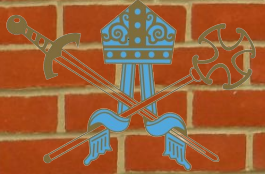
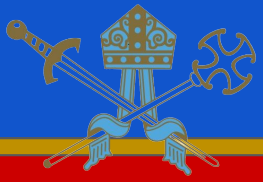


All children welcome

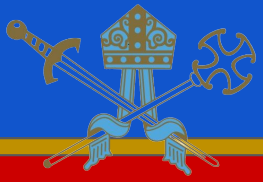




*St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School*

*Welcome*

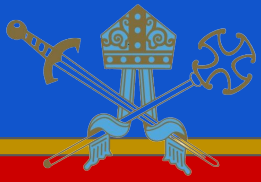




*St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School*

*Mrs Emilie Poultenev*  
*Headteacher*





# Introductions

Headteacher  
Emilie Poulteney

Assistant Headteacher  
Susie Coppin  
EYFS & Year 1

Assistant Headteacher  
Nikki Smith  
Year 2, 3, & 4

Assistant Headteacher  
Louise McAnally  
Years 5 & 6

SENCO  
Sylive Pellat

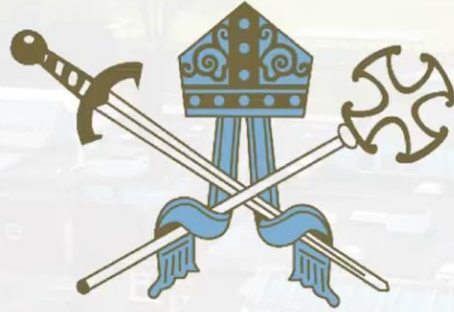
*Mrs Coppin - AHT*

*Ms Pellat - SENCO*

*Mrs Foley ~ EYFS Lead*

*Miss Kemi ~ EYFS Teacher*

*Mrs Hudson ~ Pupil Support Officer*



*St. Thomas of Canterbury  
Catholic Primary School*

*Large well resourced site:*

- *Shared field*
- *3 playgrounds*

*Founded  
1886*



*Diocese of  
Brentwood*

*Our school*



*St. Thomas of Canterbury  
Parish  
Fr. Stephen Myers  
Fr. Paschal*



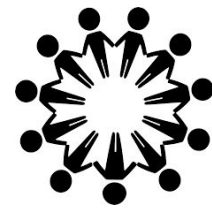
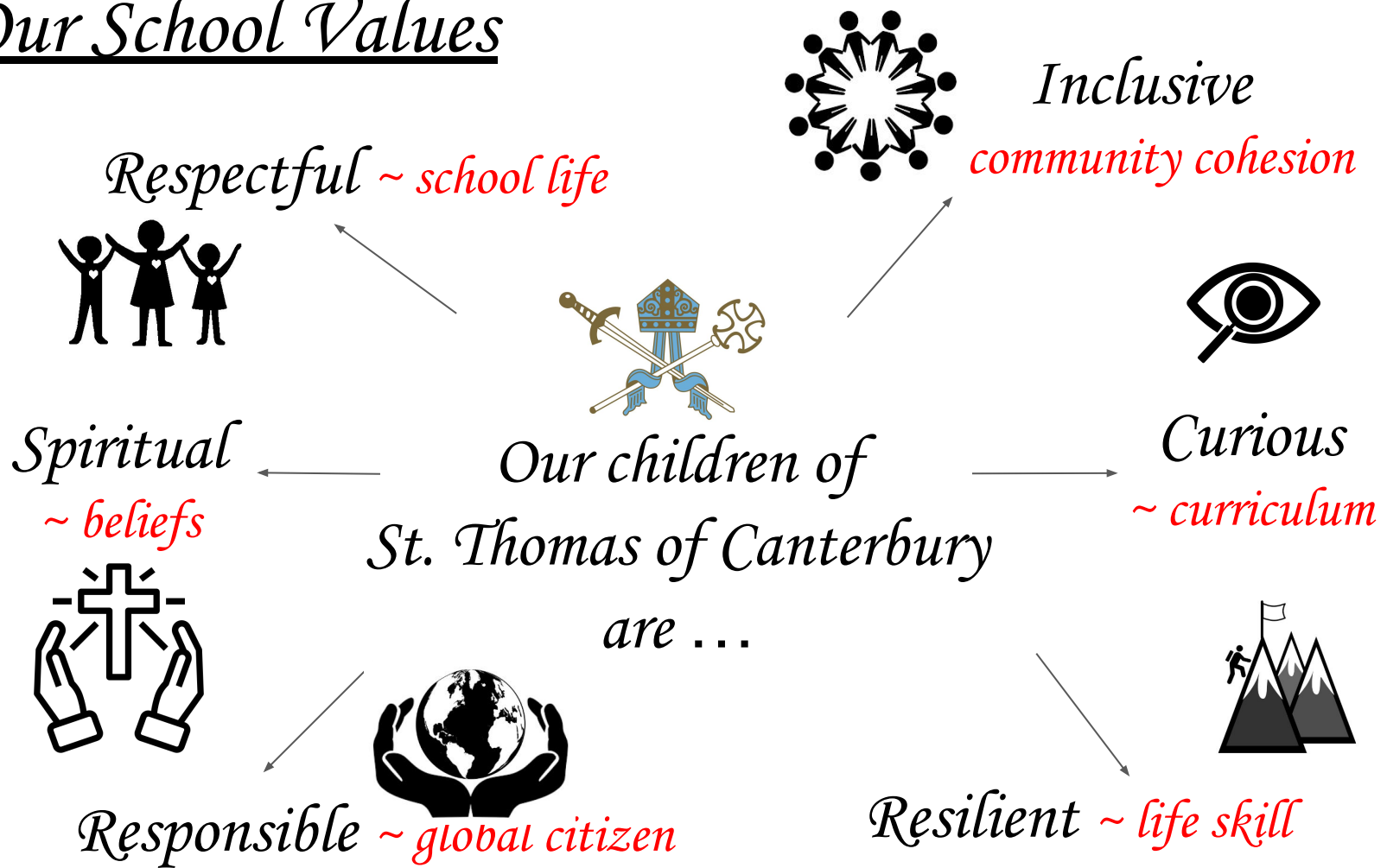
*Inclusive*

- *Celebrates Diversity*
- *English as an additional language*
- *Special Educational Needs*



*We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.*

# Our School Values





# Christus Catholic Trust

The schools of Christus Catholic Trust are unique and united in partnership and service to our communities and global home. We are:

- Uncompromising in our **ambition** to use the power of **collaboration** to ensure our pupils receive an **excellent** Catholic education.
