



ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Lower School Curriculum Advice for Parents/Carers Summer Term 2024

Welcome back to the Summer Term! We hope this grid will give you helpful details of planned work for the new summer term ahead. Please assist your child in exploring and discussing these areas throughout the term.

For general expectations regarding school and home learning, continue to refer to your child's homework diary as well as Google Classroom. Weekly updates regarding maths and English lessons will be set on Google Classroom by your child's classteacher.

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 reading tree scheme with your child. **Year 4** children will also be set a comprehension task to complete each week at home. Spellings lists will continue to be set on Spelling Frame and we continue to encourage your child to use Times Table Rock Stars to practise their multiplication and division facts. You will also find weekly updates regarding taught lessons for your child's class on Marvellous Me.

Thank you for your continued support!

Subject	Examples of areas we plan to cover
Art & Design	Our artwork will be inspired by the artist Georgia O'Keefe. We will use our sketching skills and colour knowledge to produce pieces of plant art.
Computing	In computing, we will start off the term by learning about hardware and software. The children will be learning about the different parts of a desktop computer. We will then move onto coding using Microbits. Finally, we will finish the term by exploring animation on Purple Mash; the children will be producing a 'stop motion' animation.
D&T	We will be designing and making our own packaging ready to contain our home-cooked, healthy flapjacks. Whilst in the kitchen, we will be learning about basic food safety.
Games	For the first half term, classes will develop basic running, jumping and throwing techniques. They are set challenges for distance and time that involve using different styles and combinations. For the second half term, the children will take part in rounders lessons. They will explore their understanding of the principles of striking and fielding. They will learn how to score points by striking a ball into space and running around cones or bases. When fielding, they learn how to play in different fielding roles.
Geography	We will continue our topic on India. After locating the country on a world map and finding out about the diverse physical and human geography of this fascinating country, we will focus on life in the village of Chembakolli. In the second half of the term, we are planning to take the children on a field trip to explore the local area in Brentwood.
History	This term, the children will examine the Roman invasions of Britain and Boudicca's revolt. They will examine the impact the Romans made on the people of Britain and the legacy they left, which continues to have an influence on our lives today. We will also be visiting Colchester Castle, which links all the topics covered in History this year.

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Music	In music this term, we will start by exploring Gamelan music, which is the traditional music of Java and Bali in Indonesia. The children will learn and perform a piece of music using glockenspiels and compose their own melodies in groups. After half term, we will explore music from India to link with our Geography topic. This will include listening to extracts of music and recognising instruments as well as more opportunities to perform. The Year 4 classes will also be taking part in trumpet lessons from the Essex Music Education Hub.
P.E.	During our handball lessons, the children will develop their understanding of attacking and defending principles whilst thinking about how they use key skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition. The children will develop their understanding of the importance of fair play and honesty while self-managing games and learning and abiding by key rules, as well as evaluating their own and others' performances.
PSHE	For our first unit this term, we will be discussing different relationships. We will look at the roles and responsibilities of family members, identify and put into practice some of the skills of friendship and look at the actions and work of people around the world that influence our lives. After half term, we will begin to look at changes in animals and humans and identify why these changes are necessary. We will also identify what we are looking forward to when we move into a new class.
R.E.	The children will continue to examine and debate why Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday. The children will then think about what sort of world the Bible tells Christians that Jesus wanted for them. When considering the big question 'What sort of world should we live in?' the children will also examine both Hindu and Humanist ideas.
Science	In Science this term, we are studying plants. We will be exploring how plants grow in our school grounds, using and creating keys to identify flowers and trees. We will grow our own beans and cress.
Spanish	We will be looking at Spanish words for fruits as well as learning the vocabulary for expressing likes and dislikes to enable conversation. We will then read the story 'Handa's Surprise' in Spanish and write and perform our own version of the story.

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 -

www.stthomaspri.org

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