

# St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

*Where every child is special*



## Year Four Summer 2026

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

# Our learning in Year 4

At St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School we have just one school rule, our **Golden Rule**:

**We treat others as we would like to be treated**

We reflect on this in school each week through our **GOLDEN THREADS**: 10 ways in which we can understand and follow our **Golden Rule**.

We teach the children how to be a St Thomas Learner. This includes:

- Making S=P+A+C+E for their learning

**A St Thomas' Learner** makes **S=P+A+C+E** for their learning

We believe that **St Thomas' Learners** can achieve **S**uccess through **P**erseverance together with a really positive **A**ttitude, **C**onfidence and, of course, **E**ffort.

Throughout this year we will be working on the Learning skills that lie behind these key attitudes to help each of us to improve as learners and to make the most of every opportunity that comes our way – our **S=P+A+C+E** skills.

## **P**erseverance

**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 **A**ttitude

**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**

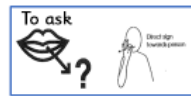
**listens**

**Isn't distracted**

**Makes good use of time**

**WORKS IN THEIR CHALLENGE ZONE**

- Following the listening ladder



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?**

- Keeping 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!

- Being ready, respectful and safe



Ready



Respectful



Safe

- Treating others the way they would like to be treated



This academic year we are having a whole school focus on what it means to be "Ready, Respectful and Safe." We will look at why this is important and how to demonstrate this in lessons, at lunch times, in the corridors and at playtimes. This is a theme you could talk to your child about over the year ahead.

We build our resilience and foster our mental health and wellbeing by: **Making S=P+A+C+E for ME**



At St Thomas' we celebrate who we are by making

**S=P+A+C+E for EVERYONE**

*Based on Paul's letter to the Corinthians 12:1-31*

A celebration of belonging, of uniqueness and community

**EVERYONE** is welcome here

As part of our School family, as part of God's world.

Who is everyone?

**EVERYONE** ...

Different and unique  
Equal and respected  
Loved and belongs

**YOU** are **EVERYONE**



## Transition Day to Year 5: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026

Our Transition Day is a very important day for the children and begins with a whole school assembly followed by a carefully planned day. The children spend the time with their new teacher in their new classrooms.

The objectives of this day are:

- To establish a smooth transition for the children
- To give the children an opportunity to meet their new teacher and foster a sense of belonging in the new class
- To establish with the children the expectations for the new school year through discussion about our Mission Statement, our aims and the golden rule
- To give the children a taste of the learning and experiences to look forward to in the year ahead

## Learning in Year 4

### Learning Link:

**Our Learning Link this term is going to be 'The Amazing Amazon.'**

### Special Events:

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Back to School
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Whole School Mass
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	4W Class Worship
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Ascension Mass
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Open Afternoon
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	School Parish Mass at St. Pius 9:15am
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Multiplication Tables Check Window
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Class Photos
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day at school – morning only
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	4W Forest School
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET Day – no school for the children
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	4G Forest School
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Trip to the Living Rainforest
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Transition Day and Whole School Open Afternoon
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year reports home
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Family Picnic after school
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term – 2pm

### Key skills we are focusing on:

#### **Our S=P+A+C+E Skills, including:**

- Applying my knowledge
- Problem solving
- Taking responsibility
- Contributing
- Communicating
- Evaluating
- Reflecting
- Risk taking
- Working as a team

### Challenge and Celebration:

We will be setting a range of challenges during our 'Rainforest Day' S=P+A+C+E celebration. These will include preparing and tasting fruits from the rainforest, designing a creature adapted to live in the rainforest and creating a rainforest collage in the style of Henri Rousseau.

### Homework:

**Reading:** In Year 4 we ask children to read at home every day for 10-20 minutes. As they become fluent, it is not necessary for every session to be reading aloud to an adult, but they should do this twice a week and regularly discuss their books using questions in their Reading record books. Please could parents record the number of questions from the sheets that children are answering in the reading record books.

**Spelling:** Each week, the children will be set a list of spellings to learn for homework. Sometimes the spellings will follow a pattern/ rule and sometimes they will be statutory words that do not follow a set rule. We ask that children practise the words at home at least 3 times during the week (in this book) and then write at least 5 sentences using the spellings. Each sentence should contain at least one of the spelling words. These spellings will be tested each week by a test and a short dictation.

**Maths and SPaG:** Once a week, children will be set a weekly workout in their CGP maths and SPaG books. This will be set on a Monday and due in to be marked with the children on the following Monday.

Sometimes other homework may be set during the week, such as learning words for a performance, items to bring in or a research task.

### Resources

Your child has their school pencil case. Replacement handwriting pens, pencils, rulers, rubbers and pencil sharpeners will be available to buy from school.

The Year 4 team would like to thank you in advance for your support and look forward to a safe, healthy and successful term.