- Have a strong culture of safeguarding in an environment where good mental health and wellbeing are nurtured.
- Have an **inclusive** approach to a high quality, **innovative**, contextualised education.
- Have high **aspirations** for all our pupils to achieve the best possible outcomes.

## Christus Catholic Trust Values

Ambitious Collaborative Excellent Innovative Service Nurturing





# Catholic Life and Mission

*Graded outstanding in our Catholic School Inspection July 2024*

## Links with Parish & Diocese

*Regular masses/services in school and at Church*

*Assemblies, Celebrations of the Word and Class Worship.*

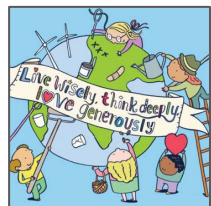
*Christmas Nativity, Carol Concert, Carol singing and Easter Production.*

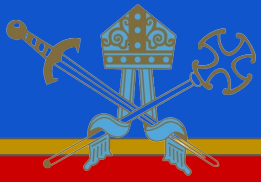
*Class visits from Father Paschal.*

*Brentwood Catholic Children's Society*

*Catholic Schools Citizenship Award*

*Church bazaar*





# Catholic Life and Mission



## Charitable work



*Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal*

*Thurrock Foodbank*

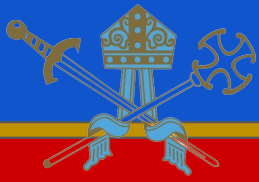
*Church bazaar*

*St Luke's Hospice*

*CAFOD Big Lent Walk*

*Leukaemia clothing drive*





# Home School Agreement

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

*Inform school of reason for absence*

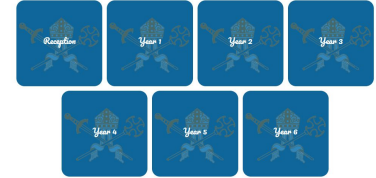
*Book holidays outside of term time*

*Drop off and collect your child on time*

*Support all school Policies:*

- Behaviour
- Uniform (labelled!)

