



St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Year 4
Parent Information

Summer Term 2025





Our School Values

respectful

inclusive



spiritual

curious

*Our children of
St. Thomas of Canterbury*

are ...

responsible

resilient



The Year 4 Team

- ☐ **Mr Boulden** - Year Group Leader & Class 4B teacher
- ☐ **Miss Nixon** - Class 4N teacher
- ☐ **Mrs French (M-W) / Mrs Venables (Th & F)** - Class 4FV teachers
- ☐ **Mrs Ashdown** - Year 4 support staff
- ☐ **Mrs Pellat** - SENCo
- ☐ **Mrs Cuff** - Inclusion Manager

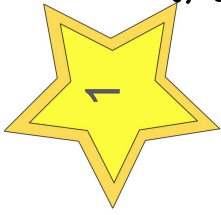
Mr Boulden - mr.boulden@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk

Miss Nixon - miss.nixon@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk

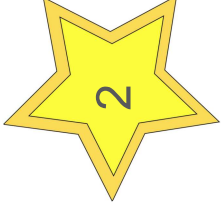
Mrs French - mrs.french@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk

Mrs Venables - mrs.venables@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk

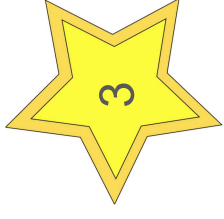




Your child's Class Teacher knows them best so should be the first point of contact. From 8:40am staff are working with children, so please speak to the teacher at the end of the school day.



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

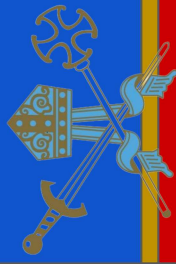
Speak with the staff on the school gate at the beginning or the end of the day.

Email the class teacher.

Or the Headteacher
Mrs Poulteney

Send in a note with your child.





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 your child.

Punctuality

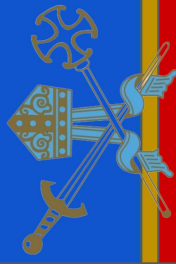
8:40 - School gates open.

8:55 - The school day begins.

All children should be seated in class by this time.

3:10 - Parents arrive to collect.

3:15 - School day finishes.



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.



UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE

Where a pupil reaches the national threshold of 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks, the school will consider whether a penalty notice is appropriate. Each case will be considered individually to determine whether a penalty notice or another tool or legal intervention should be used to improve attendance.

A fixed penalty notice will be applied for in line with the LA's code of conduct and the DfE's 'Working together to improve school attendance' guidance.

Penalty notices for unauthorised absences will be charged at £160, reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

Where attendance still does not improve following a fixed penalty notice, the school will work with the LA to take forward attendance prosecution as a last resort.





Uniform - Summer term

Summer uniform is compulsory after the May half term holiday.

BOYS

- White polo shirt with school logo (Preferred) or plain white polo shirt
- Grey shorts
- Grey V necked jumper (preferably with the school logo)
- Grey socks
- Black shoes (not trainers)



GIRLS

- Pink gingham dresses
- Neutral coloured (e.g. black, white) cycling shorts under dresses (Optional)
- White blouse with reversed collar/ grey skirt (Year 5 & 6 girls only)
- Grey V necked cardigan (preferably with the school logo)
- White socks
- Black shoes (not trainers)





PE kit

REMINDER

Year 4's PE day is Monday.

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



Children should wear their Red PE shorts and Blue school T-Shirt for PE during the Summer term.

If the weather is cooler they can wear their school tracksuit over the top of shorts and T-shirt.

Any child without a school tracksuit should wear a plain dark coloured tracksuit instead.

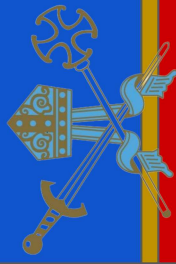


Children should wear black plimsolls or plain black trainers on their PE days.

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

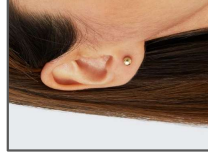
<https://www.stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk/uniform/>





Hair/ Accessories

- Hair accessories must be kept to a minimum and should be in school colours- **Pink, white or blue in the Summer**
- 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.





