

The logo of St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School, featuring a shield with a cross, a chalice, and a book, surrounded by a circular border.

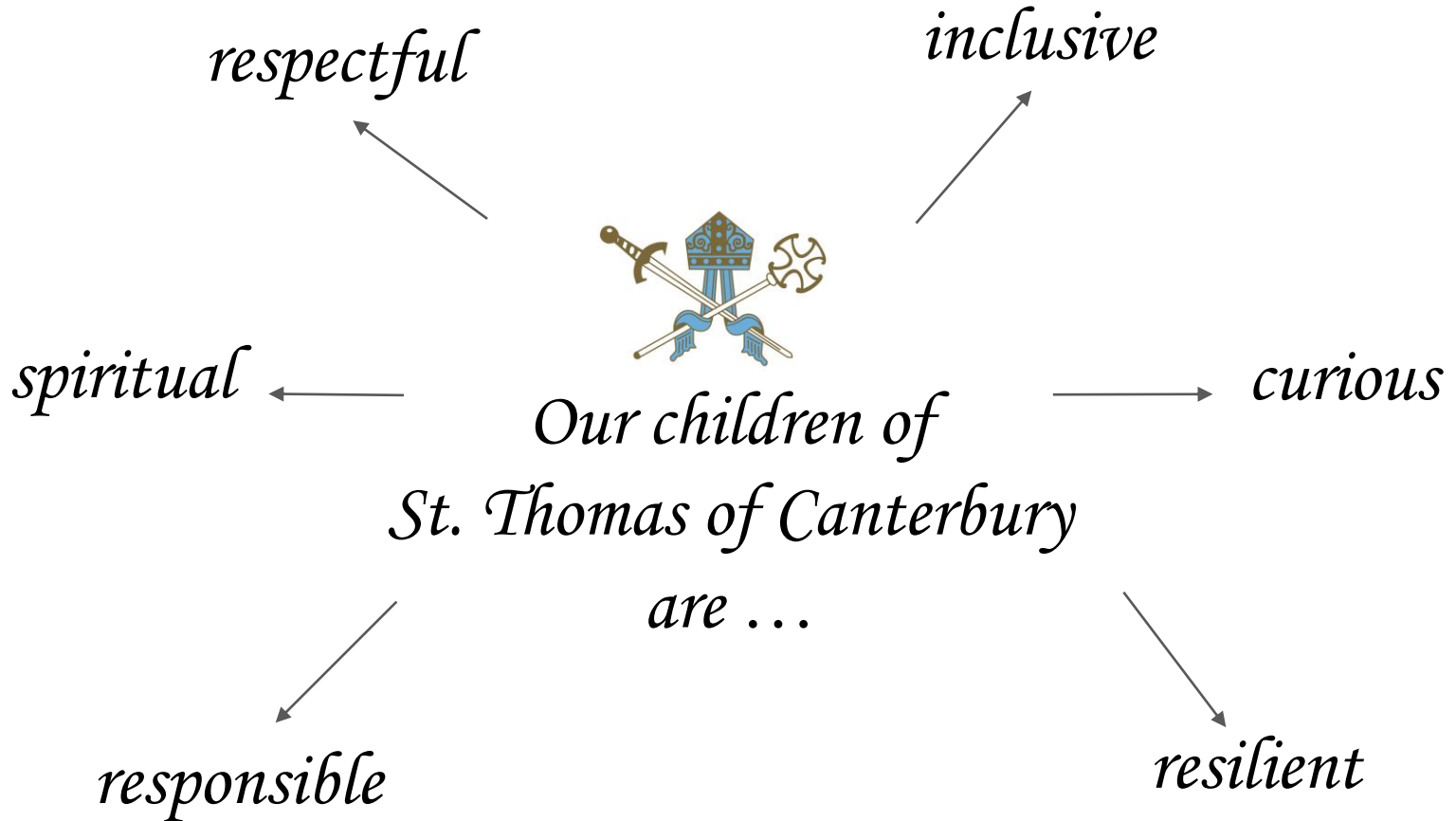
*St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School*

