



# Welcome to St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Being the best that we can be



# Welcome to Year 1!



# Senior Leaders at St Thomas



## 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

# Year 1 Teaching Team

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1R, St. Rose: Mrs Bond (Mon-Tues) and Mrs Royce (Weds-Fri)

1T, St. Theodore: Mrs Terracotta and Mr Jones (Mon)

LSAs (Learning Support Assistants):

Mrs Primrose, Mrs Middleton and Mrs Pereira



# RE: RED Curriculum

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Our branches covered throughout the year:

Creation and Covenant

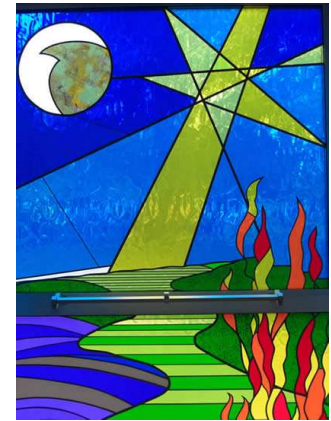
Prophecy and Promise (Advent – Jesus' birth)

Galilee to Jerusalem (Jesus's life)

Desert to Garden (Lent – Jesus' death and resurrection)

To the ends of the earth (Ascension and Early Church)

Dialogue and Encounter (Other Christian faiths and other faiths)



# RE: Prayer and Liturgy bags

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These will be sent home on a Monday or Thursday.

If you receive the Prayer and Liturgy bag on a Monday, please return it on Thursday.

If you receive the Prayer and Liturgy bag on a Thursday, please return it on the following Monday.

# Maths:

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Our teaching for mastery approach in mathematics allows all children to deepen their understanding and conceptual awareness through a carefully planned series of lessons. Children will develop their mathematical:

- **Fluency** – Rapid and accurate recall and conceptual understanding,
- **Reasoning** – Use of mathematical language to explain how you know something and making generalisations,
- **Problem solving** – Using and applying mathematical knowledge to solve problems.
- **Arithmetic** – mental maths strategies and knowledge.

Where maths can be taught and explored through real-life contexts, we seek to offer these opportunities to children too.

# Maths: Key Instant Recall Facts



KIRF's are the fundamental facts which children need to memorise to achieve fluency and confidence in maths.

These include things such as number bonds, times tables and doubling. By mastering these facts children have a much stronger foundation to tackle more complex mathematical tasks.

This year you will receive a document which highlights the key facts which you can support your child with at home, we have included some suggestions to help.



## Year 1

Below are the key instant recall facts (KIRF) your children should be confident with by the end of Year 1. KIRF are the fundamental facts which children need to memorise to achieve fluency and confidence in maths. These include things such as number bonds, times tables and doubling. By mastering these facts children have a much stronger foundation to tackle more complex mathematical tasks.

### Autumn

- Count forwards and backwards to 20
- Know number bonds to 5
- One more and one less within 10

### Spring

- Count in 2s, 5s, and 10s
- Doubles of numbers to 10
- Know number bonds to 10

### Summer

- Halves of even numbers to 10
- One more and one less within 20
- Count to and across 100

### Tips for Practice at Home:

1. Use flashcards or apps like Times Tables Rockstars
2. Conversions in everyday contexts (e.g. cooking, measuring)
3. Have quick-fire quizzes in the car or at dinner
4. Building blocks or counters to explore shape and number
5. Shopping to explore adding, multiplication and money

# Maths:

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What is NumBots?

NumBots is an online maths learning platform that helps children learn how to add and subtract, improving their fluency and recall in basic mental maths, and equipping them with maths confidence.

Why is NumBots important?

Basic number skills are the essential building blocks for higher-level maths concepts. NumBots covers number recognition, number bonds, and addition and subtraction of double digit numbers; gradually helping your child to build a solid conceptual understanding of number sense.

Numbots recommend a little and often approach- 3 minutes practice an day 4 times a week. This is just guidance.

