

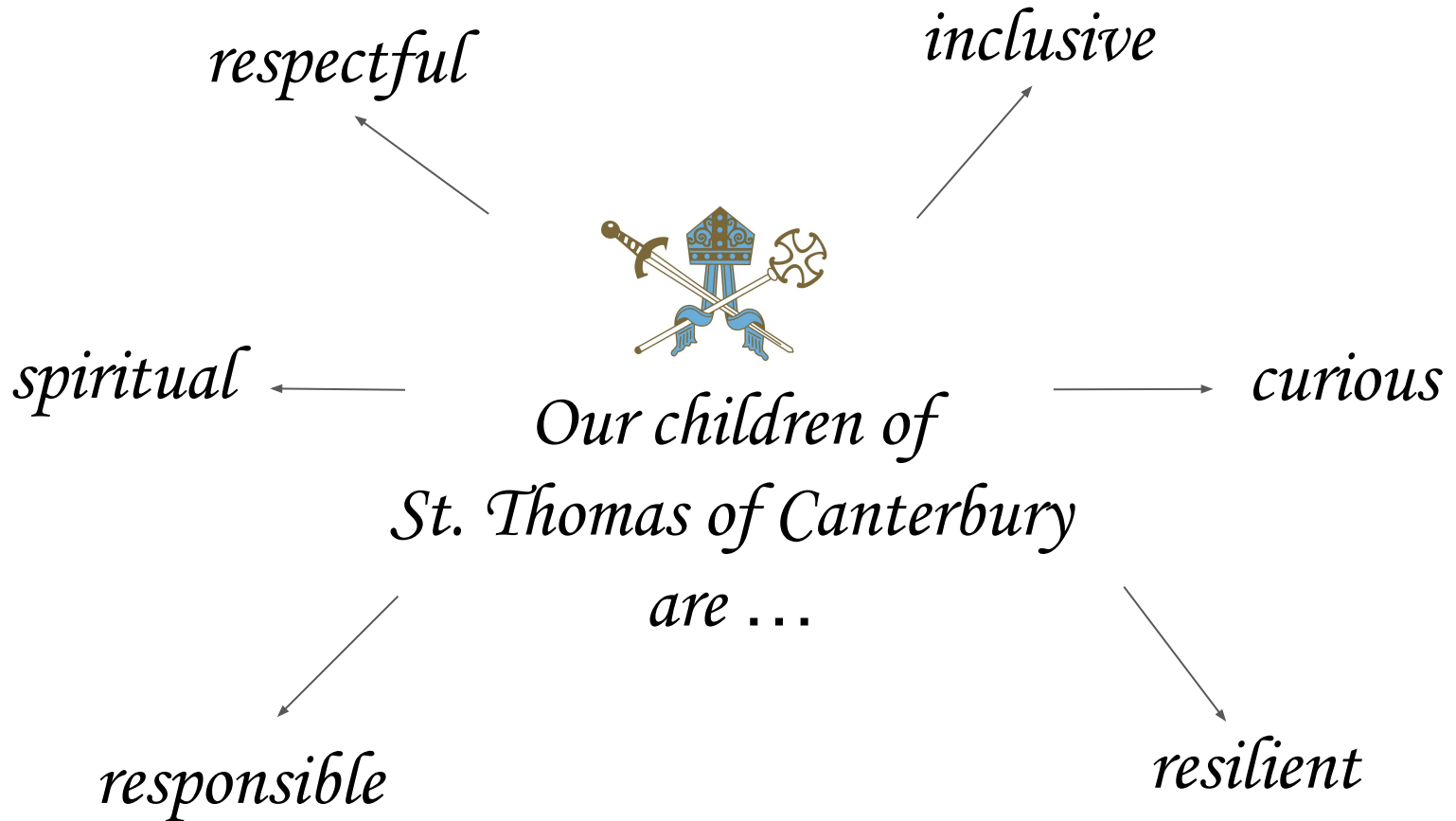
St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

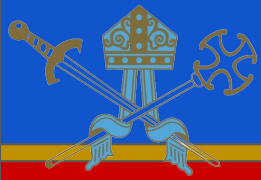
*Welcome to the Reception
Parent Information Meeting*