*Welcome to the Year 3  
Parent Information Meeting*

*Monday 8th January 2024*



# *Our School Values*



# *The Year 3 Team*

- Miss S Barry** - Year Group Leader & Class 3B teacher
- Miss J Newton** - Class 3N teacher
- Miss Hamlet** - Class 3H teacher
  
- Mrs K Beasley, Mrs J Lochowska and Mrs M Adams** - Year 3 support staff
  
- Mrs M Hall** - SENCo





# *Attendance and Punctuality*

Good attendance and punctuality is essential. Pupils cannot achieve their full potential if they do not regularly attend school. Please note that holidays are not permitted in term time.

Unauthorised absence may result in the school referring to the Local Authority for sanctions and/or legal proceedings. This may include issuing each parent/carer with a Penalty Notice.

Please note the following times:

**8:40am** - Gates open

**8:55am** - Children are expected to be in the classroom for the register to be taken by 9:00am. If your child arrives after this time, they will be marked as late.

**9:15am** - Pupils will receive a mark of absence if they do not attend school before this time.




# *Absence Procedures*



If your child is absent for any reason, you should contact the school office via telephone before 9:00am on the first day of absence. You will be expected to provide an explanation for the absence and an estimate of how long the absence will last, e.g. one school day.

Please note that coughs and colds are very common, especially in the winter, and generally do not require your child to be absent from school. Illnesses such as diarrhoea and vomiting only require 48 hours absence from school. If in doubt, please check for guidance on <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> or contact the school office.





The best option is to speak with the class teacher. From 8:40am staff are working with children so please speak to the teacher at the end of the school day.

Email or call the school office to request to meet with a member of staff.  
[admin@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk)



# How can parents communicate with the school?

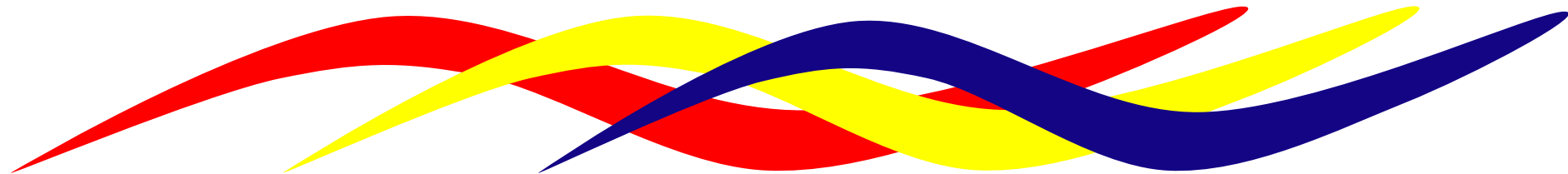
Email the class teacher.

Call the school office who may be able to answer your question immediately or pass a message to staff.  
01375 375826

Speak with the staff on the school gate at the beginning or the end of the day.

Send in a note with your child.

Talk with Mrs Poulteney or any of our senior leaders:  
Mrs Coppin  
Mrs Smith  
Ms McAnally





# Uniform

At St. Thomas of Canterbury, we are proud that our uniform fosters a sense of belonging within our school community.

**We have listened to parental views and updated our uniform policy which has now been ratified by Our Governors- see the changes on the next slides.**

Information about school uniform can be found on the school website:

<https://www.stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk/uniform/>

Our uniform is available to purchase from Uniformwise in Stanford-Le-Hope:

<https://www.uniformwise.co.uk/> Please ensure that all uniform items are clearly marked with your child's name.





