



*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 – Reception Mozart Autumn 2021**

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our school and thank you for ensuring your child was well prepared for the beginning of term; we were very pleased to see them and impressed with how quickly they settled into their new classes and the new routines.

The teacher who will be working in Reception Mozart this year is Mrs Heath and Miss Zanelli is the Teaching Assistant, with Mrs Davey who is supporting an individual child.

#### **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 Reception we value and praise the children as they make the right choice; this may be accompanied with an extrinsic award e.g., stickers etc.

#### **Curriculum**

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

<b>Prime Areas</b>	<b>Focus</b>
Personal, Social and Emotional	Making relationships Self-confidence and self-awareness Managing feelings and behaviour
Physical Development	Moving and handling safely Health and self-care
Communication and Language	Listening and attention Understanding Speaking
<b>Specific Areas</b>	
Literacy	Letters and sounds phase 2 Blending and segmenting CVC words Developing a love of stories and story telling



Mathematics	Early Number skills Shape, space and measure
Understanding the World	People and our community Animals from different areas of the world Computing, developing mouse skills
Expressive Arts and Design	Exploring and using media and materials

Please find below our Autumn Term curriculum.

**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. 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.

Our themes will be God's 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 can 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.

**Our topics** for this half-term are **All About Me, Special Days - Celebrations**. We will be learning about ourselves, getting to know each other and the people around us. After half term we will be learning about Celebrations - Diwali, Birthdays and Christmas. Our topics are always flexible as we aim to develop the children's learning through their own interests. Children in the Reception class learn best through playful activities and having fun, so activities are designed with this in mind.

### Physical Education

Where possible PE lessons will take place outside each Tuesday. Pupils attend school in their PE kits; please ensure they have a water bottle. As the weather gets colder wearing navy or black track suit bottoms and either a matching (no logo) tracksuit top or their school jumper will be important. If possible, please allow children to wear trainers with Velcro fasteners.

### Home Learning

Home learning is usually set on Fridays to be returned no later than the following Wednesday. This will include a variety of activities across the Early Years curriculum. This is supplemented by regular reading and phonics activities. Occasionally homework will be set via Google classrooms and Purple Mash; logins and passwords for these are inside your child's reading record book. Children in Reception and KS1 are expected to bring their reading books in a schoolbag each day.

**Reading** continues to be an important focus in Reception, and we are keen that the children have lots of opportunities to share and enjoy books. The Reception page on the school website has links to recommended reading books for our class. Please encourage your child to recall the books and talk about the pictures, thinking about characters, events and settings and discuss how a story might end. As far as possible, please ensure that your child reads at home to develop both their reading and comprehension skills.

**Phonics:** This term we will be revisiting Phase One and teaching Phase Two of Letters and Sounds. Please support the children as they learn the new phonemes. Later in the term your child will be given a tricky word keyring; these words need to be recognised by sight and not phonetically.

### General information:

**Water Bottle:** All children are encouraged to drink plenty of water during the day, therefore, please supply your child with a refillable labelled water bottle with an anti-spill top; this must **ONLY** contain



water. It should be taken home each day and cleaned. In the Early Years and KS1 the children are provided with a fruit snack each day. No snack needs to be brought in from home.

Children are allowed to wear small stud earrings for school, please cover these with surgical tape on Tuesdays when we have PE. Long hair must be tied back during school hours.

**Plimsolls and indoor shoes:** all pupils must have a pair of well-fitted plimsolls or 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; we are very pleased with the sensible independence shown by all the pupils in adapting to the new routines in place. Please continue to let us know if someone other than yourself is authorised to pick up your child.

### **Twitter**

Please follow the school on Twitter @svdp\_school (easily accessed through the school website); this is proving to be a great source of communication for our school, particularly at a time when we are unable to have parental visitors in the school building.

### **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 the class teacher via email: [cheath@stvincent.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cheath@stvincent.herts.sch.uk). Please remember that no problem is too small or too big; anything that is important to you and your child is important to us too. Unfortunately, we are currently unable to engage in lengthy conversations at the door (as the site has to be cleared of visitors quickly in the morning). However, email or phone contact should enable information to be shared as required.

### **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 children are happy and progressing well in school.

**Kind regards**

**The Mozart class Team**