# Teaching Phonics: Little Wandle

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- Our school has chosen Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised as our systematic, synthetic phonics (SSP) programme to teach early reading and spelling.
- This will be taught in EYFS, Year 1 and in Autumn 1 in Year 2.
- All phonic intervention programmes across the school will use Little Wandle 'Keep Up' and 'Rapid Catch Up' programme material.
- All children must read phonetically decodable books. This means books that they can read with 90% accuracy.
- More information on Little Wandle can be found here:  
<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>



# Reading in school

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We teach phonics daily. Year 1 begin the Autumn term with 3 weeks of revision of phases 2, 3 and 4 before learning phase 5, which will be completed by the end of the year.

Little Wandle reading practice sessions are:

- timetabled 3 times a week
- taught by a trained teacher/teaching assistant
- taught in small groups.

We read many stories with the children throughout the week. We want them to develop a love for reading!

# Reading at home

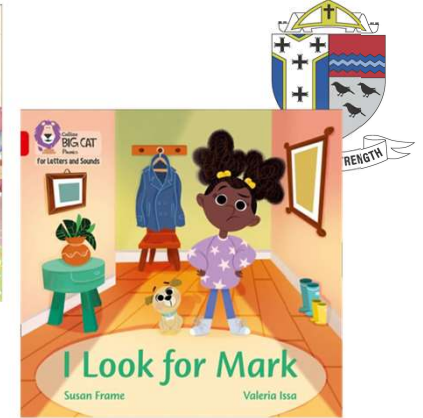
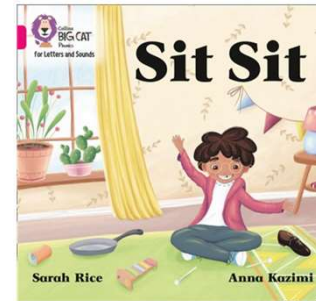
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## Little Wandle (RS) (home Fridays, return Mondays)

Your child should be able to read their book without your help.

If they can't read a word, encourage them to use their phonics and then read it to them if necessary.

Talk about the book and celebrate their success. There are questions in the back of the books.



## Story sacks (RP) (home Mondays, return Fridays)

The shared book is for YOU to read to your child. Make the story sound as exciting as you can by changing your voice. Talk with your child as much as you can. Introduce new and exciting language and encourage your child to use new vocabulary. Find different words to use. Describe things you see.

# Reading

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The most important thing you can do is read with your child

Reading a book and chatting had a positive impact a year later on children's ability to...

- understand words and sentences
- use a wide range of vocabulary
- develop listening comprehension skills.

The amount of books children were exposed to by age 6 was a positive predictor of their reading ability two years later.

*Parental involvement in the development of children's reading skills: A five-year longitudinal study (2002) Senechal, M. and Lefvre, J*

# Reading for pleasure

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Please encourage your child to read books that they want to read – as well as their school book.

Reading to your child is as important as hearing them read.

Please record all reading in their reading record books.

If it is a school book please record the name of the book followed by (RS). RS = Reading Scheme.

If it is a book they have chosen to read for pleasure, record the name of the book followed by (RP). RP = reading for pleasure.

Make use of the local library, book swaps, charity shops etc.

Our ultimate aim is to get children reading because they love it!



# Developing as writers

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We will revisit how to form each of the letters correctly (lower case and capitals).

Joining letters is introduced in Year 2.

We will focus on accurate sentence structure – capital letters, full stops, finger spaces and re-reading for sense.

## Writing genres:

- Recounts
- Instructions
- Lists
- Stories

# Developing as writers

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Being the best we can be.... as writers...

Use of coloured pens:

- **Green for go Green-** Green for capital letters at the start of a sentence (and for all proper nouns)
- **Red for stop-** Red for full stops and all other forms of punctuation- commas, exclamation marks, question marks, colons, semi colons, inverted commas etc
- **Purple power-** Purple for improving, editing and reflections
- **Blue/Black** for teacher marking

# Spelling

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- A new spelling pattern/rule of 4 words and 2 tricky words will be introduced each week.
- For homework, children need to practise these words at least 3 times during the week.
- They also need to write at least 1 sentence using these words. As they progress and if they are ready, children will be asked to write more sentences.
- Remind children about sentence construction;
- CL (capital letter), FS (finger spacing) & FS (full stop).
- They can use a green pen for capital letters and a red pen for punctuation marks.

