



*"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](mailto:admin@stvincent.herts.sch.uk)

[www.stvincent.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stvincent.herts.sch.uk)

## **Class Information Letter** **Year 2 Autumn 2024**

Welcome to Year 2! We are delighted to report that the children have made a great start to the year! Our thanks to 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 into the new routines very well indeed.

The Year 2 teachers are Mrs Heath and Mrs Baguley. Our Teaching Assistants are Mrs Attwood, Mrs Tavernier and Mrs Leif.

### **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**

### **Curriculum**

#### **Religious Education:**

##### **The topics is: Creation and Covenant**

The pupils will learn about the story of Noah, focussing on God's promise, or covenant, with Noah and all creatures, a promise symbolised by the rainbow. We learn that just as Noah made a new start after the flood, we have a special sacrament of baptism that symbolises a new life in the family of God.

Each week you will also receive a link to **The Wednesday Word** to 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:**

Children will continue to work on their phonics and learn spelling rules, following the Little Wandle scheme that they started in Year 1. In English, children will look at and explore a range of class books in detail throughout the term. From these books the children will develop their reading, writing, speaking, and



listening skills. We will look in particular at how to recognise and use adjectives, how writing can be written using different tenses and how to punctuate sentences correctly. The children will also be given opportunities to write in role as different characters, and practise writing their own stories based on ones they have read in class. Children in Year 2 will be given spellings to learn cursive handwriting in class.

### **Maths:**

The focus throughout the year will be to develop reasoning and fluency in maths. The children will have a daily session of fluency in addition to their main lesson. The maths lessons will include recognising patterns and using mathematical vocabulary. This term the focus is mainly on number and our number system. You can support your child at home by playing dice and card games, practising number bonds for 10 and 20, as well as the x2, x5, and x10 times tables.

### **Science:**

Our topics this term are Habitats and Microhabitats, where they will explore the animals and plants around them and discover how plants and animals thrive in different climates.

### **Computing:**

The children will be using Purple Mash to develop coding, questioning and spreadsheets. We will also be learning how to keep safe on the internet. This children will be set Purple Mash as a Home Learning activity, to consolidate their learning at school and practise some of their new skills. The children's personal login details are stuck in their reading record books.

### **Geography/History:**

This term our topics are: 'How was school different in the past?' and 'Would you prefer to live in a hot or cold climate?' During their history topic the children will be exploring how school has changed over the past 150 years and will begin to look at how to place dates on a timeline. In Geography, the children will explore what it is like to live in different climates around the world.

### **Art, Design and Technology**

In art the children will investigate the drawing skills through the topic of 'Tell a story'. Pencil skills will be taught and the children will learn how to see texture in their drawing. In Design and Technology, the children will be exploring a balanced diet and will be designing and making their own healthy wrap.

### **Music**

This term we will be using instruments to represent animals, copying rhythms and creating call and response rhythms through the topic of West African call and response songs.

### **PSHE**

In PSHE this term we will be covering Relationships: Learning about Families and friendships, safe relationships and respecting ourselves and others.



## **Physical Education**

Mrs Heath will have PE on a Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs Baguley will have PE on a Tuesday and Thursday.

We will be teaching games, gymnastics, and dance.

Pupils should arrive at school in their PE kits on their designated days and ensure they have a water bottle.

PE kit consists of PE 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.

## **Home Learning**

Home learning tasks will be set using an A4 Home Learning book. The children will be set one piece of English and Maths to be completed over a **two week period**. They will also have spellings every week to learn which will be tested **every** Friday.

Books will be **sent home on a Friday**, to be returned to two weeks later, on the **Wednesday**. Dates will explicit on the homework itself.

The children are expected to complete all the Home Learning set and to continue to read regularly at home.

## **Reading**

Reading is a priority focus, and we are keen that the children read as much as possible, both aloud to an adult and silently to themselves, and to learn how to enjoy reading for pleasure. This year, we are continuing to use the Little Wandle phonics and reading scheme. The class page on the school website has links to recommended reading books for our class. As your 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 authors choice of vocabulary. Please try to ensure that your child reads at home four times a week.

## **General information:**

**Water Bottle & snacks:** All children are encouraged to drink 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. Milk is available, to be purchased via the office.

The only jewellery permitted in school is one small pair of ear studs, which need to be removed 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.**

Pick up permission letters have been sent out to you via the children. Could you please return them to your class teacher as soon as possible, thank you.



### **Twitter & Pupil Post**

Please follow the school on Twitter @svdp\_school and via the weekly Pupil Post on our school 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.

### **Food items**

Please remember that it is school policy that pupils are not able to bring in sweets, cakes, biscuits, or any other food items to share, marking the celebration of any event (e.g., birthdays). This is due to the complexities of allergies, dietary requirements, and other aspects of personal choice.

### **Communication**

If you have any concerns at any point during the year, please do not hesitate in contacting us, at the door at the beginning/end of the day, or please make an appointment. 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 consultations of the year are the 18<sup>th</sup> November and 19<sup>th</sup> November.

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 Heath and Mrs Baguley

(Class teachers)