September 2024



Our School Values





The Reception/EYFS Team

❑ **Mrs N Foley** - Year Group Leader & RF teacher

❑ **Miss K Sharomi** - Class RS teacher



❑ **Miss Levett** - Class RL teacher

❑ **Mrs A Davies** - Reception HLTA

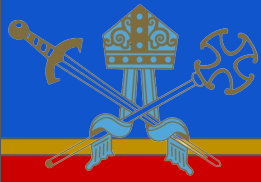


❑ **Mrs Islam, Mrs Watras, and Mrs Kaur** Reception support staff



❑ **Mrs M Hall** - SENCo





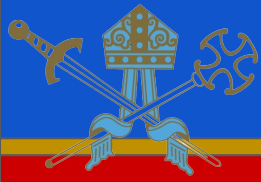
Attendance and Punctuality



It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or runny nose. If they are unwell during the day we shall call you to collect you child.

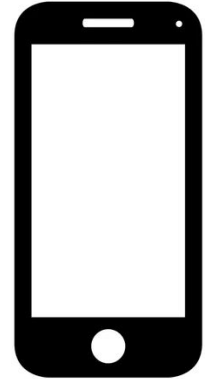
Please note that the gate opens at 8:40am and children should be in class by 8:55am.





Absence Procedures

If your child is absent for any reason, you should contact the school office by 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.



The law on school attendance has now changed. You will be issued with a penalty notice if your child has ten sessions of unauthorised absence over a rolling period of ten weeks. 10 sessions is equivalent to one week.





Uniform



***Winter uniform
is compulsory
from October
half term.***

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

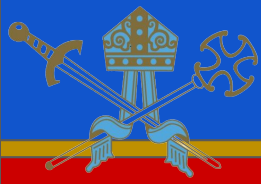
Information about school uniform can be found on the school website:

<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

REMINDER

Reception's PE day is Thursday.

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



**Parents can chose which
PE uniform children wear
depending on the
weather.**

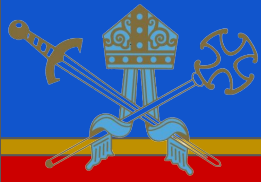
Children should wear
black plimsolls or black
trainers on their PE days.



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

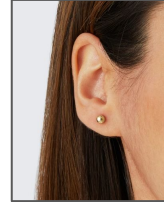
<https://www.stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk/uniform/>





Hair/Accessories

- **Hair accessories must be kept to a minimum and should be in school colours.**
- **Hair braids should be natural hair colours.**
- **One small stud earring per ear. (Children must not wear earrings on PE days.)**



Please ensure that all your child's clothing is marked with his/her name. We are not responsible for items of clothing which go missing.

Lost property is located in a black box outside of the main office.



Your child's Class Teacher knows them best so should be the first point of contact. From 8:40am staff are working with children, so please speak to the teacher at the end of the school day.



If you have a further query, make an appointment to speak to the Year Group Leader.



Communicating with the school

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

Email or call the school office to request to meet with a member of staff.
admin@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk

Talk with any of our Senior Leaders:
Mrs Coppin
Mrs Smith
Ms McAnally

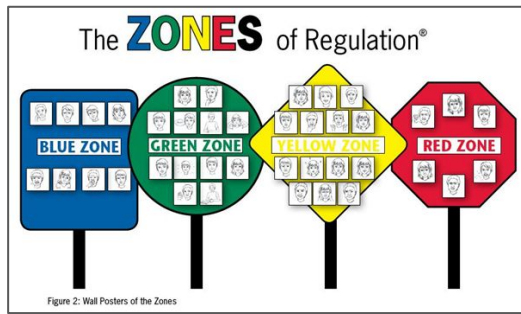
Send in a note with your child.

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

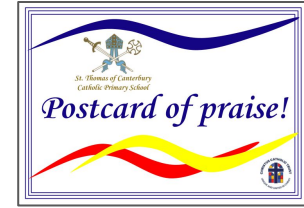
Email the class teacher.

Or the Headteacher
Mrs Poulteney





Zones of Regulation



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's include:

- Verbal praise
- Communicating praise to parents
- Housepoints and stickers
- Certificates linked to our school values
- Prize ceremonies and special assemblies



Religious Education

2 RE lessons per week

Autumn Term - themes and topics

- Creation and Covenant

Via the new Religious Education Directory



- Weekly Assembly
- Celebration of the Word
- Musical Celebration of the Word

Mass is celebrated regularly at school and church for the whole school and individual year groups. All parents welcome to attend.