Class Pages: 2024 - 2025



*Support with homework*



*Parents' Evenings*

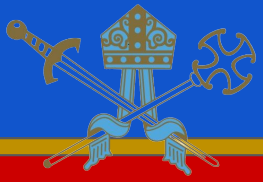
*Parent Information Meeting slides*

*EYFS- Evidence Me*

*Keep school informed of any concerns/problems*



KS



# Pupil Wellbeing

## The ZONES of Regulation®



Figure 2: Wall Posters of the Zones

Four zones that help us with self-regulation.

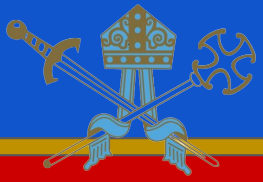
*Blue Zone - we are feeling tired, hurt, lonely, bored (not an ideal zone for learning).*

*Green Zone - we are feeling calm, focused, ready to learn (perfect zone for learning).*

*Yellow Zone - we are feeling annoyed, excited, frustrated (not an ideal zone for learning).*

*Red Zone - we are feeling worried, angry, out of control (not an ideal zone for learning).*





# Areas of Learning in EYFS

## The prime areas of learning:

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social and emotional development



## The specific areas of learning:

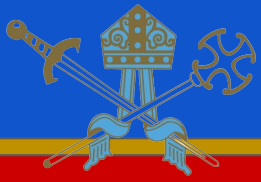
- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding of the world
- expressive arts and design



Reception Learning is not always clean!

KS

Please be understanding!



# Early Years Provision



Physical Development



Mathematics



Reading



Expressive Arts and Design

Our EYFS curriculum enables our children to be:

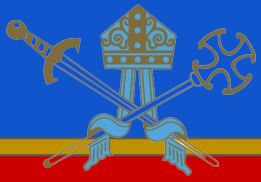
**Competent and creative learners**; who are curious about the world around them.

**Secure and confident**; who enjoy coming to school and learning new skills and knowledge building on their existing learning.

**Skilful communicators**; who connect with others through language and play, ensuring that they play in a vocabulary-rich



Parental engagement



# *A typical day*

We have short carpet sessions that comprise of teacher led inputs. The children are then given an opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills through various activities throughout the day. There is a longer session of Phonics (Read Write Inc) that the children participate in daily.

The children have access to the indoor and outdoor learning areas throughout the day.

The children work with adults, but also have the opportunity to develop their independence, social skills and friendships.

8.40am Come in, hang coat up and do some morning activities; dough disco, morning writing.

8.55am Register and lunch choices

9.00am Read Write Inc (Phonics)

10.00 am Reading (usually our core text focusing on comprehension and story skills)

10.30am Snack time

10.45 am Playtime

11.15 am Teacher input, continuous provision and adult-focused tasks (inside and out)

12.00pm Getting ready for lunch (12.15 pm lunch)

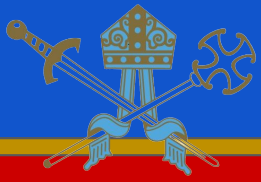
1.00pm Register and teacher input Maths

1.30pm Continuous provision and adult-focused tasks (inside and out)

2.45pm Story time/handwriting practice

NF 3.00pm Getting ready for home time, then home time at 3:15pm



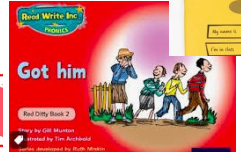
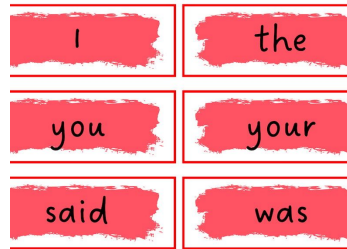


# Our expectations: We ask...

**Homework:** Evidence Me

**Reading:** RWI Sounds, tub sounds, Ditty sheets, red words, Bug Club, signing reading record, Oxford Owl, assessment after 3 weeks and usually every 6 weeks after that.

