

# St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Primary School

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



## Curriculum Update

### Spring Term 1 – Reception



Dear Parents/Carers,

This letter informs you about what your child will be learning at school in the first half of the spring term. We hope that you will be able to help your child explore and discuss these areas at home through some of the following ideas:

- researching areas at the local library and helping your child develop their library skills
- searching with them on the internet for child friendly material and relevant websites
- watching relevant television programmes that may support their work, or visiting a museum
- Read with them throughout the week. If they read 3 or more times, they will receive a raffle ticket which will be entered into the Golden Ticket Tea Party prize draw.
- **and, most importantly**, talking to your child about what they have done at school! Listen to what they have learned and praise their achievements!

Topic	Our Learning
<p><b>‘People Who Help Us’</b></p>  A colorful illustration showing various professionals including a police officer, a doctor, a teacher, a firefighter, and a cleaner, all labeled as 'People Who Help Us'.	<p>As we start this half term we will be thinking about Epiphany and learning about the Wise Men and their visit to Jesus. This continues all the hard work we have done learning about the story of Christmas.</p> <p>Next, we will learn about different faiths and the special books linked to that faith. The children will be taking a closer look at why they are special and what they mean to different individuals.</p> <p>We will be looking at the way a New Year is celebrated in China, and the story behind the order of the years. We will also learn some key facts about China, such as where in the world it is and how we can get there.</p> <p>We are excited to take a closer look at people around us that help others every day and how we can help others. We will start the topic by looking at those at home who help us, looking at the adults at school, our local area, dentists, doctors and postal workers, this will then lead into the emergency services and charities such as the RNLI. <b>If you or someone in your family would like to share what they do to help others we would love to hear from you, please email the school office or let your child's class teacher know.</b></p>

Through Maths we will be taking an in depth look at numbers from 0-5, building on the work we have already done when learning about our numbers. We will be comparing amounts and using vocabulary such as more, less, most, least and the same. We will look at what happens when you combine two numbers and if the answer becomes bigger or smaller. This will lead onto number bonds and working on recalling number facts. We are going to be ordering and comparing different objects in terms of height, weight and length and will develop our subject specific vocabulary. In Phonics we will be expanding our sound knowledge by learning more vowel digraphs and trigraphs. Don't forget to access your weekly decodable e-books for reading at home. These are closely matched to the sounds we have been learning in class, as well as books suitable for your child's phonic ability.

The children will build on the previous skills they have learned in regards to reading and being able to recognise a range of letters and match them to the correct sounds. The children will be encouraged to use a range of new vocabulary they have heard through stories and conversations linked to our topic in their play with others.

The teachers will be encouraging the children to share their thoughts with others and to express how they are feeling and if perhaps they are finding a task challenging and need some support. This will build up the children's resilience to keep on trying even if they find it hard.

Finally, please do let us know if you are available to come in to talk about your job.

**Thank you.**

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

