



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

Headteacher: Mrs A Whitty BA (Hons) PGCE

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
Nursery Autumn 2024

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 Nursery.

The adults who will be working in Nursery this year are Mrs Humphries (Class teacher), Mrs Heaton (Teaching assistant), Mrs Hall and Mrs Pentuic.

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 Nursery we value and praise the children when they make the right choices, and this may be accompanied with an extrinsic award such as a sticker.

Curriculum

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

Prime Areas	Focus
Personal, Social and Emotional	Making relationships Sense of Self Understanding emotions
Physical Development	Moving and handling Health and self-care
Communication and Language	Listening and attention Understanding Speaking
Specific Areas	
Literacy	Develop phonological awareness Learn new vocabulary Reading - regularly sharing books Developing a love of stories and story telling Writing: develop print and letter knowledge. Enjoy early marking



	and begin to write some letters of their name.
Mathematics	Early Number skills; comparison, counting Spatial awareness Shape, pattern and measures
Understanding the World	People and our communities Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family history The World: Features of objects, plants, animals and small world Technology- exploring how things work
Expressive Arts and Design	Creating with materials Being imaginative and expressive

Religious Education

Our Topics for this term are 'God's Wonderful World' and 'My Family'.

Your child will be exploring plants and fruits in God's world and reflecting on what God made for us. They will learn about animals in God's world. They will come to know that God made us and become aware that we are unique, and God loves each one of us always, and will never stop loving us. Your child will learn God gave us a family to look after us and what our family does for us. After half term they will learn of an angel named Gabriel visiting Mary with good news and know that Jesus came to earth as a little baby. We will think how important this is for us to know that Christmas is the birthday of Jesus and it is a very special celebration.

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.

General Topics

Our topics for this term are 'All About Me' and 'Celebrations' to include Harvest and Christmas. We will be learning about ourselves, and how we are all special and unique. We are also getting to know each other and people around us. After half term we will be hearing and exploring a story 'The Owl Babies' and 'A Brave Bear'. Our topics are always flexible as we aim to develop the children's learning through their own interests and stories. Children in the Nursery class learn best through playful activities and having fun, so activities are designed with this in mind.

Music

The topic areas we will cover are 'Me' and 'My Stories'. We will listen and respond to a piece of music (finding the pulse). The children will explore and create using their own voice and perform. They will also, learn to sing nursery rhymes and action songs.

Physical Education

Our P.E. is integrated into our daily curriculum. It is important the children come into school everyday wearing clothing and footwear that is appropriate for running and climbing.

Home Learning

Home learning is set on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. On each of these days one colour group will choose 2 books to share with you at home and return it the following week on their designated day. They will also bring home their 'Rhyme Time Book'. We ask that this be returned every week with their shared book for a new rhyme, poem, or prayer.

Reading

Reading is an important focus and we are keen that the children have lots of opportunities to share and enjoy books as much as possible. The class page on the school website has links to recommended reading books for our class. Please encourage your child to repeat words and phrases from familiar stories. Encourage them to ask questions about the book. Make comments and share their ideas. Please support your child by reading to them daily and by enjoying a variety of books including fiction and non-fiction.



Phonics

This term we will carry out activities developing children's speaking and listening skills, and phonological awareness. This will include Rhyme Time.

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. Please ensure it is clearly labelled with your child's name. Mid-morning your child is provided with a fruit / vegetable snack whilst they are in Nursery.

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.

Footwear and spare clothing: all pupils must have a pair of well-fitted shoes in school. Also, your child requires a pair of wellington boots. Please ensure your child has a change of clothing in a drawstring bag. Please be aware we cannot accommodate backpacks; they are cumbersome and interfere with your child gaining independence when hanging their coat on their peg. All items need to be clearly labelled.

Pick up procedures – keeping everyone safe

Thank you for your continued compliance and patience with the safe arrival and leaving procedures at school. If you have not yet returned the end of the 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/X @svdp_school and via the weekly Pupil Post found on our website. 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:

Communication

If you have any concerns at any point during the year, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office. Please remember no problem is too small or too big; anything that is important to you and your child is important to us too. First thing in the morning is usually a busy time but it is always possible to arrange a telephone conversation or an appropriate time to meet.

We prefer the personal touch, however if you need to email us, please send communication via admin@stvincent.herts.sch.uk and it will be passed on by the office

Parent Consultations

Our first parent consultation of the year is the 18th November and 19th November.

Booking details will follow shortly. This will be an opportunity for you to see first-hand the work that your child is completing and how well they are settling in.

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 S Humphries
(Class Teacher)

