



St Thomas of Canterbury School Newsletter

Week ending Friday 10th November 2023

Dear parents and carers,

We had an exciting start to the week when, on Monday, we elected our new Pupil Parliament. Very well done to our new parliamentarians. They had their first meeting on Wednesday where they elected their Chair and Secretary. As well as giving the children a voice in school, the Parliament have been tasked with helping to make our school more environmentally friendly. I'll keep you updated on their work. I would like to say a big thank you to all of the children who put themselves forward for election. It was a very close race.



Thank you for supporting us with providing children with a change of shoes. A number of children now have slippers of indoor shoes to help prevent the spread of mud throughout school. Please let me know if you need any help with this. Similarly, we have noticed that the children don't always have the right uniform. Do let us know if we can help with this. And do remember that the preloved uniform is still available in the entrance. Help yourself.

Thank you.
Have a good weekend
God bless
Mrs Clements

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

Monday 20th November – Parents Evening (In Person)

Wednesday 22nd November – Parents Evening (Virtual)

Friday 1st December – Y4 Class Assembly

Monday 4th December – 14:30 Supporting children with anxiety Parent Workshop

Monday 11th December - 14:00 Winter Warmer

Tuesday 12th December - Infant Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 13th December – Junior Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 13th December - Nativity

Friday 15th December – 13:30 Traditional Winter Warmer in Church

Friday 22nd December – School finishes at 12pm

Christmas Break – 25th December – 5th January

Monday 8th Jan – Pupils return to school

Tuesday 9th Jan – Year 5 Swimming lesson

Tuesday 16th Jan – Year 5 Swimming lesson

Tuesday 23rd Jan – Year 5 Swimming lesson

Friday 26th Jan – Y3 Class Assembly

Tuesday 30th Jan – Year 5 Swimming lesson

Tuesday 6th Feb – Year 5 Swimming lesson

Spring Half term – 12th – 16th February

Monday 19th February – INSET Day – No Pupils in School

Tuesday 20th February – Pupils return to school

Tuesday 20th February – Year 6 Swimming lesson

Tuesday 27th February – Year 6 Swimming lesson

Friday 1st March – Y2 Class Assembly

Tuesday 5th March – Year 6 Swimming lesson

4th – 8th March – Open Afternoons

A Prayer from our Class Teachers

Dear Lord,

Thank you for this opportunity to nurture the faith of the children in my care. By the power of your Holy Spirit, lead and guide me as I prepare this assembly and bless each and every child with an open heart and mind to hear your Word.

In your name, Jesus, Amen.

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day

Monday 11th March - Parents Evening (In Person)

Tuesday 12th March – Year 6 Swimming lesson

Wednesday 13th March - Parents Evening (Virtual)

Tuesday 19th March – Year 6 Swimming lesson

Friday 22nd March – Y1 Class Assembly

Easter Break – 29th March – 12th April

Monday 15th April – Pupils return to school

Wednesday 24th April – Class Photos

Friday 3rd May – Reception Class Assembly

Monday 12th May -SATS WEEK

Summer Half term – 27th – 31st May

Friday 7th June – Whole School Sports Day

Weds 19th – Fri 21st June – Year 6 Residential

24th – 27th June – Open Afternoons

Mon 1st July – Year 6 Crucial Crew Visit

Weds 3rd – Fri 5th July – Year 5 Residential

Tues 9th July – Year 6 Leaver’s show

Parish Events

Please see the attached church newsletter.

Medication

We will no longer be able to administer non-prescribed medication. Any medication required during the school day must be in its original packaging with prescription label. Medication request forms are available from the school office. More information can be found in our policy here:

http://www.st-tc.co.uk/images/First_aid_policy_2023.pdf

Headlice

We have been made aware of multiple cases of Headlice in KS2. Please can we ask that you check your child’s hair regularly. Please see the NHS website for more guidance: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Reading Volunteers

We are looking for fabulous reading volunteers available to read with children in the afternoons.

The ideal volunteer would be able to commit to one afternoon a week (1pm to 3pm) to read with our Key Stage 1 children.

For more information, please contact the school office on 0114 274 5597.

Class Blogs

We are thrilled to see that a lot of our parents are viewing our class blogs. The links to the class blogs can be found on our website: <http://www.st-tc.co.uk/>

If you would like to give consent for your child to be on their class blog and have not already done so, please complete the linked google form:

<https://forms.gle/8QEeB4Ecb6Y11KFJ7>

Blog consent is now part of our new starter paperwork, therefore children starting from September 2023 have already confirmed If they give consent or not, therefore you do not need to complete the google form.

First Holy Communion

For those making their First Holy Communion in 2024, please find a link below to the electronic form to complete by 24th November 2023.

<https://forms.gle/V658FdGyvKz18Na68>

Water bottles and healthy snacks

Please ensure that your child comes to school with a water bottle and that it is filled with water, children should not be bringing juice or any other drink other than water. Also, only healthy snacks are allowed at break time, sweets and crisps are not allowed.

Dress up clothes for EYFS

Our Reception and Pre-school class are in need of dress up outfits, we have a number of princess dresses, however if anyone has any alternative dress up costumes, for example doctors, firemen, builders etc., we would be very grateful.

Makaton Sign of the Week

This week’s sign is **Fire**.

Please click this link to see how it is done!

<https://youtu.be/Po2-loUAS9I?si=F2t9j7QWtfQBBFj5>



Fire (2) / Blaze

PE Days

Reception	Thursday PM
Year 1	Tuesday PM & Thursday AM
Year 2	Monday PM & Thursday PM
Year 3	Tuesday PM & Thursday AM
Year 4	Monday PM & Thursday AM
Year 5	Wednesday PM & Friday PM
Year 6	Wednesday PM & Friday PM

AM - children come to school in their PE kit and bring their uniform to change into.

PM - children should come dressed in their uniform, with their PE kit to change into.

Online Safety Update

To start the school year, we are revisiting the digital 5 a day – easy to follow, practical steps for children and parents to achieve a healthy and balanced digital diet. <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/digital/5-a-day/>

This week, try looking at number 4: Give to others. As well as being charitable, we can be giving in how we talk to people online. A ‘like’ and a kind comment letting people know that you appreciate what they have made is encouraging to others. Just be sure to stay safe and not give away personal information.

It is very important that if other people behave badly online, we report it to someone we trust keep our online community safe and respectful.