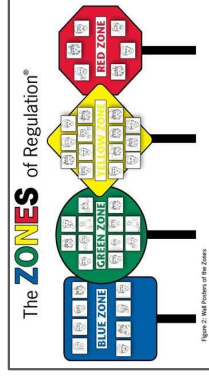
Behaviour

Expectations

We believe that, in order to facilitate teaching and learning, acceptable behaviour must be demonstrated in all aspects of school life. The school is committed to:

- Promoting desired behaviour.
- Promoting self-esteem, self-discipline, proper regard for authority, and positive relationships based on mutual respect.
- Ensuring equality and fair treatment for all.
- Praising and rewarding good behaviour.
- Challenging and educating misbehaviour.
- Providing a safe environment free from disruption, violence, discrimination, bullying and any form of harassment.
- Encouraging positive relationships with parents.
- Developing positive relationships with pupils to enable early intervention.
- A shared approach which involves pupils in the implementation of the school's policy and associated procedures.
- Promoting a culture of praise and encouragement in which all pupils can achieve.





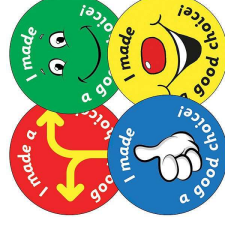
Zones of Regulation



We promote a caring, supportive environment in which staff educate children in how to de-escalate and regulate their behaviour using **Zones of Regulation**.

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

Some parents have asked for more information on what Religious Education consists of at STOC.

Christ is at the centre of everything we do in school, as a Catholic School we;

- **pray together at the start of the school day, before and after lunch and at the end of the day**
- **come together weekly for Celebration of the Word led by a member of staff**
- **share in class led celebration of the word over the academic year**
- **sing and learn new hymns in our musical celebration of the word**
- **provide children with the opportunity to lead on collective worship within the class based around scripture**
- **offer opportunities for spontaneous prayer with prayer areas around the school**
- **share Advent and Lent bags with families so they can celebrate at home too**
- **have Faith Councillors in every class**
- **celebrate both Mass and other services such as Ash Wednesday**
- **Fr Pascal comes in to talk to classes in different year groups about topics they are studying**
- **portray the Nativity and Easter Passion with performances in school for the community.**
- **Support the community and fundraise for charities, donating to foodbanks and clothes banks.**



Our learning this term - Religious Education

2 RE lessons per week

Summer term - themes and topics

Pentecost - New life

Reconciliation – Building bridges

God's People - Universal Church - World



We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Our learning this term -Religious Education



On the day of Pentecost, the Apostles spoke to the gathered people in the power of the Spirit.



St. Paul continued this work and we continue it today.

Christians believe that the Spirit of God is active in each person and, in a special way, in the community of believers, which is the Church.



NEW LIFE Year 4 Topic 7



OUR BIG QUESTION
What is so important about new life?

REFLECTION
Father, pour out your Spirit upon your people, and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word and a new consecration to your service, that your love may grow among us, and your kingdom come: through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

KEY VOCABULARY
life good news
Resurrection
Pentecost
Holy Spirit
fellowship

SCRIPTURE
Acts 4 : 1-26
2 Corinthians 6: 3-10
Acts 8: 26-30, 34-38



Our learning this term -Religious Education



In order for bridges to be built, a person has to acknowledge wrongdoing, so as to be reconciled to others and to God.

This can be formally celebrated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Through and in Christ, every human being is offered the power to reach out in forgiveness and to receive and to offer reconciliation.



BUILDING BRIDGES

Year 4 Topic 8



OUR BIG QUESTION

How can bridges between people be built?



REFLECTION

I have chosen the way of faithfulness;
I set your ordinances before me.
I cling to your decrees,
O Lord; let me not be put to shame.
I run the way of your commandments,
for you enlarge my understanding.
Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.
Give me understanding that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.
Amen.

KEY VOCABULARY

contrition Absolution
Examination of
Conscience
sin penance
confession

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 3: 12-15
Matthew 5: 23-24
Luke 15:3-6,7
Mark 12: 28-31



Our learning this term - Religious Education



"Communion of Saints" is the collective name given to all members of the Church community, whether living or dead.

Some members of the Church family are named as martyrs or saints. Martyrs are people who have given their lives for their faith. Saints are people who have lived in God's way.

They show us what God is like – loving, faithful, forgiving, caring for others and God's world.



GOD'S PEOPLE

Year 4 Topic 9

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for Overseas Development



OUR BIG QUESTION

Why do some people do extraordinary things?

REFLECTION

Creator God, in your hands you hold the depths of the earth and the heights of the mountains, for all creation belongs to you. Grant us grace to cherish your world and wisdom to nurture its resources. Save us from the desire to control what is not ours and the impulse to possess what is not ours and the impulse to possess what is there to share.
Amen.