**Maths:** Numbots



NF



Date	Book title and page number	Comments
21/09	Scruffy	Pages 1-3
22/09	Ted	pages 1-3
23/09	..	pages 3-5
24/09	..	pages 3-5
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, sea'
23/09	..	Clare told me this book was like 'burial'
24/09	..	..
25/09	..	..
+ any additional books shared		

# *Fostering a love of reading- read for pleasure*



Children who read more, become better readers.  
They have a greater breadth of vocabulary  
Improved general knowledge  
More empathy  
Well being  
There is a proven positive relationship between reading frequency, reading enjoyment and attainment at school



# What can you do to prepare your child for school?





# *Become familiar with the school*



## *Stay and Play & school visits*

- *Thursday 25th June 2026 3.45-4.45pm*
- *Wednesday 1st July 2026 3.45-4.45pm*
- *Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd, Friday 4th September - meet the teacher*

# *Lunch at school*



# How we help to develop social skills:

## Supporting Your Child's Social Development

### How We Support at School

-  **Circle Time & Class Discussions**  
– Promoting sharing, listening, and empathy
-  **Structured Play & Group Activities**  
Encouraging cooperation, turn-taking, and friendship-building
-  **Emotion Coaching & Role Play**  
Helping children recognize and express feelings appropriately
-  **Positive Behaviour Strategies**  
Reinforcing kindness, respect, and conflict resolution
-  **Buddy Systems & Peer Support**  
Creating a sense of belonging and connection

### What You Can Do at Home

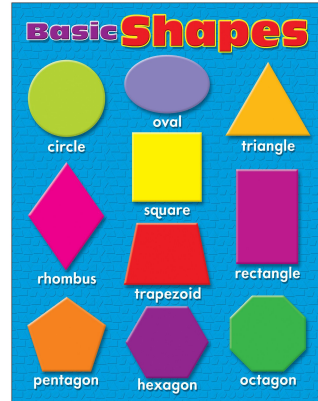
-  **Encourage Playdates**  
Help your child practice social skills in small, familiar settings
-  **Model Positive Interactions**  
Show how to listen, take turns, and express feelings respectfully
-  **Talk About Feelings**  
Use stories or daily events to explore emotions and empathy
-  **Praise Kind Behaviour**  
Highlight and reinforce moments of sharing, helping, and kindness
-  **Establish Routines**  
Predictable structure helps children feel secure and more socially confident



Sharing and Turn Taking.  
Encouragement to wait  
their turn.



# What does Early Maths look like?



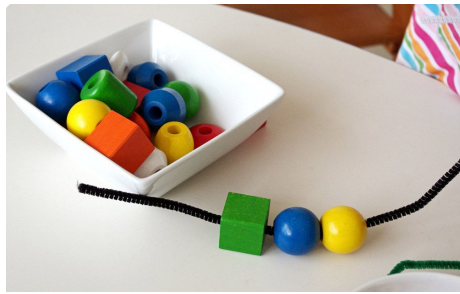
- Recognise numbers 1-10.
- Count objects to 10 (and beyond).
- Compare quantities (more, less and same).
- Explore shapes and patterns.
- Shape hunt/numbers on doors.

# *How we support Gross motor skills:*



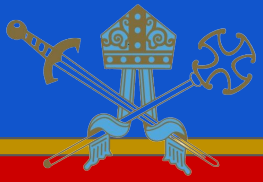
- Weekly PE lessons.
- Access to outdoor area daily (bikes and equipment).
- Ball games.
- Visit parks encouragement to use equipment there.

# How we support Fine motor skills:



We aim to support and strengthen children's fine motor skills.

**Why this matters:** It is important for everyday activities such as Writing, dressing, eating, using tools. **Examples:** Holding a pencil, buttoning a coat, using scissors.



# Free School Meals

## Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?

The Government is changing the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals, which means your child may now qualify. We encourage **all parents and carers to check and apply**, regardless of their circumstances.

**Please take a few minutes to check your eligibility and apply today:**

<https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/school-meals/free-school-meals>

Applying is quick, easy and confidential. Even if your child already receives free meals automatically, registering can help secure valuable **Pupil Premium** funding for our school.

### St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Ward Avenue Grays Essex RM17 5RW

Telephone 01375 375826

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

#### Headteacher

Mrs E Poulteney



June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?

The Government is changing the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals, which means your child may now qualify. We encourage **all parents and carers to check and apply**, regardless of their circumstances.