# Spelling Homework

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- Please encourage children to start early in the week- it is set on **Tuesday** and collected in on **Monday**.
- Talk about the rule and spot the pattern or ‘tricky’ part in the words.
- When reading, encourage your child to point out the sound/ rule they have been learning that week.
- The child’s confidence in spelling these words will be assessed in a dictation every **Monday**.

# Autumn Term: Toy Story

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- **History:** Sort pictures of old and new toys, Timeline of a teddy bear, Comparing a modern day toy with a toy from Queen Elizabeth II childhood. Chertsey Toy museum come into school 23<sup>rd</sup> September.
- **Geography:** Features of an Atlas, Name and locate the continents and oceans of the world, Name countries of the UK and their capital cities
- **Science:** Recognise and name materials, describe simple properties, compare and group together everyday materials
- **Art and DT:** Mark making, texture, light and dark and draw a Teddy Bear. DT is building free standing structures linked to toys. Save up your toilet rolls.
- **Computing:** Online Safety & Information Technology
- **English: Reading and Phonics:** We will be following The Little Wandle scheme for reading and phonics. Writing opportunities will link to our topics as well as texts, such as 'That Rabbit belongs to Emily Brown' and 'The Koala Who Could'. Concentrating on correct letter formation in handwriting. Grammar - capital letters and full stops. How to compose a sentence – oral rehearsal and checking it makes sense.
- **Learning for Life:** Online Safety, Classroom rules, Special People, Feelings, Good friends

# Spring Term: A trip down memory lane

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- **History:** changes within living memory, comparing an area of our school – past and present. Grand parents Tea Party – Grandparents can come in with old items or photos and share memories of their childhood. In return we will give them cake and entertainment.
- **Geography:** Directional language, Compass points, landmarks in the local area, compare and contrast a village with a town.
- **Science:** Seasonal change, identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Trip to Alice Holt 10<sup>th</sup> March 26.
- **Art and DT:** Jesus Light of the World: Study of painting, making healthy wraps which will be served at the Grandparents tea party.
- **Computing:** Online safety, Digital Painting
- **English:** Poems on Seasonal Change, The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark
- **Learning For Life:** Online Safety, Treat People Well, What makes us healthy, Being safe

# Summer Term: Planes, trains and automobiles



- **History:** changes in time with transportation. Trip to Brooklands Museum 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- **Geography:** identify natural and human made, observe houses
- **Science:** identify and name a variety of deciduous and evergreen trees, identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of trees, identify and name a variety of garden plants. Seasonal change Spring to Summer.
- **Art and DT:** Frieda Khalo inspired art, self portraits, leaf tile design, and we will study wheels and axles and make our own car.
- **Computing:** Online Safety, exploring the keyboard, adding and removing text, exploring the toolbar, making changes to text
- **English:** Artist Study: Frieda Khalo, Poems on Seasonal Change, *Smeds and Smoos*, Ada LoveLace/ Non chronological report
- **Learning for Life:** Pass on the praise! I can eat a rainbow, inside my wonderful body, taking care of a baby

# Outdoor Learning

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# Outdoor Learning

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# Outdoor Learning

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# Outdoor Learning

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# Year group key information

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PE Days: Every other Tuesday (Week A = 1R, Week B = 1T) and every Wednesday.

PE Kit reminders:

Please ensure your child comes in their PE kit on the appropriate days and that PE jumpers are fully named.

If your child has a sports club, they may come into school in their PE kit for that day.

# Forest School

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Forest School dates:

Autumn Term 2025

St. Theodore – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September

St. Rose – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September

Spring Term 2026

St. Theodore – 9<sup>th</sup> January

St. Rose– Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January (tbc)

Clothing:

- Long-sleeved t-shirt, to prevent scratches or stings
- Comfortable long trousers, to prevent scratches or stings.
- Wellies or outdoor boots, waterproof and comfortable is essential.
- In cold or wet weather, wear waterproofs, warm jogging bottoms a hat, gloves, and a warm coat. Don't forget to layer up! You can always remove items if needed.
- In warm or sunny weather, keep shoulders covered, wear a sunhat, sun cream.

