

Hello and welcome to Reception!

I do hope you have had a lovely summer and are ready to begin a new chapter.

My name is Miss Smith and I am the class teacher. I have experience in teaching Reception and Year 1 and also have been involved with Nursery teaching and SEN teaching. The teaching assistants are Miss Vincent and Mrs Shelton. We have lanyards in with our names printed on the strap.

It is going to be a fun-filled, productive and exciting year and we hope to provide your child with many opportunities to enrich their learning. Our first topic for the year is 'It's good to be me' followed by 'Superheroes and super celebrations'



Miss Smith



Miss Vincent



Mrs Shelton

### **Mud Kitchen**

We have a Mud Kitchen on our field that was built by our caretaker. We ask that you could provide a pair of named wellies for your child which can be left on their peg in a labelled bag.

### **Spare Clothing**

Please could you provide in a labelled bag a set of spare labelled clothes inclusive of socks, underwear and if possible, plimsolls. Their spare clothes could be a PE set or uniform set.

### **Reading**

Over the coming weeks, your child will take home their first Reception reading book and reading record. We ask that the children read every day at home and that a short comment is written in the reading record and signed. This comment

lets us know how the children read at home. Books will be changed on Monday's and Thursday's if the child is ready for a new book. The children will also go home with a library/pleasure book to enjoy at home. This could perhaps be used as a bedtime story. This type of book should not be used for assessment or 'teaching' purposes, please use the phonics book for this.

The children will also read in school every week with an adult.

### **Words**

The children will come home with a word pack. The children are to practise these words at home with you- reading and writing throughout the year.

These words are the words that Reception children must know by the end of the year and are commonly known as high frequency words (HFWs). The words do not need to be returned to school.

### **Homework**

At St Vincent's, we do not set homework. Occasionally I may set a fun project to be completed at home e.g. something to make and bring into school to share/display.

### **WOW moments- Proud Clouds**

We want you to feel as involved as possible in your child's education. Unfortunately as teachers we do not get to see or experience those special WOW moments when the children are at home. We would like to share these moments with you if and when possible, therefore we have provided you with some proud clouds. These are for you to write down short comments of something special your child has done at home; from writing their name for the first time to explaining something they have seen that has interested them and you. It could be absolutely anything and the more the better! We will store these within your child's special profile in school which you are welcome to look at. You may also record and share proud moments using 'Tapestry'. Further information about Tapestry is provided below.

## Snacks

Children are welcome to bring into school a healthy snack such as fruit or vegetables. If it is in a pot, please could this be clearly labelled, thank you. We also strongly encourage children to bring in a labelled water bottle every day. We will happily help the children to top up their water if and when they need to.

The children will be provided with a carton of milk every day if they wish to have one- this is now being funded by the school. If your child has an allergy or intolerance to dairy, you are welcome to provide them with their own milk e.g. oat, coconut, soya etc that we will store in our classroom fridge. If this is the case, then please could this also be labelled.

## Tapestry- online journal

Tapestry is an online journal where we can record and share observations of your child's learning. You may be familiar with Tapestry already or similar programmes such as Evidence Me or Seesaw. You will soon receive a link to your email address to join Tapestry so that you can share learning from home, proud moments or celebrations. Please note that we will not be using Tapestry to send home daily/weekly observations but we may share key moments and celebrations with you. Tapestry has a wonderful and informative website should you wish to learn more about it, here is the link for your knowledge:

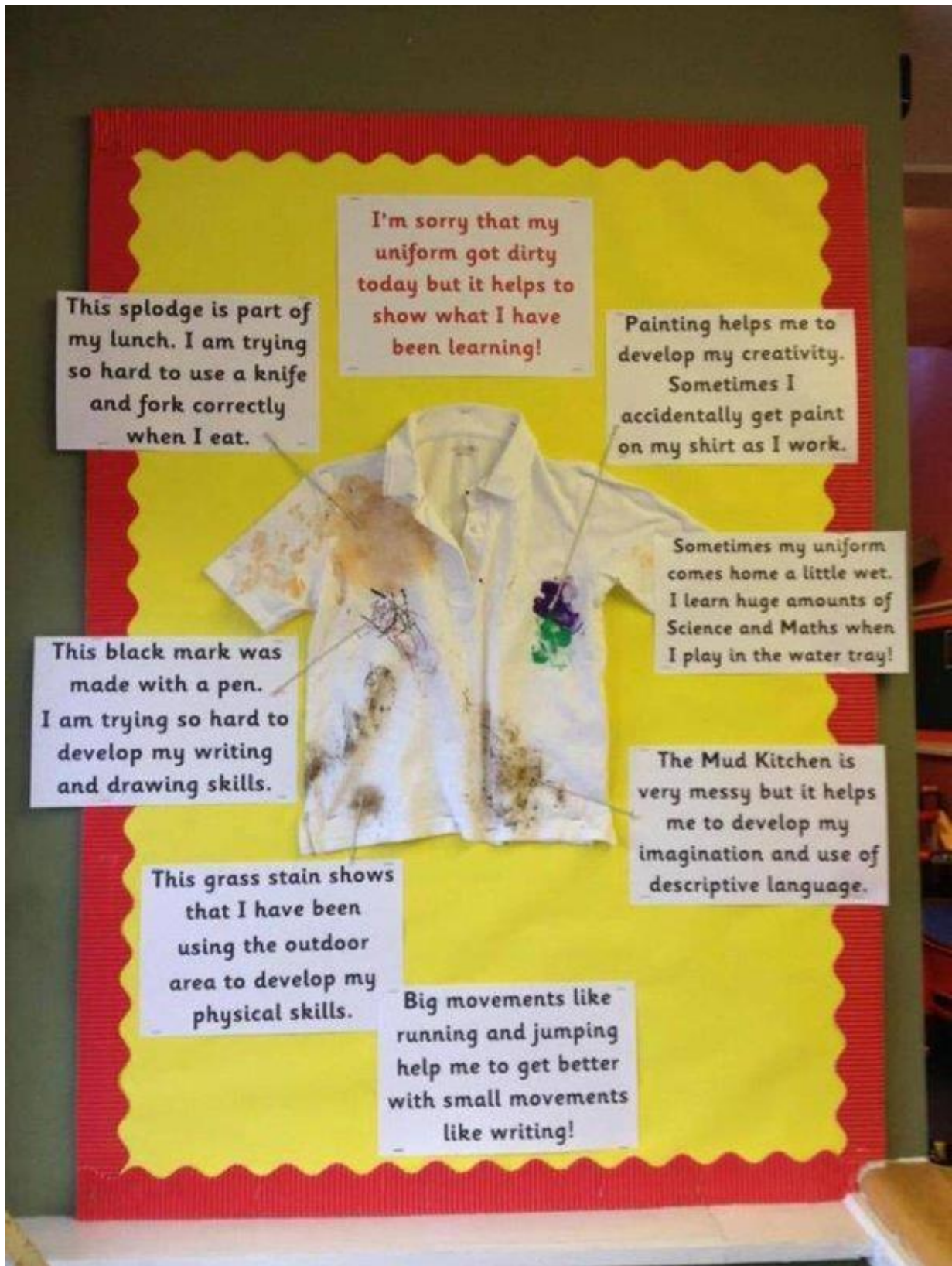
<https://tapestry.info/parents-carers.html>

## PE

The children will have PE on Mondays. Please send your child into school on this day wearing their PE kit. They will not need their uniform on this day. As always, long hair must be tied up and all jewellery removed. We recommend that the children wear plimsolls or Velcro trainers. Please see our uniform policy for any items of uniform that you are unsure about. Children are welcome to wear jogging bottoms and jumpers in the colder months which match our uniform policy. For the first PE session on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, the children will not need to wear their PE kit, as this is their first day in school.

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September and all Mondays to follow, the children can come into school wearing their PE kit.

PE is taught by our sports coach, Mr Smith.



We do try very hard to help the children to keep their uniform clean, however in Reception we do learn through play and sometimes the uniform can get a little

messy. The children are provided with and encouraged to wear aprons during creative, messy and water based activities.

### General Reminders

- Schools starts at 9.00 for the reception children during their first week. Please gather in the playground near the large gate (there will be a sign to help you). If you are looking at the school from the street, it is the gate on the right hand side).
- First week (6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Sept) pick up time is 12.00pm from the middle buzzer gate in the playground. Please wait outside where we will dismiss the children one at a time.
- Second week (13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>) School will start from 8.40, pick up is 1.30pm after lunch from the middle buzzer gate.
- Third week (20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>), the children will be in school full time.
- We finish our school day at 3.00pm (when the children are full time). Please collect your child from the playground outside of the Computer room door.
- If your child has any food allergies or intolerances, please collect, fill out and return the appropriate form. Ms Webb in the office will be able to assist you.
- All children in Reception-Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal. Some children are also eligible to receive free school meals due to some of the criteria that their families may meet which then provides funding to our school. If you feel that you may be entitled or would like to know more, then please speak to Mrs Di Tunno, our family worker in the school office.
- We are a **nut free** school. Packed lunches should not include nuts e.g. nut snacks or peanut butter.
- If at any point you would like to share a message, please either contact the office, send through note/email or see me at the door after school.
- We are hoping to hold an informal coffee meeting in the coming weeks as well as a meet the teacher meeting, a letter will be sent out explaining this once the dates are confirmed.
- Please see the additional document which explains our curriculum further.

We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 9.00am and we warmly welcome you all to St Vincent's.

Kind regards,

Miss Smith