



*St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School*

*Welcome to the Year 2  
Parent Information Meeting*

*Thursday 26th September 2024*





## *The Year 2 Team*

- ☐ **Ms M Shurelova** - Year Group Leader & Class 2S teacher
- ☐ **Mrs Leary** - Class 2L teacher
- ☐ **Mrs Field** - Class 2F teacher
  
- ☐ **Mrs Alexandru, Mrs Jachym, Mrs Reid,** - Year 2 support staff
  
- ☐ **Mrs Sturgess** - Cover Supervisor,
- ☐ **Mrs A Mensah** SEN support staff
  
- ☐ **Mrs M Hall** - SENCo
- ☐ **Mrs M Venables**





# *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 9:00 am 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 2's PE day is Friday.

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.

No jewellery (watches or earrings- not even taped)





# *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 RED for Catholic school, a Religious Education Programme. This accounts for 10% of the entire curriculum time excluding liturgies, assemblies and collective worship.

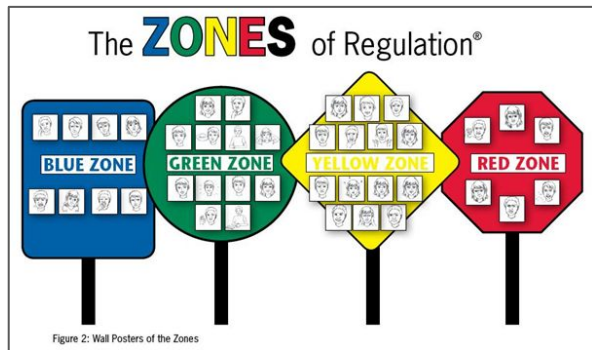
The children are taught the basis of the Catholic Faith, spirituality, morality and social issues which are constantly related to their own life experiences. Children are helped to come to a fuller knowledge and love of God which will develop into mature Christian living. On Holy Days of Obligation and 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.



# *Phonics*

We follow the RWI phonics scheme and children are taught phonics every day. In June 2025, some of our Year 2 children will re-take the statutory phonics screening check. During the phonics screening check, children are asked to read (decode) 40 words. Most of these words are real words but some are pseudo-words (Alien words). Pseudo-words are included to ensure that children are using their decoding skills and not just relying on their memory of words they've read before.

All Year 2 children will sit SATs test.





## *Our learning this term*

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

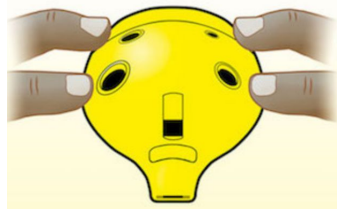
- English: Claude in the City and The Lonely Beast
- Science: Living things and habitats and Everyday Materials
- Maths: Partitioning to 100 then addition and subtraction. Mastery in number sessions will involve composition of numbers to aid fluency of number facts.
- RE: Creation and Covenants- The story of Noah, Baptism and Psalm as a means of prayer. Then, The Prophecy and the Promise, the Nativity- The Visitation, Magnificat and Advent





# *Our learning this term*

- Art & Design: Telling a story through drawing using charcoal and observation skills.
- Geography: Famous Landmarks of London
- History: Great Fire of London
- Computing: Learning parts of a Computer, Inputs and Outputs. Then, in Autumn 2 Word Processing.
- Design & Technology: Winding Mechanisms.
- Music: Children will be learning to play the ocarina
- PE: Football and Dance with cross curricular links to GFOL



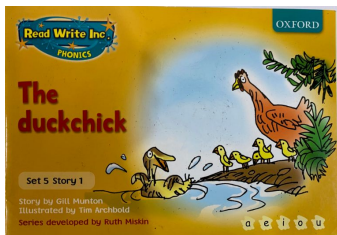


# Reading

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 KS1, a decodable book (related to the RWI phonics scheme, and a book for pleasure from their Class Library to share with a parent. Bug Club is also available for extra reading of books online. If children have passed their Phonics screening, they choose a book from a colour band as well as one from the Class Library.

Please listen to your child read their phonics or banded book **every day** and leave a comment in his/her reading record.

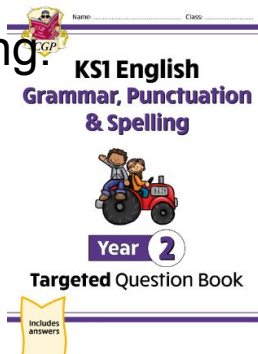




# Homework

## Home support

- Spelling tests take place on a Friday. At which point we teach 10 new spellings. The children should then practise these new spellings ready for the following Friday.
- The children will also be expected to log on and take part in the weekly battle on TTRockstars website for 10 minutes a day.
- They can also continue to use Numberbots to aid their fluency in their number bond recall.
- This is something you can use to support your child's learning.





## *Educational Visits*

For Autumn term we are planning to visit Essex Fire Museum in Grays which links in with our History topics. We have been learning about London Landmarks and Geography-The Great Fire of London in History.

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 is given through Arbor. Verbal consent is **not** accepted for children to take part in any activity.

We may ask for volunteers to accompany us on various trips to allow the trips to be take place.





## *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/>





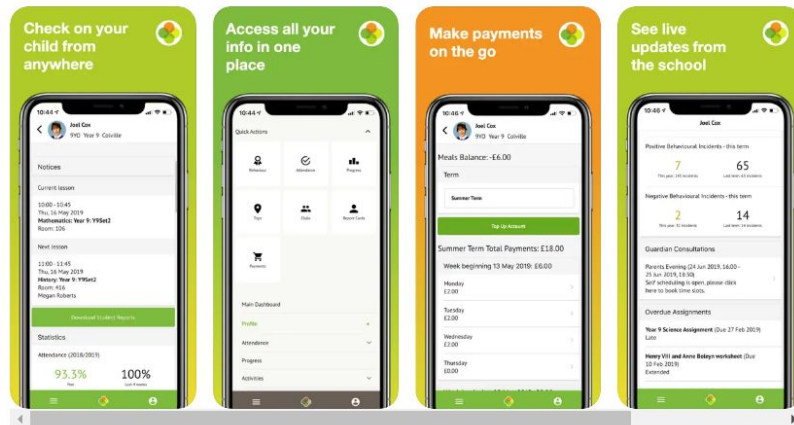
# Arbor

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*

- Friends of St Thomas' meeting (PTA) -Friday, 4th October
- Half term: Monday 28th - Friday ,1st November
- INSET Day: Monday, 4th November (school closed to pupils)
- Year 2 : Year 2 End of Year Mass Wednesday, 16th July
- Christmas Nativity: Friday, 13th December Year 2 parents
- Christmas Jumper day: Wednesday 18th December
- End of term: Friday 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.

Last year, Mrs Foley (community involvement lead) set up 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 will come together to organise; fetes, discos, non-uniform days and other fundraising events.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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

