

Reception Newsletter  
AUTUMN 2018



**Together through Christ we grow and learn**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and are well rested for the busy school year ahead. If you are new to St. Vincent's or we have not already met, my name is Miss Savage and I will be the class teacher this year. In the classroom we also have Miss O'Connell (Nursery Nurse) and Mrs Pereira (Teaching Assistant). We are looking forward to working with you and all of the children this year. We hope it will be happy and successful.

We would like to extend a special welcome to our new members of the school family: Junior, Sebastian, Jacob, Jaidee, Zach, Harry, Daniela and Renee.

This newsletter is a brief guide for all parents to know what is expected of your child, and to help you ensure they are prepared for school each day. We look forward to helping your child settle in and enjoy life in the class.

### **Religious Education**

The focus for the children's religious studies this term is 'Family'. In this topic the children explore the importance of their name, where they live and who lives with them. They will also think about what it means to be a part of God's family. As part of this topic can we please ask that every child brings a photograph of themselves with their families if possible. The photograph will be used in a class display and will be returned to you as soon as possible. Later this half term we will be exploring 'Baptism.'

### **Topic**

Our first topic for this half term is 'Houses and Homes'. In this topic the children will be talking about their own homes and comparing them to homes around the world. We will be linking this topic to all areas of the Foundation Stage curriculum.

### **Physical Development**

This term P.E. will take place on Wednesday mornings. Please note that the children do not need a PE kit.

### **Spare Clothes**

Every child needs to have a complete change of clothes to be kept in school with their name on, in case of accidents.

**Can you please ensure that every item of the uniform, school bag and water bottle is clearly labelled with your child's name to avoid any confusion. Thank you.**

### **Homework and reading**

Reception will receive one piece of homework weekly which will relate to a specific sound we are learning in class. The children will also take home some 'tricky words' to further consolidate their learning. Homework will be handed out on Wednesday and collected on Monday. All children will be given a reading book on Thursday which you can share with them at home. Please ensure that you ask

your child questions about the story. In addition to reading school books we strongly encourage children to read their own books from home throughout the week. Please ensure that you return the reading books on the following Thursday. Thank you.

### **Library books**

We will be encouraging the children to choose a book from the School Library on Thursdays. These can be taken home and read together. Please return the previous book on Thursdays as children may only take one book at a time. If a book is lost at home, please inform the Reception staff so that it can be replaced. You will be asked to pay £5 towards the replacement.

### **Treasure Time**

In order to give the children more opportunities to practice their Speaking and Listening skills, we have 'Treasure Time' every Tuesday. We would like the children to bring in something to show and talk about related to their topic of 'Houses and Homes.' This could be a photograph or any object that is special to them. Please encourage your child to bring in something small which can fit comfortably in their bag.

### **Lunches**

Please note that your child can have school dinners or packed lunch. If you choose one and it becomes apparent that it is not suitable for whatever reason please inform the office two weeks in advance so that they can make alternative arrangements. Children's lunch boxes need to have their name clearly written on the outside.

### **Drinks and Snacks**

As part of our Healthy School policy, children will be provided with a piece of fruit every day. Children also need to bring a school water bottle (or another plastic water bottle of their choice) into Reception every day as this ensures that they can have a drink of water whenever they choose. Please make sure that this is clearly labelled with their name. It can also be helpful to decorate the bottle in some way e.g. with stickers to help your child to identify their own bottle. Please encourage your child to leave this on top of the cupboard outside of the classroom door.

### **Parental Partnership**

We really value parental support in Reception. Throughout the year your child will be given some WOW forms. We would love for you to capture significant moments and to share these with the Reception team. Please see me if you have any queries regarding this.

### **Appointments**

If you have any questions or concerns about any matters please let me know and I would be happy to arrange a meeting. I will be available every day after school. Please speak to me to make an appointment.

### **Dates**

Please check the notice boards at the entrance of the school and outside the classroom, your child's school bags and the school website [www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk](http://www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk) for further letters and information from school.

Please check your children's book bags daily for further letters and information from school. We look forward to meeting you all. Thank you in advance for your support, from the Reception team.