# Uniform - updates

	BOYS	GIRLS
WINTER (Compulsory from October half term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White Shirt</li><li>• School Tie (Preferably a non-elastic tie in KS2)</li><li>• Grey V necked jumper preferably with the school logo</li><li>• Grey trousers / shorts</li><li>• Grey socks</li><li>• Black shoes (not trainers)</li><li>• Navy or black school coat</li><li>• St Thomas' School blazer (optional)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White shirt/ blouse</li><li>• School Tie (Preferably a non-elastic tie in KS2)</li><li>• Grey V necked cardigan preferably with the school logo</li><li>• Grey skirt or pinafore</li><li>• White or Grey socks / Grey tights</li><li>• Black shoes (not boots or trainers)</li><li>• Navy or black school coat</li><li>• St Thomas' School blazer (optional)</li></ul>
St Thomas' book bag. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Small blue/black bag if children need to bring a change of clothes for clubs.		
SUMMER (Compulsory from May half term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White polo shirt with school logo (Preferred) or plain white polo shirt</li><li>• Grey shorts</li><li>• Grey V necked jumper preferably with the school logo</li><li>• Grey socks</li><li>• Black shoes (not trainers)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pink gingham dresses</li><li>• Neutral coloured (e.g. black, white) cycling shorts under dresses (Optional)</li><li>• White blouse with revered collar/ grey skirt (Year 5 &amp; 6 girls only)</li><li>• Grey V necked cardigan, preferably with the school logo</li><li>• White socks</li><li>• Black shoes</li></ul>

**Jumpers, cardigans and polo shirts with the school logo are preferred.**

**Grey socks are permitted for girls in the winter**

**Summer uniform- Year 5&6 girls- white blouse with a revered collar and grey skirt.**



# PE kit - updates



Year 3's PE day is Monday.

Your child should wear their PE kit to school on their PE day.



**Children should wear their PE shorts and T-Shirt underneath their tracksuit as they will only need to wear the T-shirt with their shorts for indoor PE lessons.**

Please note that in the winter months, the St. Thomas of Canterbury tracksuit should be worn.

Children should wear black plimsolls or black trainers on their PE days.



# *Hair/ Accessories - Updates*



- Hair accessories must be kept to a minimum and should be in school colours. Red, white, blue in winter. Pink, white or blue in summer.
- Hair braids should be natural hair colours.
- One small stud earring per ear. (Children must not wear earrings on PE days.)



Alterations to the school uniform policy due to religious or medical reasons to be agreed by the Headteacher.

**We have updated our behaviour policy at St Thomas's to better equip our children in understanding and articulating their feelings and emotions by using Regulation Zones.**

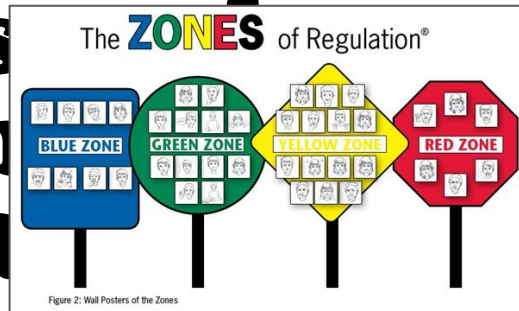


Figure 2: Wall Posters of the Zones



**We believe in a preventative approach, where children are treated with respect and where sanctions, when applied, are consistent.**

**Rewards for good behaviour at St Thomas include:**

- **Verbal praise**
- **Communicating praise to parents**
- **House Points and stickers**
- **Certificates linked to school values**
- **Prize ceremonies and special assemblies**



# Religious Education

2 RE lessons per week

Spring term - themes and topics

- Local Church - Community
- Eucharist - Relating
- Lent/Easter - Giving



Weekly Assembly, Celebration of the Word and Hymn Practice



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT



At St Thomas' we are learning to follow Jesus, showing respect and consideration for ourselves and others.


We all have the opportunity to learn and work to the best of our ability in a safe and loving environment.



Fr Stephen and Deacon Matus celebrate Mass regularly at school/church for whole school/year groups.