We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.





Our learning this term



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

Early Years Foundation Stage - Prime Areas

Communication and Language

Physical Development (gross and fine motor skills)

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Literacy

Maths

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design

Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage

Setting the standards for learning,
development and care for children from
birth to five

Published: 12 July 2023

Effective: 4 September 2023





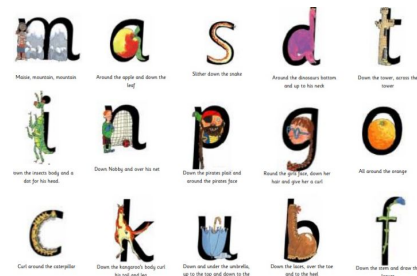
Our learning this term

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

Literacy:



Phonics:



Autumn 2 books - **Traditional and Familiar Tales** (The Gruffalo, Little Red Riding Hood, The Smartest Giant in Town, Jack and the Beanstalk, We're Going on a Bear Hunt).

Autumn 1 - writing some or all of their name, writing some letters correctly.

Autumn 2 - Forming lower case letters and capital letters correctly, spelling words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s.

Number: 1.Subitising 2.Counting, cardinality and ordinality 3.Composition 4.Subitising 5.Comparison





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.



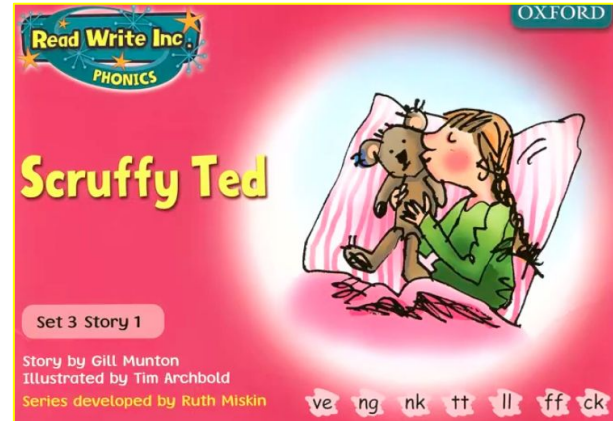
Books are changed weekly. Please listen to your child read every day and leave a comment in his/her reading record.





Reading

Date	book title and page number	Comments
21/09	Scruffy	pages 1-3 had
22/09	Ted	pages 1-3 had
23/09	"	pages 3-5 had
24/09	"	pages 3-5 had
25/09	" Phonics	whole book
21/09	one snowy night	clare was able to make a prediction
22/09		- clare was able to point to the words the, a, sat
23/09		- clare told me this book was like bunny
24/09		stoppers
25/09	+ any additional books shared	





Homework



We have been sending out daily virtual classroom Phonics sounds to for the children to watch daily. It is really important that the children interact with these films to imbed their in school learning.



The blending films have also been sent out to ensure children not only learn the sounds individually but also can put them together to read words.



These sheets are sent home at the end of the day/week for children to practise forming each of the letters they have been taught.

It is so important that you encourage them to keep up with the sounds taught so that they can reach their ELG's.