### Contacts:

4G St. Gemma Mrs Grove  
4G St. Gemma Mr Jones (Friday)

[mrsgrove@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:mrsgrove@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk)  
[mrjones@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:mrjones@st-thomas.surrey.sch.uk)

4W St. Wilfred Mrs Burnip

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

## Year 4 Summer Medium Term Plan

<p><b>Learning Link: The Amazing Amazon</b></p>	<p>This term we will be learning about the Amazon Rainforest and the plants and animals that live there. We will be exploring the differences between the Amazon climate and our own, and how the people and creatures have adapted to live there. Crucially, we will be learning about how important rainforests are to our planet's health and how we should protect them. As part of this learning journey, we will be reading and writing stories from the Amazon as well as writing persuasive letters. We will also be finding out about how rainforests have inspired artists and musicians.</p>
<p><b>RE</b></p>	<p><b>To The Ends of the Earth</b> <i>'Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'</i> (Mt 28:19).</p> <p><b>Dialogue and encounter</b> For <i>"In him we live and move and have our being"</i> (Acts 17:28)</p>
<p><b>English</b></p>	<p><b>Reading:</b> Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson Forest Fighter: The Story of Chico Mendes by Anita Ganeri</p> <p><b>Writing:</b> Diary entry Narrative News reports Animal description – non-chronological report Persuasive Letters Poetry</p> <p><b>Grammar:</b> Punctuation Subordinate clauses including conjunctions Direct and Indirect Speech Standard and Non-Standard English</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p>	<p><b>Decimals:</b> adding and subtracting decimals, fraction and decimal equivalence, dividing by 10 or 100, rounding decimals and solving problems.</p> <p><b>Money:</b> comparing different amounts of money and solving problems.</p> <p><b>Time:</b> Learning about different units of time and how to convert between them.</p> <p><b>Statistics:</b> interpret and present discrete and continuous data using appropriate graphical methods, including bar charts and time graphs</p> <p><b>Geometry:</b> covering angles and 2D shapes.</p> <p><b>Consolidation of the Year 4 Curriculum in preparation for Year 5.</b></p>
<p><b>Science</b></p>	<p><b>Changing States:</b> Exploring the different states of matter (Solids, Liquids and Gases) and their properties.</p> <p><b>Living things and their habitats:</b> Learning about grouping, classification skills and food chains that exist within ecosystems on our planet.</p>
<p><b>Art</b></p>	<p><b>Journey through Art:</b> Exploring different artists and their techniques including Henri Rousseau (collage), Georges Seurat (pointillism) and Marianne North (botanical art).</p>
<p><b>DT</b></p>	<p><b>Money Purses/Wallets:</b> Developing our research, design and sewing skills in this textiles project.</p>

<b>Computing</b>	<p><b>Online safety:</b> Learning about security online and understand our digital footprint and identity online.</p> <p><b>Photo editing:</b> Changing and retouching digital images and recognising images that have been digitally altered.</p> <p><b>PowerPoint presentations:</b> Creating and delivering informative presentations all about the Amazon Rainforest.</p> <p><b>Programming:</b> Understanding Programming using Crystal Rainforest. Using Scratch to design our own game.</p>
<b>Geography</b>	<p><b>The Amazon Rainforest:</b> Studying maps of the world and South America to identify the location of the Amazon and other rainforests. Looking at the differences between temperate and tropical rainforests. Focus on the Amazon Rainforest, its climate, structure and animal inhabitants. Learning about the importance of the Rainforest, the threats it faces and what can be done to protect it.</p>
<b>PSHE – Learning for Life</b>	<p><b>What am I feeling?:</b> Emotional Well-Being helps children to understand the difference between feelings and actions, how to manage them and what they can do to help themselves stay emotionally healthy.</p> <p><b>Me, My Body, My Health:</b> Children will learn to celebrate similarities and differences, and to appreciate and look after their bodies as gifts from God. Teaching also covers specific physical and emotional changes during puberty, and that growing from boys and girls to men and women is part of God’s loving plan for creation.</p>
<b>French</b>	<p>Revisiting the months of the year and learning the seasons.</p> <p>Learning about the weather and working with a partner to give a weather forecast in French.</p> <p>Reading and understanding a story about the weather, ‘Quel temps fait-il , Berthe?’</p> <p>Learning about sports and saying which we like and dislike.</p>
<b>Music</b>	<p>This term will have two areas of learning. Firstly, we will focus on learning about Indian music by delving into three different styles: bhangra, Bollywood, and Indian classical. We will learn to sing a traditional Indian song, listen and identify Indian instruments, and will create rhythmic compositions based on Indian rhythms. Combining these aspects will allow us to create and perform our own version of the traditional Indian song. Our second area of learning will be about African drumming. We will be learning to play the djembe, discovering techniques for playing high/low notes and long/short notes. Our aim will be to compose a piece of music with polyrhythms, which will enable us to use our knowledge of stick notation to record our composition.</p>
<b>PE</b>	<p><b>Athletics</b></p> <p>Children will demonstrate sprinting and running over varying distances. They will continue to develop throwing techniques such as a shot push. Children will jump with control and balance and with some accuracy and power into a target area.</p> <p><b>Cricket</b></p> <p>Children will understand rules of bowling and batting and application of underarm and overarm throwing combined with specific throwing techniques for Cricket e.g. bowling. Children will apply new fielding and batting techniques and learn to striking a ball after a bounce.</p> <p><b>OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities and team building)</b></p>

	<p>Children will orientate a map, develop co-operation and observational skills. Navigate around a map and draw a route using directions. Communicate and listen as a team.</p>
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