



ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Upper Key Stage 2 Curriculum Advice for Parents/Carers Autumn Term 2026

Welcome back to the beginning of a new academic year! It is so wonderful to have all the children back in 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!

We hope that this information will give you helpful details of planned work for this term, allowing you to be able to help your son/daughter explore and discuss these areas as well as complete homework tasks and activities. We know that children who talk to their parents about their learning make better progress! Please assist your son/daughter in exploring and discussing these areas.

All year groups will be having English and Mathematics lessons every day. We will continue to set spellings, suggest times tables or arithmetic activities and set other homework tasks which will be posted on Google Classrooms each week.

The most important way to help your children is to read with them on a daily basis. The more you read together the better they will do in school and (this is not an overstatement) in life! **"Families that read together succeed together!"** We encourage all children to read to somebody at home each day. Children should aim to read a range of genres during the school year. Please refer to and discuss our 'Bookopoly' reading scheme with your child.

Please continue to refer to the home school diary for general expectations, such as those relating to uniform (summer uniform expectations are in place until October half term).

Thank you for your continued support.

Subject	Examples of areas we plan to cover
Art & Design	We will be continuing to develop a range of techniques including observational sketching, drawing with colour and mixing, all with the aim of creating a fresco. We start with looking at still life drawings, which then leads us on to discovering the history behind the Maya Stelae created by Catherwood and creating our own versions of a Maya fresco.
Computing	In Computing this term, the children will be developing their coding skills using Purple Mash. Through the 2Code programme, they will learn key concepts such as loops, debugging and computational thinking, helping them to become confident problem-solvers and digital creators. Please feel free to explore 2Code at home with your child by accessing Purple Mash together. After half term, the children will study Gaming, where they will explore both the benefits and potential risks of online gaming. They will learn how to stay safe online, make responsible choices and consider the impact that excessive gaming can have on their wellbeing. In the final unit, the children will develop their word processing skills, learning how to create, edit and present documents effectively using Microsoft Office applications.
D&T	This term, we will be studying food and healthy lifestyles. We aim to study the history of Maya foods and some of the recipes that we still use today. We hope the children will enjoy trying a variety of different foods and learn the importance of a healthy diet.

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

Telephone: 01277 223651 admin@stthomaspri.essex.sch.uk www.stthomaspri.org

Headteacher: Mr D. M. Moran



BRENTWOOD COLLABORATIVE
PARTNERSHIP
COLLABORATE INSPIRE ACHIEVE



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



Instagram: @stthomascofeprimaryschool



ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Geography	This term, our geography unit is studying 'The World from Above'. Information is gleaned from satellite images and maps and the children will describe what they see and suggest reasons why the geography of the area is as it is. They will also explore the world's continents, their features, climates and biomes and think about human features including world cities and urban areas and make 3D models exploring topography to support their investigations.
History	This term, we will be studying the culture of the Ancient Maya. We will be looking at their buildings, beliefs, artwork and day-to-day life and comparing aspects of these with periods of history we have previously studied.
Music	In music, we will explore our musical appreciation and listen to and reflect upon orchestral music studying Beethoven and his Fifth Symphony. Influenced by this, we will compose our own music and evaluate our performances to make improvements.
P.E.	This term, the children will take part in a football unit, developing skills such as dribbling, passing, receiving, shooting and defending. They will learn how to use these skills in games, working as a team, communicating effectively, showing good sportsmanship and evaluating their performance. After half term, the children will learn and practise a range of hockey skills, including dribbling, passing, receiving, shooting and tackling. They will develop stick control and learn how to apply their skills in game situations, demonstrating teamwork, tactical thinking, fair play and self-evaluation. The children will also take part in fitness lessons, where they will learn what fitness means and develop their stamina, strength, agility and coordination through circuits, bodyweight exercises and team challenges.
PSHE	We will be thinking about 'Being Me in My World'; learning to value who we are and our new class members. We will also learn about our rights and responsibilities and how we need to respect ourselves and others. After half term, we will be working on a 'Celebrating Difference' unit and thinking about the importance and benefits of diversity in our world.
R.E.	In the first unit, we will be considering whether the Christian story of creation and science are conflicting or complementary. Later in the term, we will be exploring possible answers to why there is suffering in the world from different religious and world views.
Science	This term in science, children will be exploring how animals and humans grow and change throughout their different stages of development. We will also be looking in detail at the purposes and functions of the circulatory and digestive systems. We will investigate what constitutes a healthy diet and explore the impact of drugs and harmful substances on the body.
Spanish (MFL)	We will be learning about common foods served in Spanish cafes and the transactional language to order food, ask for the bill etc. We will extend our knowledge of numbers in the context of Spanish currency, and extend our understanding of masculine and feminine nouns and indefinite articles and determiners. After half term, we will be learning to describe the weather, days of the week and eventually present a weather forecast – all in Spanish!

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

Telephone: 01277 223651 admin@stthomaspri.essex.sch.uk www.stthomaspri.org

Headteacher: Mr D. M. Moran



**BRENTWOOD COLLABORATIVE
PARTNERSHIP**
COLLABORATE INSPIRE ACHIEVE



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



Instagram: @stthomascofeprimaryschool



ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

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!

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

Telephone: 01277 223651 admin@stthomaspri.essex.sch.uk www.stthomaspri.org

Headteacher: Mr D. M. Moran



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



Instagram: @stthomascofeprimaryschool



**BRENTWOOD COLLABORATIVE
PARTNERSHIP**
COLLABORATE INSPIRE ACHIEVE