Deacon Matus supports learning in RE

A circular logo in the top left corner featuring a blue background with a white cross, a blue sword, and a blue staff, all set against a white background.

# *Religious Education - Our learning this term*

This term, children start by looking at Journeys and understanding that the Christian life is about journeying with Christ and sharing his way of life. We will also look at how the Church's year celebrates the key elements of Christ's life.

We will then begin the topic of Listening & Sharing. Children will start by looking at the Liturgy of the Word, where Christians listen to God's Word in the readings, listen to the homily and the prayers of the Faithful. Children will then look at the Liturgy of the Eucharist, understanding how the gifts are prepared, that the Eucharistic prayer expresses thanksgiving and that Communion is shared.

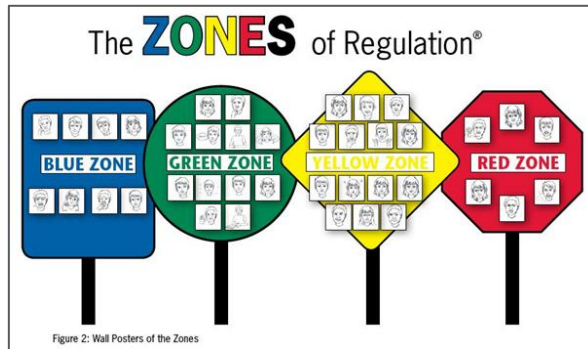
Our last topic this term is Giving All, which is our Lent topic. Children will learn about Lent and Holy Week, exploring how this is a time of giving in different ways and remembering the total giving of Jesus.





We implement our PSHE curriculum through the use of the resource Life to the Full. This allows us to cover all the statutory requirements of Relationships and Health Education based on the structure of the Model Primary RSE Curriculum from the Catholic Education Service.

We supplement this with our own planning to cover elements of 'Living in the Wider World', such as: Digital Literacy, Shared Responsibility, British Values and Aspirations. Alongside this, we also ensure we cover important events throughout the year such as: Anti-Bullying Week, Black History Month, Children's Mental Health Week and Remembrance Day.



In each classroom, we have the Zones of Regulation to aid the children with understanding their emotions and feelings and knowing how to deal with them.



# *PSHE - Our learning this term*

**Autumn 1:** Children began the term by learning about Fratelli Tutti, how to be a good neighbour and exploring how we can all live in peace and unity.

We will learn about the community aspect of the Holy Trinity and children will be encouraged to think about what the Holy Trinity means to them and their communities.

We continue this by learning about the wider Church and its mission to reflect the Holy Trinity through love for others.

We will look at how to make safe choices when searching online.

We will focus on Children's Mental Health Week, linking this back to the Zones of Regulation.

**Autumn 2:** We begin this half term by going back to being safe online. We start by looking at how we must be careful with what we share online, and then look at chatting online and cyberbullying.

We then look at how we can keep ourselves physically safe. Children will learn about different types of abuse they may encounter (appropriate for their age), being encouraged to think about trusted adults they can talk to.

Children will look at how they can keep their bodies safe, looking at harmful substances that may harm their bodies, God's creation.

We will look at First Aid and will explore in more detail what to do in emergency situations.

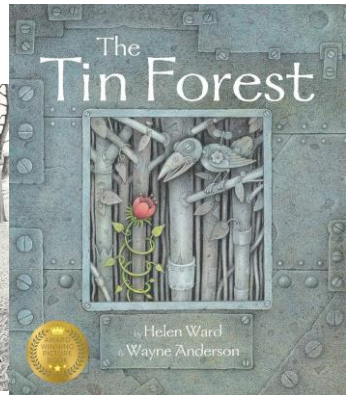
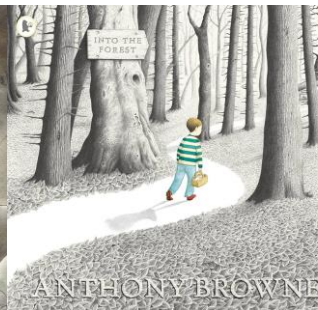
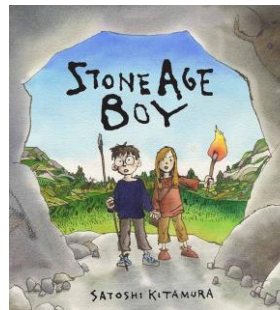




# *Our learning this term*

Throughout the Spring term, this is what we will be covering:

**English:** Children will be using these texts to write setting and character descriptions, narrative pieces, story endings and non-chronological reports.



