



ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16:14

Key Stage 1 Curriculum Advice for Parents/Carers Autumn Term 2026

Welcome back to the new academic year! It is so wonderful to have all the children back at school again. We would also like to note how impressed we are with how well they have settled in and how sensible they are all being with our new routines.

In addition to the Yearly Outline Curriculum Plan (available from the school website), this grid will give you more details of planned work for this term. We hope that you will be able to help your child to explore and discuss these areas as well as complete any homework tasks and activities. It is also essential to read with your child regularly, this will help with their fluency and understanding of a range of subject areas. Please make sure you note these reads in the home school diary so that we can track their progress in school.

All year groups will be having Maths and English lessons every day. We will be setting weekly spellings; suggested times table activities and other optional tasks. These will be posted on Google Classrooms each week as well as weekly updates on what your child will be learning in their Maths and English lessons. Please refer to the home school diary to find their log in details for this.

Thank you for your continued support.

Subject	Examples of areas we plan to cover
Art & Design	This term we will be learning about printing and using paint. We will be exploring ways we can create prints using different materials and looking at the work of other skilled printmakers.
Computing	In computing, the children will be introduced to early programming concepts. We will start the year by programming our new BeeBots using algorithms. We will then move onto using the computers and search engines to explore the importance of safe and effective searching. Children will use Purple Mash to summarise the information they have learned.
D&T	Children will look at a range of different types of garages for cars. After exploring different joining techniques, they will then design and make their own stable structure for a superhero car. Once they have made their stable structure, they will evaluate the effectiveness and think about ways they can make improvements.
Geography	Children will learn about the position of the continents, the oceans and a sense of circumnavigating the globe. They will develop their understanding of the layout and shape of the world and start to build a better understanding of their position in relation to other places.
History	When commemorating Remembrance Day, the children will develop their understanding of its origin and why poppies are important at this time. They will identify some famous War Memorials and learn about the role of animals during the war effort. The children will begin to learn about changes within living memory by exploring toys from today and then learning about toys from the past. As part of this, the children will be asking for your contributions of toys you played with when you were young! They will make comparisons with toys from different periods in history and think about how they have changed, and the reasons why.

A Christian community where children are known by name and loved, which empowers them to learn and to grow in faith, knowledge and fellowship.

Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 9BX

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Headteacher: Mr D. M. Moran



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Music	In our music lessons, we will start by exploring The Carnival of the Animals by Saint-Saëns. We will learn about ways that the composer has used instruments, rhythm, articulation, tempo, and pitch to create pictures of the animals in our imaginations. We will respond to the different movements of the piece through both movement and art. As the term progresses, we will turn our attention to more festive fare, focusing on preparing for our Christmas concerts.
P.E. and Games	In PE, pupils will explore and develop basic gymnastic actions on the floor and using apparatus. They will develop skills of jumping, rolling, balancing and travelling individually and in combination to create short sequences and movement phrases. In outdoor games, the children will develop their football skills. They will focus on dribbling, passing, attacking and defending as they engage in small-sided games each week. They will begin to develop agility, balance, co-ordination, speed and stamina. They will also work on their perseverance and determination to work for longer periods of time.
PSHE	Children will be discussing their hopes and fears for the coming academic year and how they can overcome them and make contributions to their class community. Then they will look at differences and similarities and how to overcome any issues and celebrate how different we all are.
R.E.	In RE, the children will be exploring 'How Christians belong to their faith family?' They will learn about the sacrament of baptism, examine Christian symbols and the idea of the church as a group of people and not just a building. Their second enquiry will be: 'Why light is an important symbol for Christians, Jews and Hindus?' They will explore the stories of Diwali, Hanukkah and the Christian belief of Jesus as the Light of the World.
Science	This term we will be focusing on animals including humans. We will begin by looking at a range of common animals and classifying them as mammals, birds, fish or amphibians, as well as looking at carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. We will continue by looking at the offspring of different animals and how they reproduce and will take an in depth look at the life cycle of a peacock. Finally, we will look at how humans grow and the environmental factors that affect the survival of animals and humans.

Please look at the school website for further details. The prospectus (which details how the different subjects are taught) is also on the website available for download - <https://www.stthomaspri.org/>

For further insights into life at our school, please follow us on social media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stthomascofeprimary>

Instagram: @stthomascofeprimaryschool

In addition, you may also wish to:

- ☺ research ideas at the local library and help your child to develop his/her library skills;
- ☺ search the internet for relevant websites and activities;
- ☺ watch relevant television programmes that may support their work, or visit a museum or place of interest;
- ☺ simply talk to your child about what they are learning!

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