

The logo is circular with a dark blue background. It features a central shield with a gold cross and a blue figure. Above the shield is a gold crown. Two gold keys are crossed behind the shield.

St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

*Welcome to the Year 5
Parent Information Meeting*

Tuesday 3rd October 2023



The Year 1 Team

- ❑ **Miss East** - Year Group Leader & Class 5E teacher
- ❑ **Miss Nixon** - Class 5N teacher
- ❑ **Mrs Ignatov** (*Mon-Wed*) / **Miss McAnally** (*Thu-Fri*) - Class 5I teachers

- ❑ **Mrs Cook, Mrs Wiseman and Miss Holland** - Year 1 support staff

- ❑ **Mrs 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.



Uniform

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

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.





PE kit

Year 5's PE day is Tuesday.

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



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.





Religious Education

As a Catholic school, we are proud that Christ and the Gospel values are central to our curriculum.

At St. Thomas of Canterbury, we follow the Come and See Religious Education Programme. This accounts for 10% of the entire curriculum time excluding liturgies, assemblies and collective worship.

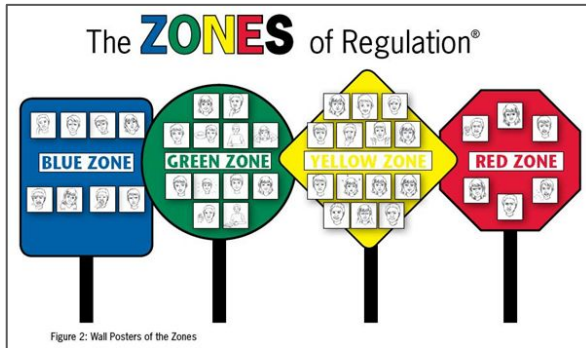
The children are taught the basis of the Catholic Faith, spirituality, morality and social issues which are constantly related to their own life experiences. Children are helped to come to a fuller knowledge and love of God which will develop into mature Christian living. On Holy Days of Obligation and at the beginning and throughout each term, we celebrate the Eucharist in School. Fr Stephen visits school to say Mass and takes time to visit the children in their classes.





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.



Our learning this term

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

English: Our class text this term will be **Street Child by Berlie Doherty** and we will base our writing upon this. We will be focussing on diary entries, character descriptions and story endings.

Maths: Our Maths units this term will include Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division (*Multiples, Common Factors, Square and Cube numbers*) and Fractions.

Science: This half term we have been studying Forces. After the October term, we will be studying Materials and their properties.



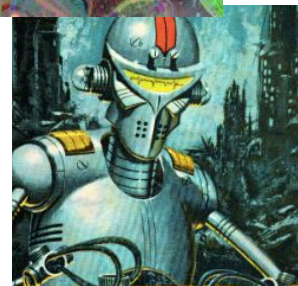
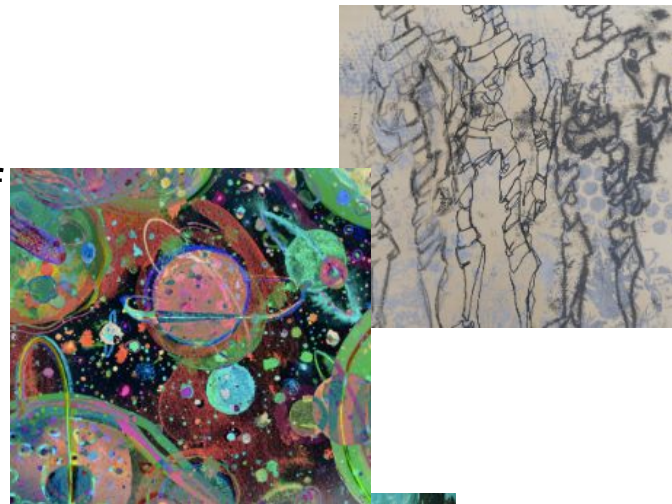


Our learning this term

Art & Design: In Autumn 2, we will be focusing our artwork on the Space Race. We will use a range of mediums and techniques to create powerful pieces of artwork.