**Maths:** Children will be focusing on multiplication and division, length and perimeter, fractions, and mass and capacity.

**Science:** Children will begin the term learning about forces and magnets. They will learn about magnetic materials and different types of forces.

Children will then learn about recycling, which items that can be recycled and why this is important.





## *Our learning this term*

**Design & Technology:** Children will look at the features of a castle and how to create and construct 3D nets in order to create their own castle structure.

**Computing:** This half term, children are learning about the programme Scratch. They will use this coding platform to build skills that enable them to program an animation, a story and a game.

They will then learn about the concept of networks, learning how devices communicate.

**Art & Design:** In Spring 2, children will learn about prehistoric art, exploring different forms of prehistoric art, before creating their own piece





# *Our learning this term*

**French:** This half term, children will learn how to say different animals in French as well as how to describe themselves.

In Spring 2, children will learn how to say the days of the week, the months of the year, and count to 30.

**History:** This half term, children are learning about the late Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. They will look at how equipment such as weapons and homes changed during these periods, how trade and settlements developed, and how art and culture changed.

**Geography:** In Spring 2, children will complete a local study. They will be learning how to use atlases, globes and maps in more detail, focusing on the area around the school. They will also look at the human and physical features of the local area.





## *Our learning this term*

Music: This half term, children will develop an understanding of formal, written notations, as well as looking at improvisation and composition.

In Spring 2, children will focus on learning the songs for our Easter Passion performance.

PE: This half term, children will learn different techniques in gymnastics, learning how to create and complete a sequence.

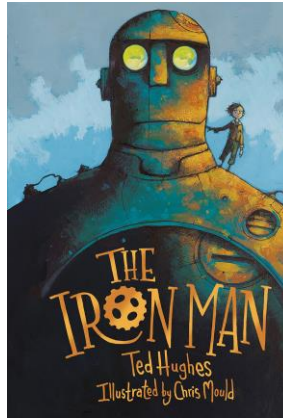
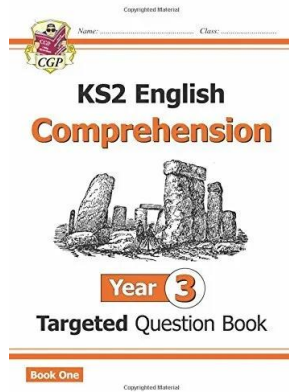
In Spring 2, children will learn the rules of basketball. They will explore different ways to pass the ball, as well as learning dribbling and shooting skills.



# Reading



Becoming a fluent, skilled and attentive reader starts at the earliest stages. Therefore, making sure that children become engaged with reading at the earliest opportunity is one of the most important ways to make a difference to their life chances.



Please listen to your child read every day and and leave a comment in his/her record.

# Homework



Homework is set on a Friday each week, due in the following Wednesday.

Homework will usually consist of spellings/handwriting, and either a piece of Maths homework or a piece of GPS homework. Occasionally, children may be asked to create a project to present in class.

It is also important that children participate on Times Tables Rock Stars, as well as Bug Club. You will find their username and password inside their Homework book.

Reading is also included in their homework.



# Educational Visits



Spring 1: Leeds Castle Trip - Friday 19th January.

Leeds Castle is the perfect place for the children to see how a castle is designed to aid them for their DT topic. Children will also take part in a workshop *From Cave to Castle*, looking at what life was like during the Stone Age.

