



**Welcome!**

**St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School**

*Being the best that we can be.*

Making **S=P+A+C+E** for learning

# Senior Leadership Team



## Leadership Team



**Kate Carter**  
Headteacher  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
ECT mentor



**Amy Grove**  
Assistant  
Headteacher:  
Teaching and Learning  
Year 6, St Mary  
Online safety Lead  
SLT



**Mark Jones**  
Assistant  
Headteacher: Pupil  
behaviour, Community  
and Extended Schools  
PE Leader, EVCo  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
PTA Liaison  
SLT



**Esther Sharpe**  
Assistant  
Headteacher: Data  
and Assessment  
Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
Year 6, St Mary  
English Team Leader  
SLT



**Nikki Davis**  
Year 1, St David  
RE Leader  
Pupil Voice  
SLT



**Sam Sumsion**  
EYFS, St Salvatore  
EYFS Leader  
S=P+A+C+E for  
EVERYONE  
SLT



**Caroline McNiff**  
Inclusion Leader  
SENDCo  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
SLT



# Welcome!

- What we are about
- School Improvement Priorities
- Safeguarding
- Partnership and communication
- Attendance
- What makes us special as a school

# What we are about

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**'The fundamental aim of all education is the promotion and development of the human person.'**



Vatican Document:  
'The Catholic School in the Third Millennium' 1997

# The Starting Point

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## Our Mission Statement

**God's love is at the heart of our Catholic School family.  
We show this in our respect, kindness and love for others and  
by treating other people as we wish to be treated ourselves.  
We will encourage everyone to be the best that we can be.**



# Always looking to be better

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“

Pupils are thriving in this school because dedicated staff prepare pupils for a happy and successful future.

Ofsted 2024

“

...a wonderfully happy and inclusive school.





## **School Improvement Priorities**

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Our focus as always is on doing the best for every child in our school and our Main Improvement Aims for 2025-26 reflect this:



## School Improvement Priorities

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- To develop oracy across the school
- Embed the new Prayer and Liturgy Directory across the school
- A focus on lunchtimes through playground zones, family dining
- To further explore viability of nursery provision



# Safeguarding and Pastoral Care



|                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Designated<br/>Safeguarding Lead<br/>(DSL)</b></p> <p><i><b>Mrs Esther Sharpe</b></i><br/><i><b>Assistant<br/>Headteacher</b></i></p> | <p><b>Deputy<br/>Designated<br/>Safeguarding<br/>Lead (DDSL)</b></p> <p><i><b>Mrs Kate Carter</b></i><br/><i><b>Headteacher</b></i></p> | <p><b>Deputy Designated<br/>Safeguarding Lead<br/>(DDSL)</b></p> <p><i><b>Mrs Jo Scott</b></i><br/><i><b>Home School Link<br/>Worker</b></i></p> | <p><b>Deputy Designated<br/>Safeguarding Lead<br/>(DDSL)</b></p> <p><i><b>Mr Mark Jones</b></i><br/><i><b>Assistant<br/>Headteacher</b></i></p> | <p><b>Deputy Designated<br/>Safeguarding Lead<br/>(DDSL)</b></p> <p><i><b>Mrs Caroline McNiff</b></i><br/><i><b>SENCO</b></i></p> |
|                                                           |                                                       |                                                               |                                                             |                                               |

# Partnership is important to us

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We foster positive partnerships between home and school.





# Partnership and Communication

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- The school office is open from 8.30am until 4.00pm.
  - Outside of these hours please leave a message on the answer phone or email [info@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk)
- Absences: please call the office number BEFORE 9.00am 01483 888388
- For general enquiries, medical issues, school meals:
  - Please contact Mrs Simpson, Mrs Read or Miss Farage on 01483 888388 or by email: [info@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk)



# Partnership with teachers

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Email Example: [mrsroyce@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:mrsroyce@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk)

Immediate Concern (in school hours) contact school office, [info@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk)

- If your child is taught in a class with a job share- please can you copy in both teachers.
- If your email is about pick up arrangements for your child please cc the office into your email as it is not always possible for teachers to access emails during school hours and it might not be seen in time.
- Please can we ask for emails to only be sent to teachers during their typical working hours.

# Partnership and Communications

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**NEW Website**

**Weekly News**

**Instagram**

**WhatsApp Groups**

**Our neighbours and parking**

# Our PTA

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- Nearly **£25,000** raised last year
- A classroom set of iPads
- Infant Hall Redevelopment
- Sound System for School Halls
- **Next: library refurbishment**



**PTA Chairs: Hana Gibbons and  
Olivia Hambrook**





# Coming Up: PTA Family Colour Run

Saturday 2pm  
St Peter's



# Parish Family: School Parish Masses

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- St Pius Church 9:15am Mass
  - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025
  - Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026
  - Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026

# Attendance



## ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

| Attendance | Days<br>Absent | Weeks<br>Absent | Lessons<br>Missed |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 95%        | 9 Days         | 2 Weeks         | 50 Lessons        |
| 90%        | 19 Days        | 4 Weeks         | 100 Lessons       |
| 85%        | 29 Days        | 6 Weeks         | 150 Lessons       |
| 80%        | 38 Days        | 8 Weeks         | 200 Lessons       |
| 75%        | 48 Days        | 10 Weeks        | 250 Lessons       |
| 70%        | 57 Days        | 11.5 Weeks      | 290 Lessons       |
| 65%        | 67 Days        | 13.5 Weeks      | 340 Lessons       |

89% & Below  
Drastic effect on  
academic achievement

95%-90%  
Cause for  
concern

100%-96%  
Excellent



# Attendance



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



LOST MINUTES  
=  
LOST LEARNING!

