

## Welcome to Grade 1 HR B at Our Lady of Victory School

Welcome to Homeroom B! This year we will be working together for most of our subjects. If you ever have any questions or concerns, I can be reached via email at [m.sharma@victoryedu.com](mailto:m.sharma@victoryedu.com). You can also read updates about our classroom events and activities on twitter @grade1&2B\_OLV

**ClassDojo :** This year, I will be using ClassDojo to keep you informed about classroom and school activities. This is a FREE service that lets me send quick messages via text, or email to every family in the class. We can stay in touch without revealing our personal contact information. Please see the attached instruction sheet. If you have any difficulty signing up, please let me know.

**Water Bottles:** Studies have shown that being able to sip water on a constant basis throughout the day helps our brains to stay alert and be ready to learn. I strongly encourage the use of water bottles in the classroom. I recommend each student bring a water bottle to school to keep at their desks in order to stay hydrated. I do ask that if you supply your child with a water bottle that it is filled only with water, has an opening that can be closed, and is spill proof.

**Agendas:** Students will record notes, messages, and important dates in their agendas on a daily basis. **Please check and sign your child's agenda each evening.** Notes to and from the school may be placed in the pouch at the front of the agenda.

**Home Reading:** All students will be participating in a home reading program. Books may be selected from the classroom library, or from home. Students will also have access to [www.raz-kids.com](http://www.raz-kids.com). Usernames and passwords will be sent home soon. Students are encouraged to read for at least 15 minutes each evening, with an adult.

**Religion:** We will be learning about God and his love for us, parts of the Mass, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Advent, the Holy Family, Ten Commandments, Holy Trinity, Lent, Easter, and our mother Mary. Prayers are a part of our daily schedule.

**Language Arts:** students will be exposed to many activities to develop stronger reading and writing skills, increase fluency and confidence. This year we will incorporate Daily Five, weekly word study activities, phonetic activities, literacy center activities, Family Response Journals, show & tell, home reading, guided reading and buddy reading with the grade 2 class. Language skills are used daily in many subject areas.

**Science:** the strands we will be covering this year are: Living and non-living things, The Senses, Daily and seasonal changes, and Characteristics of Objects and Materials. Students will explore the curriculum with hands-on experimentation, and research.

**Social Studies:** the strands we will be learning about this year are: My Community; Connecting with others Citizenship, and I Belong in my world. The students will explore and identify different cultures, compare their community to other

communities, how people, events and ideas of the past shape the present and influence the future, and explore global interdependence and natural resources.

**Math: Grade one** students will be learning about patterns and relations, number concepts and operations, and shape and space. Grade ones will be given the opportunity to develop sorting skills, develop number sense, and work on addition and subtraction problems.

**Rules and Expectations:**

Again this year, we will be implementing the PAX program in our classroom. PAX teaches students self-regulation, self-control, and self-management while students collaborate with others for peace, productivity, health and happiness. More information will be sent home in the coming weeks.