Reading

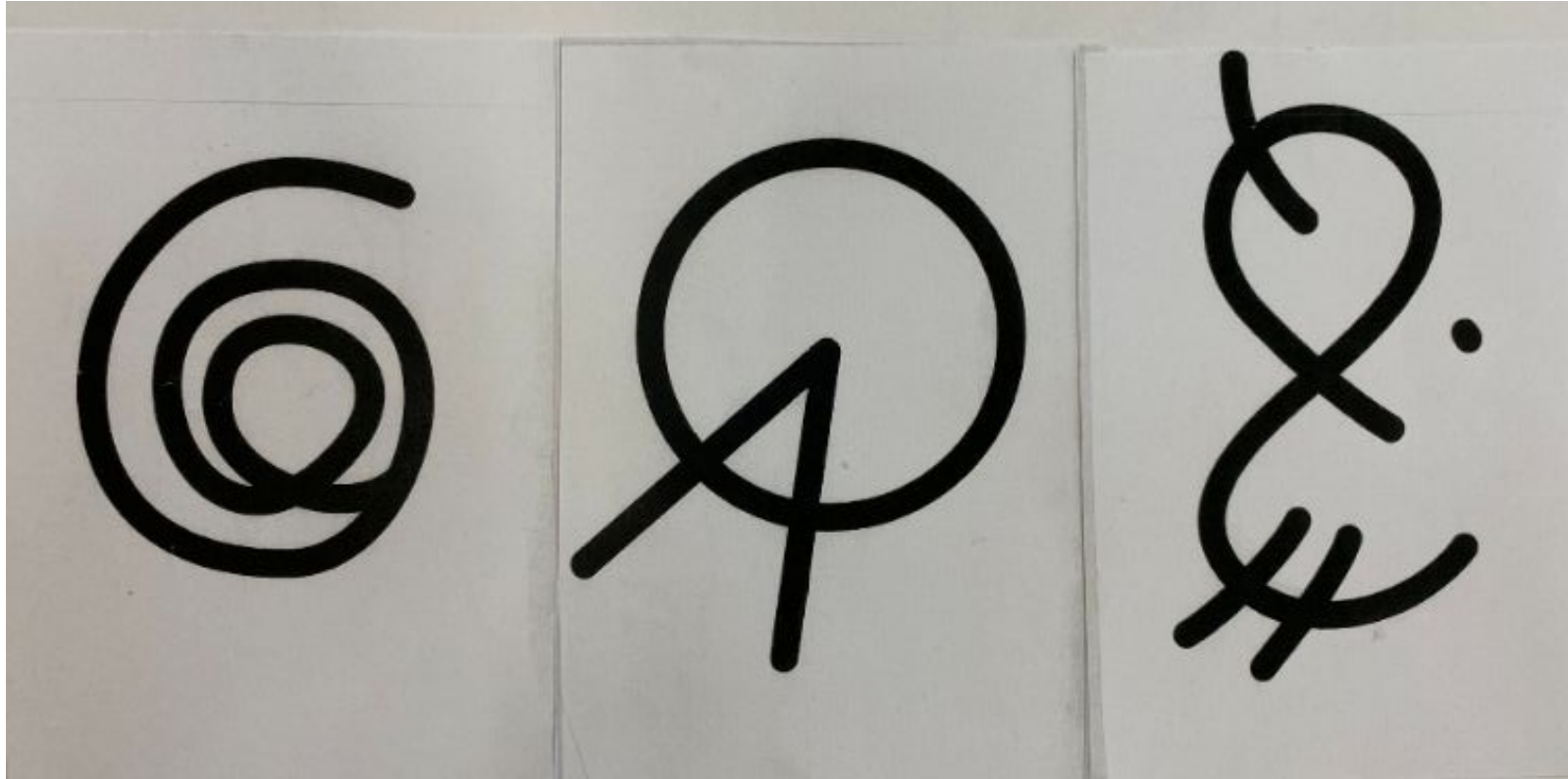
**Let's have a go at
reading!!**

**I will say the sound then
you repeat.**





Educational Visits





Reading

Book talk:

There are many things to discuss just on a front cover:

Begin with: 1. A prediction: Are these two friends? Why do you think that? What do you think is going to happen in the story?

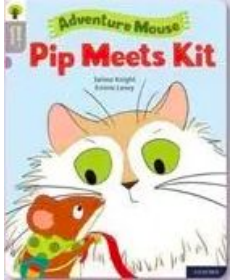
As you go through pause to ask questions to assist them in making connections with their own lives and remind them of a story you have shared that is similar.

Can they re-tell the story to you-get them to summarise what happened. Encourage your child to ask you when they don't understand a word-this helps them build their vocabulary to speak and write

When we get into Autumn 2 ask them to read words that you know they can blend to read or maybe have been their 'sight words' that week in their tub.

Look at this link: (Reading is the single most important skill to secure during school years).

