



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

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Dear parents and carers

It is strange to think that today marks the end of the first week of the Summer Term for everyone. Despite all that is going on, we mustn't forget that we are in the Easter season. Happy Easter!



My newsletter today has just one main aim and that is to reassure you that 'all will be well'.

Like me, you are probably spending more time than usual on social media and are comparing what everyone is up to. As a headteacher, I look at the things that other schools are currently doing and at times doubt my approach; and parents, probably spend time finding out how other parents are coping with home learning and question what they can provide. This 'self-doubt' is natural, and it is because we all want the very best for our children - **but we must be kinder to ourselves**. The expectations that have been passed on to parents and to schools are huge at the moment; neither of us can do everything, but we know that what we are doing is for the very best reasons and has the wellbeing and love of our children at its centre.

It is easy for me to say 'don't worry about learning or falling behind'; it is harder, I know, for you to believe it because you want the very best for your child too. But please do not let this create unnecessary anxieties for you or for your child. We are used to children for one reason or another needing to miss time out of school. We have an amazing staff team and they are already planning how bridges to learning can be built when we return. In my vlog today (which you can see here: <https://youtu.be/oeY2B07pALU>) I speak about 'a bag of worries': please take 'keeping up' out of your bag of worries and pass it on to us; we will be able to do something about this upon our return to school whenever this is. Equally if there is something that you as a parent are worried about, please do email the class teacher. Their email addresses are:

Nursery:	Mrs Humphries	shumphries@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
Reception:	Mrs Hargrave	vhargrave@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
	Mrs Lambert	klambert@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
Year 1	Mrs Caswell	pcaswell@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
	Mrs Perace	npearce@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
	Mrs Heath	cheath@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
Year 2	Mrs Cooper	jcooper@stvincent.herts.sch.uk



Year 3	Mrs McGuire Mrs Blythe Miss Culkin	lmcguire@stvincent.herts.sch.uk cblythe@stvincent.herts.sch.uk sculkin@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
Year 4	Mr Arnese Mrs Hodges Mrs Lawton	darnese@stvincent.herts.sch.uk shodges@stvincent.herts.sch.uk tlawton@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
Year 5	Mrs White Mr Jennings	nwhite@stvincent.herts.sch.uk rjennings@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
Year 6	Mrs Glover Mr Crump	eglover@stvincent.herts.sch.uk scrump@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
SEND Coordinator	Mrs Curry	mcurry@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
Deputy Headteacher	Mrs Sherry	rsherry@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
Headteacher	Mr White	head@stvincent.herts.sch.uk

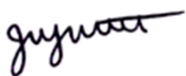
Our focus at the moment really needs to be on well-being and security. The world has changed dramatically for us and for our children and they need to feel secure and emotionally fit to engage with it. Today's vlog shares some ideas with the children about using their own personal toolkit to deal with any anxieties that they have. You, of course, are a major part of that toolkit.

As such, do not worry about completing all of the learning tasks set. Just complete whatever fits into your daily routine and if you are finding different ways to learn with your children, use them instead. No one is checking and no one is judging. Our learning tasks are intended simply as a set of options for you should you need them. Children will learn lots through listening to stories with you and talking about them; through taking risks outside in the garden and being active; through baking delicious cakes, biscuits and meals; through doodling and drawing; through exploring the natural world and enquiring; or through observing the sky at night! We have licence currently to make the most of this opportunity – family time is precious, never more so than now. Looking back on this time in say twenty years, I wonder what our children will remember? It is unlikely to be their time on Purple Mash (as good as it is!) but it more likely to be the den building with you or the time when you painted stones together and left them for others to find on your daily walk out. As hard as it is, let's turn this awful situation on its head and create a silver lining if we can.

Enjoy the weekend sunshine if it lasts.

As always, I am keeping the whole school community in my prayers.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Jon White
Headteacher