Computing: Autumn 1: Search Engines
Autumn 2: Online Safety

Design & Technology: At the minute we are in the process of designing pop-up books and deciding which of the mechanisms we have learnt about will be the most suitable.





Our learning this term

French: Autumn 1: Do you have a pet? (*As-tu un animal?*)

Autumn 2: What is the date today? (*Quelle est la date aujourd'hui?*)

Geography: After October half term, we will begin our Trade and Economics unit which looks at why we trade and with who. We will also be looking at why trading has changed and what is meant by Fair Trade.

History: This half term we have been studying the Victorians and comparing different elements of their lives to our lives today. To celebrate and deepen our learning about the Victorians, we will be having our

Victorian Day on Thursday 19th October!





Our learning this term

Music: Autumn 1: Exploring the orchestra and the history of western classical music
Autumn 2: Christmas Carol Concert

PE: Autumn 1: Hockey
Autumn 2: Dance - Haka and interpretive dance



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.

At St. Thomas of Canterbury, we encourage children to read the following: In Year 5, all children choose a book from their Class Library that is appropriate for their year group. Bug Club is also available for extra reading books online.

Books are changed regularly. **We expect your child to read for 20 minutes a day, 5 times a week.** Please listen to your child read and encourage them to write a comment in his/her reading record before you sign it.



Homework

Homework is set every Thursday and is due to be returned on the following Tuesday.

Your child's homework will generally consist of spelling words, which we will test in class, and a Maths sheet which covers our learning in class that week.

At times, we may also give children a project to complete that involves research and/or artwork. For example, they will soon be receiving a Black History Month project to be handed in after October half term.



Educational Visits



Victorian Day - Thursday 19th October.

Walk Online Roadshow - Tuesday 21st November. An interactive session which explores online safety at Civic Hall Blackshots.

Tower of London - Wednesday 22nd May.

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.





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/>





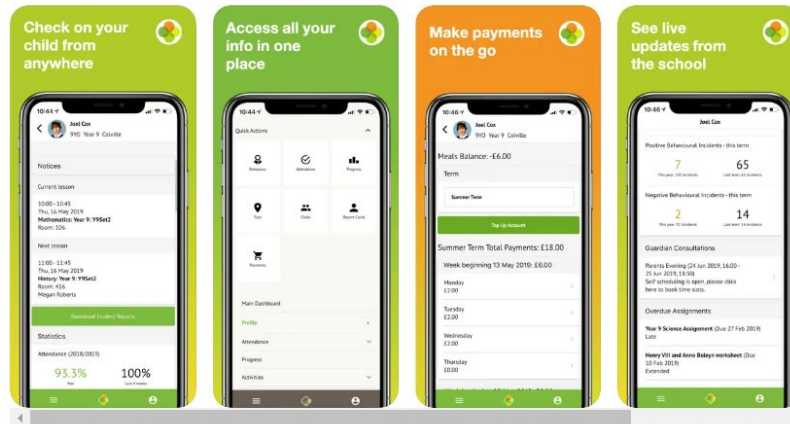
Arbor

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



Arbor 12+
Parent & Guardian Portal
[Arbor Education Partners](#)
Designed for iPhone
#17 in Education
★ ★ ★ ★ 1.4 + 761 Ratings
Free

iPhone Screenshots





Dates for your diary

- **Parents' Evening:** Tuesday 17th or Thursday 19th October
- **Victorian Day:** Thursday 19th October
- **Half term:** Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October
- **INSET Day:** Monday 30th October (school closed to pupils)
- **Years 5 & 6 Christmas Carol Concert:** Thursday 7th or Friday 8th December
- **End of term:** Wednesday 20th December at 1:30pm (Early close)



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 (community involvement lead) recently held our first meeting for 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 us by email. Our email address:

friendsofstoc@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk

We will come together to organise; fete's, discos, non-uniform days and other fundraising events.

Friends of St. Thomas of Canterbury

Please come along to our first meeting!

Thursday 28th September

9:00am

All welcome!



We look forward to seeing you there!