<https://readingagency.org.uk/our-work/our-research/reading-facts/>



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is	you
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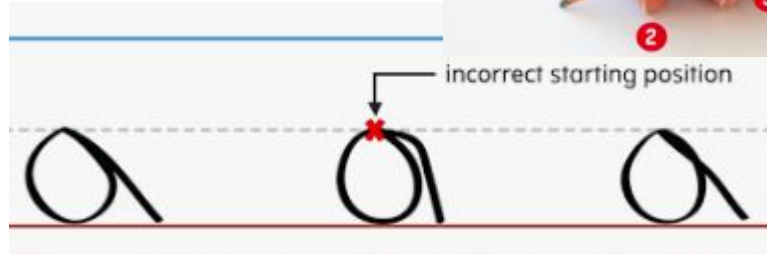


Writing



Practise handwriting

Round the apple, down the leaf



Thumb Wrap



Transpalmer



Thumb Tuck



Interdigital Brace



Index Grip



Supinate



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijd45Qddxfo>



Educational Visits



We have a provisional booking for 10th Decemeber to take the children to see Snow White at Thameside theatre. We will leave school at about 11.45-12.00 arrival 12.45.

We will be sending a letter and would love for some parents to accompany us.

Father will visit us during Autumn to discuss our current RE topic.

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 a wide 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/>





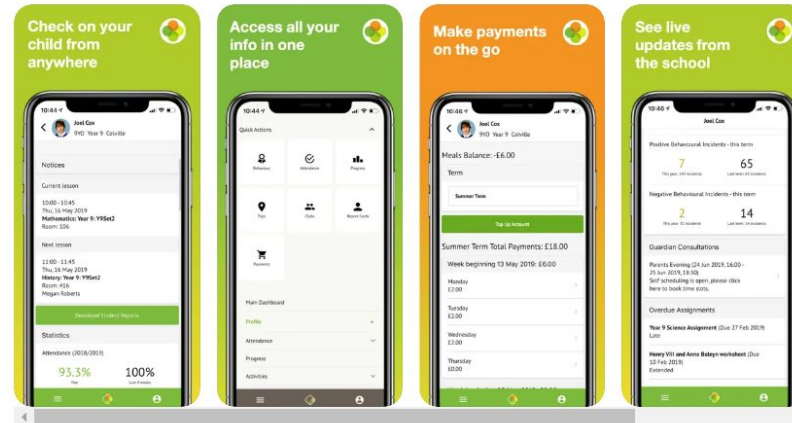
Arbor

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

September 2024							October 2024							November 2024							December 2024									
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S			
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31																						
30																														

January 2025							February 2025							March 2025							April 2025												
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31															
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31																						
27	28	29	30	31																													

May 2025							June 2025							July 2025							August 2025						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31								
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31															
26	27	28	29	30	31																						

School days	School holidays	Bank holidays	Weekends	INSET (staff training) school closed to pupils
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Autumn Term:	Monday 2 September 2024 – Friday 20 December 2024 Half Term 20 October – 1 November	75 days
Spring Term:	Monday 6 January 2025 – Friday 4 April 2025 Half Term 17 February – 21 February	60 days
Summer Term:	Tuesday 22 April 2025 – Tuesday 22 July 2025 Half Term 20 May – 30 May; and May Bank Holiday – 6 May	60 days
		195 days

- FOST Meeting: 04th October at 2.30
- Theatre visit: 10th October
- Parents evening: 15th and 17th October
- Half term: Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November
- INSET Day: Monday 4th November (school closed to pupils)
- 11th November EYFS Christmas concert
- 18th December: Christmas dinner/jumper day
- End of term: Friday 20th December at 1:30pm (Early close)

Friends of St Thomas' Come and join us!

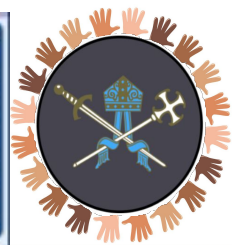


Mrs Foley, our Community Involvement Lead, is leading the establishment of the Friends of St. Thomas of Canterbury.

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

We got together to organise the tea, coffee and sweet treat sales after the Nativities, concerts, Easter passion plays and parents evenings. We've held break the rules days (non-uniform days) as well as many raffle sales for Valentines, Mother's Day and Easter. We will be arranging; fetes, discos, and other fundraising events **if we get enough volunteers**. We look forward to seeing you at our next PTA/FOST meeting, on **Friday 04th October at 2,30** If the only way you are able to support the school is by purchasing the things we have for sale or asking for donations; raffle tickets, cakes and coffees, this is still really valuable to help us raise funds!

Meet Arley, who you can contact for pre-loved school uniform;





Parent Heritage 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,
please
contact
Miss East
in Year 3.**