Please note that if we do not receive sufficient contributions towards educational visits, then they may have to be cancelled. Payments are made via Arbor.

Consent forms must be returned by every child before we can allow them to participate. Verbal consent is **not** accepted for children to take part in any Activity. Consent also needs to be given on Arbor - if you have not done so, could you please ensure this is done as soon as possible.





# *After school clubs*

We are delighted to offer an increased range of after-school clubs this academic year, details of which are sent out at the beginning of each term.

Parents/carers can also access Jules et Lis before and after school clubs, run by an external provider. Details can be found on <https://julesetlis.co.uk/>





# Arbor

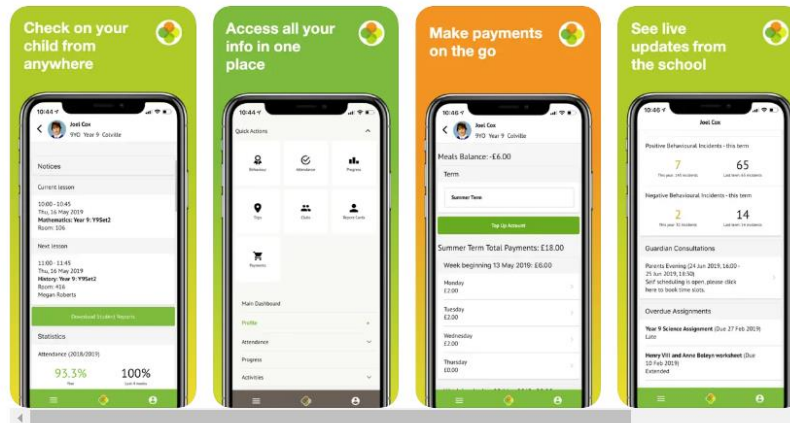
All correspondence, payments, club bookings and consent for trips will be sent electronically through Arbor.

All dinner money payments do need to be made in advance.



**Arbor** EX  
Parent & Guardian Portal  
Arbor Education Partners  
Designed for iPhone  
#17 in Education  
★★★★ 1.4 • 761 Ratings  
Free

iPhone Screenshots





## *Dates for your diary*

- Leeds Castle Trip: Friday 19th January 2024
- 3N Liturgy - parents welcome: Friday 26th January
- 3H Liturgy - parents welcome: Friday 2nd February
- Parents' Evening: Tuesday 13th February and Thursday 15th February
- Ash Wednesday Service led by Year 3: Wednesday 14th February
- February Half Term: Monday 19th February - Friday 23rd February
- Easter Passion Play: Thursday 21st March
- End of term: Thursday 28th March



# Come and join us!

## St. Thomas of Canterbury's Parent Heritage Group



### Welcome to St Thomas of Canterbury's Parent Heritage Group!

Parents and carers will have the opportunity to discuss how our school supports the diverse heritages and multi-cultures within our school. We would like to hear your suggestions about how else we can embrace all aspects of our diverse community.

Everybody welcome!

Dates to be confirmed...

#### What we aim to achieve:

- Working together as a school/home community to celebrate our diverse cultures across the school.
- Planning cultural days: traditional clothing, traditional music, traditional stories.
- Ways in which the school can support families in celebrating diversity.
- Your ideas for what you would like to see implemented/how you would like to take part and support the children.

If you would like to join our Parent Heritage Group - leave your email address and telephone number with the office and Miss Paul will contact you.

Mrs Foley, our Community Involvement Lead is leading the establishment of the Friends of St. Thomas of Canterbury. If you would like to be a part of this parent support group, who come together to help raise much needed money for our school, you can contact our email address:

[friendsofstoc@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk](mailto:friendsofstoc@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk)

We got together to organise the tea, coffee and sweet treat sales after the recent Nativities and concerts. We will be arranging; fete's, discos, non-uniform days and other fundraising events. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please speak to one of the FOST parent support group after this meeting.