KEY VOCABULARY

ordinary
extraordinary
admire saint martyr
Communion of Saints
justice

SCRIPTURE

1 John 3: 1-3
Colossians 3: 12-13
1 Corinthians



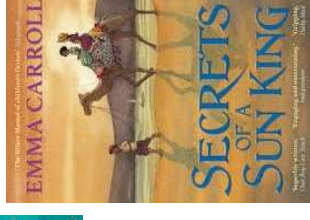
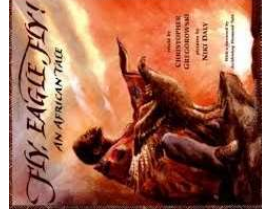
Our learning this term



Throughout the Summer term, We will be covering:

Reading Texts:

- Summer 1 - Fly Eagle Fly African Tales
- Summer 2 - Secrets of a Sun King



English:

- Summer 1 - Narrative (Openings and Endings), VE Day Letter Writing and Explanation Texts
- Summer 2 - Newspaper Recounts, Instruction Writing and Poetry (including performance poetry)

Maths:

- Summer 1 - Area and perimeter, Solving measure and money problems and Shape and symmetry
- Summer 2 - Shape and symmetry, Position and Direction, Reasoning with patterns and sequences, and 3D Shapes

Science:

- Summer 1 - Electricity
- Summer 2 - Living Things





Our learning this term

Art & Design:

Summer 1 - Sculpture and 3D: Mega materials



Computing:

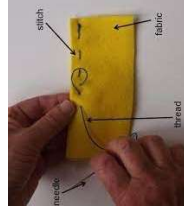
Summer 1 - Skills showcase - HTML; Programming 2: Computational Thinking

Summer 2 - Programming 2: Computational Thinking; Online Safety



Design & Technology:

Summer 2 - Textiles: Fastenings; Electrical systems: Torches; Food related (DT): Adapting a recipe





Our learning this term

French:

Summer 1 - Boucle D'or et Les Trois Ours
(Goldilocks and the three bears)

Summer 2 - Les Glaces

Geography:

Summer 1 - Rainforests

History:

Summer 2 - Ancient Egypt





Our learning this term

Music:

Summer 1 - Exploring More Complex Rhythm Patterns

Summer 2 - Connecting Notes and Feelings



PE:

Summer 1 - Cricket

Summer 2 - Athletics

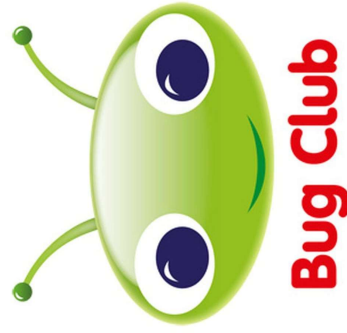




Reading

Please listen to your child read at least 5 times a week and encourage them to write a comment in his/her reading record.

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.





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 Times Tables book, which will support our continued work on improving your child's recall of all the times tables.

At times, we may also give children a project to complete that involves research and/or artwork.



We also encourage the children to regularly practise their Times Tables on TT Rockstars, with a target of AT LEAST 15 minutes a day to be completed.





Educational Visits/Arbor

Our Educational visits this term:

In-school workshop - Historic Workshops - History topic-linked workshop - Ancient Egypt - Letter to be sent out before May Half Term - Thursday 3rd July.

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.



Arbor
Parent & Guardian Portal
Arbor Education Partners
Arbor Education
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100%

iPhone Screenshots





Dates for your diary

5.5.25 May Day

26-30.5.25
Half term

18.7.25 End of
Summer Term.
School closes
at 1:30pm



8.5.25 VE day celebration-
children to wear Red, White and
Blue

19.5.23-23.5.25



19.5.25 AM -EYFS/KS1 Sports day;
school field, parents invited.

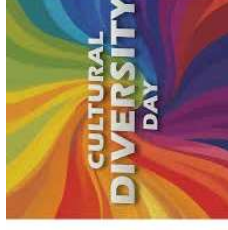
22.5.25 AM KS2 2 Sports Day.
Blackshots Athletics track. Parents
invited to bring a picnic for after the
event.



30.6.25 AM Infant music festival
8.7.25 6:00pm Junior Music festival



4.6.25 Class photos



10.7.25
Details
to follow

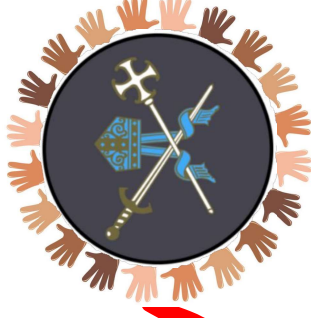


15.7 Whole
school Mass
10:15am in
school

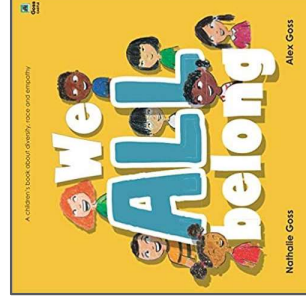


Cultural Diversity Day

Thursday 10th July 2025



To celebrate our cultural diversity we are planning a full day of celebrations. We will have various activities throughout the day please let your child's class teacher know if you can help in any way or have a particular talent to share with us. This could be linked to cultural dance and music, art ideas, reading stories in a different language or any other suggestions you might have.
We would be delighted to hear from you!