 **EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!**



**3**  
days lost



minutes late  
per day

**6.5**  
days lost



minutes late  
per day

**10**  
days lost



minutes late  
per day

**13**  
days lost



minutes late  
per day

**19**  
days lost  
EACH  
YEAR!



minutes late  
per day

**Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!**





# What makes our school special?



# At St Thomas of Canterbury

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1



**Making Space  
for Learning**

2



**Making Space  
for EVERYONE**

3



**Making Space  
for Life**

4



**Making Space  
for Me**

# Makes space for their learning

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**S**uccess

**P**erserverence

**A** positive Can-Do Attitude

**C**onfidence

**E**ffort


$$S=P+A+C+E$$





**A St.Thomas' Learner...**



# Makes **S=P+A+C+E** for their learning.



## **S=P+A+C+E** for learning

### **P**ersistence

A St Thomas' Learner...

NEVER GIVES UP  
TRIES AND TRIES AGAIN

*Isn't afraid to get things wrong*

*is resilient*

*Always gets involved and has a go*

### **A** positive, can-do *Attitude*

A St Thomas' Learner...

**BELIEVES IN THEMSELVES**

*Has a GROWTH mindset*

*Wants to take part*

*is always optimistic*

*Encourages others*

**LOVES LEARNING**

### **C**onfidence

A St Thomas' Learner...

*Is happy*

*Knows they CAN*

*Believes in the power of yet*

**LEARNS FROM THEIR**

**MISTAKES**

*Is happy to share*

*Knows they are valued and loved*

### **E**ffort

A St Thomas' Learner...

**Is always ready to learn**

**listens**

*Isn't distracted*

*Makes good use of time*

**WORKS IN THEIR CHALLENGE**

**ZONE**



# Follows the Listening Ladder.

## EYFS and KS1:



Say it in your own words

Ask a question to go deeper

Ask a question to understand

Look at the speaker

Be calm, still and quiet



Are you making  
**S=P+A+C+E**  
to **LISTEN?**

## KS2:



Summarise the speaker's words

Ask a question to go deeper

Ask a question to understand

React and refocus

Look at the speaker

Be calm, still and quiet



Are you making  
**S=P+A+C+E**  
to **LISTEN?**



# Keeps our presentation policy.

## **The St Thomas' Presentation Promise**

As **St Thomas' Learners** we aim to be the best that we can be and so I promise:

To take real pride in everything I do

To always use my best handwriting

To respect my books and keep them free of doodles and scribbles

To put the date and Learning Title on every piece of work at the top left of my page

To always underline using a ruler

To use a sharp pencil or a good handwriting pen for my writing (always a sharp pencil for my maths)

To use a sharp pencil for every drawing or diagram

To make sure I use every page in my book

To put a single, neat line through my mistakes

To write carefully on the lines in my books

To make sure I glue things into my book as neatly and carefully as I can – straight and the right way up!



# Is ready, respectful and safe.



Ready



Respectful

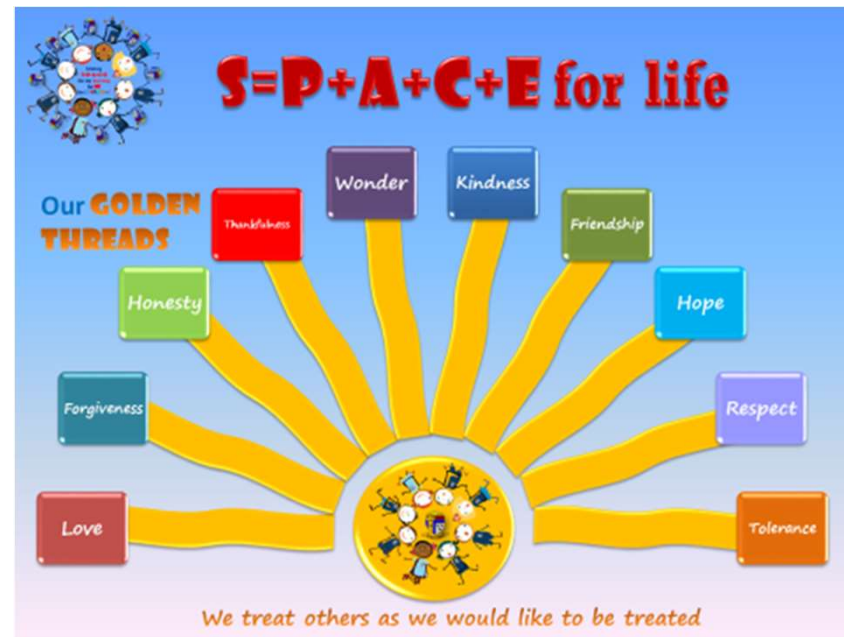


Safe





**Treats others the way they  
would want to  
be treated.**





# Making space for Life



## Our Golden Threads



We treat others the way we want to be treated.

# Making space for ME



# Making space for Everyone

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Open door...

**THANK YOU!**



# St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Horseshoe Lane West, Merrow  
Guildford, Surrey GU1 2SX

Tel: 01483 888388

Email: [info@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk)

Our Headteacher is Mrs Kate Carter

The Chair of our Local Governing Committee (LGC) is Mrs Nicola Powell

<https://www.st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk>