**Please take a few minutes to check your eligibility and apply today:**

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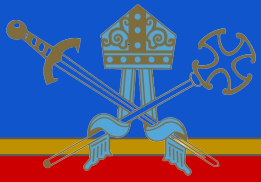
Applying is quick, easy and confidential. Even if your child already receives free meals automatically, registering can help secure valuable **Pupil Premium** funding for our school.

This additional funding helps us provide:

- Extra teaching support
- Additional resources for pupils
- Enrichment activities
- Educational visits and trips

If you need any help completing the online application, please contact the school office or pop in and our team will be happy to assist you.

Thank you for your continued support.



# What next?

The following is an outline of the induction for your child and yourselves into the life of our school.

*Thursday 25th June 2026 3.45-4.45pm*

## **'Stay & Play'**

Parents and children are invited to visit our Early Years Setting.

**Please bring along your completed New Entrant Form. Uniformwise will be attending.**

**Our SENCO Miss Pellat will be available so please speak with her if you have any concerns about your child.**

*Wednesday 1st July 2026 3.45-4.45pm*

## **'Independent Stay & Play'**

Children are invited to visit our Early Years Setting.

Parents will have the opportunity to meet other parents whilst enjoying refreshments in the hall.

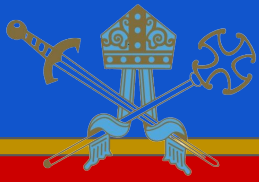
*Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd, Friday 4th September*

## **Visits to school**

You will be allocated an appointment for you and your child to visit their class teacher. This provides an opportunity for our staff to get a better understanding of your child and for you to inform staff of key information.

### **To Do:**

- ~ Add these dates to your diary
- ~ Complete New Entrant Form
- ~ Apply for Free School Meals
- ~ Plan when to purchase uniform
- ~ Talk to your child about their new school
- ~ Keep reading!



# September Start Dates

## September 2026 Start Dates

To ensure children experience a smooth transition we operate a staggered start system. By starting school in small groups, the children are able to familiarise themselves with their new surroundings, peers and teachers in a calm atmosphere. Staff can concentrate on welcoming each small cohort as they enter school and ensure all the children are happy and settled in their new school. Children will be invited to begin school on three different days:

**Monday 7th September**

**Wednesday 9th September**

**Friday 11th September**

You will be informed of start dates once classes have been allocated.

Please note: Children are not permitted to take holidays during term time.

Please refer to the term dates in your pack.

SC

September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025
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 29 30	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 29 30 31	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 29 30	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 29 30 31
January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	April 2026
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 29 30 31	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 29	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 29 30 31	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 29 30
May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	August 2026
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 29 30 31	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 29 30	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 29 30 31	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 29 30 31

Legend:  
☐ = School days  
☐ = School holidays  
☐ = Bank holidays  
☐ = Weekends  
☐ = INSET day (staff training) school closed to pupils  
☐ = School days allocated free non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term	Monday 1 September 2025 – Friday 19 December 2025 Half Term 27 October – 29 October	75 days
Spring Term	Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026 Half Term 16 February – 20 February	55 days
Summer Term	Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026 Half Term 23 May – 28 May, and May Bank Holiday – 4 May	65 days 195 days

Please note:  
The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies.  
You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.

# Uniform and after-school clubs

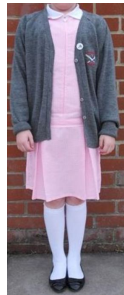
Uniformwise

38 – 40 High Street, Stanford Le Hope, Essex

01375 644744

[www.uniformwise.co.uk](http://www.uniformwise.co.uk)

*We offer a range of after school clubs!*



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



*We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.*



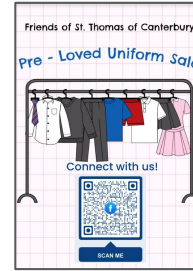
# Friends of St Thomas of Canterbury

Mother's Day and Father's Day gift sales



Freezy Fridays

End of year Community Celebration Day



Make the rules day - own clothes

Raising money for school equipment



Christmas events



Raffles  
SC



# *St Thomas of Canterbury Parent Heritage Group*



**At St. Thomas' we are committed to celebrating and embracing the many diverse cultures we have in our school.**

**Come and join our group and inspire our children to learn about and honour their culture and heritage.**

## **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.



# Follow us!

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