Maths Mastery

Listening



*St. Thomas of Canterbury
Catholic Primary School*

School Focus



*Playtime and
Lunchtimes*

New Religious

Education Directory



2024/2025



Implementation of the new Religious Education Directory

To know You more clearly

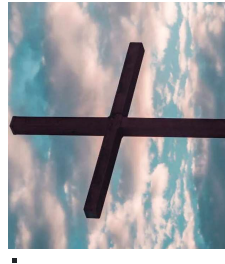
The Religious Education Directory
for Catholic Schools, Academies and Colleges
in England and Wales



Religious
Education
Directory

We have begun to deliver lessons from the programme of study featured in the new Religious Education Directory (RED) entitled *To Know You More Clearly*. Initially, we have launched this new RE curriculum in EYFS and Years 1 & 2, with KS2 following in September 2025.

The six themes, or “branches” of the new curriculum are built around the liturgical calendar. The aim of the updated RED is to enable pupils to become more religiously literate so that they have the knowledge, understanding and skills to reflect spiritually, think ethically and theologically, as well as recognise what religious commitment demands in everyday life.



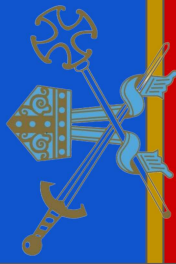


SCHOOL FOCUS Listening

Your child may talk to you about their listening partner and perhaps you have wondered what this means.

Over the past few months, the staff and children at St Thomas's have done a lot of work around how important it is to listen and how to be good listeners. Your child has a listening partner they talk and listen to in order to share their ideas during the day. This not only benefits your child's emotional wellbeing, but also leads to improved learning and understanding.





SCHOOL FOCUS Playtime and Lunchtime



This academic year, we have invested in more playground equipment using funds raised from the Year 6 Enterprise Day and the Friends of St Thomas. We have been spending time modelling play to the children; they have even been learning new games suitable for playtime in their PE lessons.

Another focus for us this year is lunchtimes.

We are working with the children to promote good table manners and etiquette. We are encouraging them to use this time to talk and listen to their friends at their table as well as being adventurous and trying new foods.





SCHOOL FOCUS- Maths Mastery

This academic year, we have introduced the mastery approach to the teaching and learning of Maths at St Thomas's. Teaching for mastery assumes **everyone** can learn and enjoy mathematics.

A mastery approach means that pupils are taught through whole-class interactive teaching, enabling all to master the concepts taught. In a typical lesson, the teacher leads back and forth interaction, including questioning, short tasks, explanation, demonstration, and discussion, enabling pupils to think, reason and apply their knowledge to solve problems.

Key number facts are learned until they become automatic, and other key mathematical facts are learned deeply and practised regularly.





St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Ward Avenue, Grays, Essex, RM17 5RW

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Are you able to listen to children read?

Help with educational visits?

Help with school displays?

Assist with whole school events such as

Cultural Diversity Day or Sports Day?

WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR HELP

Please collect a form from the office.



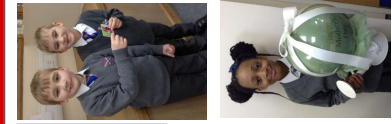
Follow us!

[St Thomas of Canterbury Primary School Grays Facebook Page](#)





Friends of St Thomas' Come and join us!

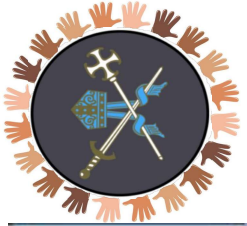


Mrs Foley, our Community Involvement Lead, is leading the establishment of the Friends of St. Thomas of Canterbury. If you would like to be a part of this parent support group, who come together to help raise much needed money for our school, you can contact our email address: friendsofstoc@stthomasofcanterbury.thurrock.sch.uk

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 Valentine's, Mother's Day and Easter. We will be arranging; fetes, discos, and other fundraising events **if we get enough volunteers.**

Look out for details of our next PTA/FOST meeting! If the only way you are able to support the school is by purchasing the things we have for sale; 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.