# Key dates for Year 1

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Advent Service: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December (pm)

Class worships: 1R – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

1T – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Prayer service: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October

## Other significant dates

-Chertsey Museum Workshop: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

-School Photos: Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November

-SPACE day: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December

-Trip to Alice Holt: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March

# Parent Evening Dates this year

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## Autumn Term:

Wednesday 15th October (remote)

Monday 20th October (in person)

## Spring Term

Tuesday 10th February (in person)

Wednesday 25th February (remote)

# Year 1 Routines

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- Art overall – named
- Waterproof coat with hood - named
- SPACE for Me (linked to our topic) – Fridays
- Class Sketchbook and Barnaby Bear returned by Friday
- Little Wandle Reading books will be sent home on a Friday and should be returned by Monday.
- A story sack for your child to share with you will come home on a Monday and should be returned by Friday.
- Tissues and Pritt Sticks please 😊
- Please email the office if your child is being picked up/ going home with someone different at the end of the day

# Year group key information



## Learning at a Glance



St Thomas of  
Canterbury Catholic  
Primary School

[Home](#) [Our School](#) [Learning](#) [Catholic Life](#) [Admissions](#) [Parents](#) [Policies](#) [PTA](#) [Contact Us](#)



**This Week's Learning at a Glance**

**Annual Calendar 2025-26**

**Weekly Newsletters 2025 - 26**

**School Uniform**

**The School Day**

**School Clubs and Activities**

**Breakfast and After School Club**

**School Meals and Packed Lunches**

**Home Learning with Google Classrooms**

**Parent Learning Workshops**

# Uniform Reminders

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Please can all coats, sweatshirts, sunhats, water bottles and lunch boxes be named

Jewellery: simple crucifix may be worn and if a child has their ears pierced, earrings must be plain studs

[Link](#) to the website with year group specific guidance on school uniform

Layers for the winter - base layers/thermals/ vests

# Extra considerations

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- Healthy snacks of fruit or vegetables to be brought in for the mornings.
- We will provide an afternoon snack.
- If you would like to bring in something for your child's birthday, then reading books for the class to enjoy are always very welcome! Please do not bring in any type of food.

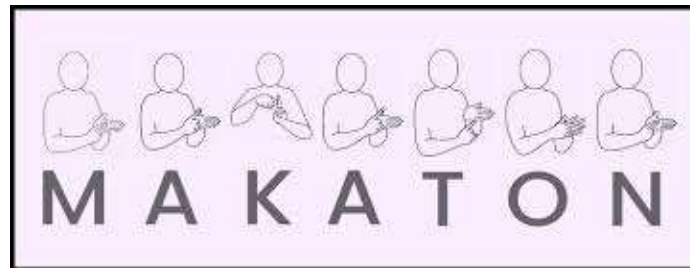
# Other Reminders

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- Please notify THE OFFICE if your child is being picked up/ going home with someone other than their parent at the end of the day.
  - Check Year 1 Learning At A Glance every week
  - Check the Weekly Newsletter
  - Thank you so much to our Class Reps!
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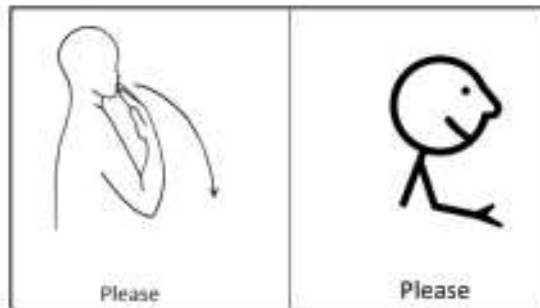
# Makaton



Good morning



Good morning



Please



Please



Thank you



Thank you



To sit



To sit



Toilet



Toilet

# Weekly Awards

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- Successful and Confident St Thomas' Learners: Making **S=P+A+C+E** for learning
- GOLDEN RULE: Following our **GOLDEN THREADS**
- Making **S=P+A+C+E** for **EVERYONE**
- Making **S=P+A+C+E** for **ME**: Healthy choices
- Being a Responsible Role Model
- Wonderful Writing
- **GREEN AWARD** Looking after the environment



**Mrs Carter has an open  
door policy**

**Please always feel you can call,  
email or meet to talk**

**THANK YOU!**

