading and comprehension skills.

General information:

Water Bottle & snacks: 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. Your child is provided with a fruit/vegetable snack whilst they are in EYFS & KS1.

The only jewellery permitted in school is one small pair of ear studs (please remove for PE days). Long hair must be tied back during school hours.

Plimsolls and indoor shoes: all pupils must have a pair of well-fitted indoor shoes in school. Please ensure all clothing and personal items are named.

Pick up procedures – keeping everyone safe

Thank you for your continued compliance and patience for the safe arrival and leaving procedures at school. If you have not yet returned the end of day permission slip, please do so. We are very pleased with the sensible independence shown by all the pupils in adapting to the new routines in place.

Twitter & Pupil Post

Please follow the school on Twitter @svdp_school (easily accessed through the school website) and via the weekly Pupil Post. This is proving to be a great source of communication for our school and enables you to see what is happening in the class on a regular basis.



School Website – curriculum links

The class information pages of our school website can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.stvincent.herts.sch.uk/os-classes.html>

Here you will find many curriculum links relevant to your child's current learning. Please do spend some time exploring these pages if you can.

On the website you also find a link to our Curriculum Statement which explains our approach to all areas of the curriculum. It can be viewed via the following link: [Curriculum-Statement-May-2021.pdf \(stvincent.herts.sch.uk\)](#)

Communication

If you have any concerns at any point during the year, please do not hesitate in contacting me tmccarthy@stvincent.herts.sch.uk. Please remember no problem is too small; anything that is important to you and your child is important to us too.

Parent Consultations

Our first parent consultation of the year will occur shortly after half-term and will be an online appointment using School Cloud. Booking details will follow shortly. We hope that our second parent consultation in the Spring Term will be face to face. This will also be an opportunity for you to see first-hand the work that your child is completing.

Thank you in anticipation for your support throughout the year. We look forward to working in close partnership with you to ensure your child is happy and progressing well in school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs McCarthy
(Class Teacher)

