



St Vincent's Catholic Primary School
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Dear Families,

Year 1 Welcome Letter

Good afternoon and welcome to Year 1! This is my third Year 1 class at St Vincent's and in this letter, I will be summarising a few important dates of the week and things you need to know as your children head into Year 1.

Firstly, our PE dates for this term are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please ensure your children arrive to school on these days in their PE kits, as well as appropriate footwear. After the October half-term, children in Year 1 will be getting changed into and out of their PE kits at school. Please begin to practise with your children by supporting them to change at home, so they can do so independently after half-term.

Reading books will be changed weekly on Tuesdays, starting tomorrow. Children will be provided with one reading book with corresponding colour band, as well as a 'book for pleasure' that the children can choose from our class selection. Read with your children every day as well as the questions at the end of each book, as comprehension counts for 50% of their reading assessment. Be sure to fill in the parent comments at the end of each week, making note if your child found the book too hard or too easy, and return the books to school every Tuesday morning.

At the end of Year 1, all children will complete a phonics screening check. Within this, they must read 40 decodable words (20 'real' words and 20 'alien/nonsense' words) independently. We do not know what these words will be, however they will include digraphs, trigraphs and split digraphs that we will practise over the course of the year, and will not include red/tricky words (e.g., people). In the build-up to this test, homework will be sent home within reading folders, as well as over school holidays, particularly Easter and the May half-term.

Further information about this as well as statutory requirements can be found on the school website. If you have any questions, please contact me and the school or at the Meet the Teacher session on Monday 15th September.

I'm looking forward to getting to know you and your child better. Here's to a fun-filled and extra special year ahead!

Yours sincerely,

Mr Hajigeorgiou

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