

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

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Headteacher Mrs C B L'Estrange BA Ed (Hons) NPQH



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10th September 2021

Dear Parents,

The Autumn term is certainly underway now and we look forward to our Reception children being in school full-time as from Monday. Please don't forget that Reception finish school at 3pm and Year 1 and 2 at 3.15pm.

Praying Together Thank you for the lovely 'hands' which have already been sent into school. Special congratulations must go to Y2S, who have returned the highest number of hands! Well done Y2S! I look forward to seeing everyone's hands on display in the hall.

Houses All the children in the school are allocated one of our four houses named after the writers of the four Gospels - Saint Matthew, Saint Mark, Saint Luke and Saint John. The houses are used for various events and competitions in the life of the school including the punctuality bear, cross-curricular weeks and sports day. Each house also has a specific colour allocated to it - Saint Matthew - green, Saint Mark - red, Saint Luke - yellow and Saint John - blue. The children in KS1 will have a sticker inside their reading diaries, reminding you of their house and colour. The children in Reception will come home wearing a sticker indicating their house on Monday.

St Matthew's Feast Day Tuesday 21st September is the Feast of Saint Matthew, which we will be celebrating in school. We invite the children in Saint Matthew's house to come to school wearing something in their house colour - green. They can swap one or more items of their school uniform for something green - socks, skirt, trousers, top etc. During the day, our Worship will focus on Saint Matthew and the children in Saint Matthew's will have a special treat.

Allergies and Intolerances - KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2) Thank you to everyone who has already completed and returned this form. Please can the remaining forms be returned at the beginning of next week. Well done Y21B - all returned.

End of the day arrangements Thank you to everyone who has already completed and returned the yellow forms. Well done again to Y21B, you are the first class to be complete. Just a few more to come in please - Monday would be fantastic.

School Meals We will be on week 1 of the menu next week, with pasta (tomato and pepperoni / tomato and basil) on Monday.

A few reminders about school life: Learning at home:

Curriculum updates will be sent out on your child's year group or class channel on ParentHub. These give an overview of the topics which your child will be learning about this half term. Please read them carefully so that you can support your child in their learning.

Continuing our Learning at Home Many parents ask classteachers how they can support their child in their learning and make links with their child's work in school. Together with the Curriculum Update you will find '*Continuing our Learning at Home*' on a ParentHub message, which gives tasks which can be completed at home to develop the learning taking place in school. Your child is very welcome to bring any of this work into school to be displayed on their class '*Sharing/working at home*' wall. This provides the opportunity for their efforts to be valued. We hope that you will find this useful and that it will be an enjoyable time for you to share with your

child. The English focus this week is reading which is a very important part of your child's learning journey.

Scooters It has been lovely to see so many children scooting to school this week. Please talk to your children about parking procedures - please can the children walk their scooter into the scooter park and use the whole area provided. Lots of children have been parking immediately inside the gates which has made it very difficult for subsequent users of the scooter park, especially our younger friends in Reception. We have a good space - please can we utilise the whole area. Please can we also remember that scooters are not to be used in the school grounds at any time. This includes the area from the entrance gate on Sawyers Hall Lane and in the car park.

Our School Family Celebrates There are many things to celebrate in our school every day - the moments when children achieve something they have been striving for, the first time they master using a skipping rope, the moment when a skill clicks, when a text comes alive with expression, that kind word to spur a friend along or a joke to make them laugh. The children work so very hard every day in all areas of school life. We celebrate all these things and many more on a weekly basis with the *Headteacher's Awards*. These awards are very important to all of us and that is why the recipients' names are listed here in the newsletter to mark their achievements. I always enjoy giving these awards and I know that the children are excited by seeing their names in print! Winning the Punctuality Bear and the Attendance Cup is also a highlight of the week with the winners also being included in the weekly newsletter. I trust the children are telling you how important it is to be at school every day and to be on time.

Headteacher's Awards

So, the first awards of the new school year go to ...



Week ending Friday 10th September

Y2C	Flynn Townsend	Y2S	Freddie Jardine
Y21B -Y2	Aashrith Batta	Y1	Darcy Dallaway
Y1P	Harriet White	Y1CA	Isaiah Afrifah-Adae
RBixby	Henry Inman	RBeales	Darcey Port
RNT	Luna Gunyon		

Attendance Cup This week's winners are RBixby, RBeales and RNT all with the fantastic 100%. 

Punctuality Bear This week's winners are Saint Matthew's and Saint Luke's with 99.8%. Well done also to Y2S, Y21B, Y1P, RBixby, RBeales and RNT, all of whom have had a 100% punctuality. Can we make it all eight classes next week? That would be a first! 

ParentHub Please ensure that you have joined the correct channels for your child - their class and year group channels. Nearly everyone has joined ParentHub - can we make it 100% by next Friday? Please contact the School Office if you need help with this.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee is in June 2022 with an extra Bank Holiday on Friday 3 June 2022. As this falls during half term, schools have been given an extra day of holiday. This will be on Monday 6 June 2022. Therefore, the second half of the Summer Term 2022 will commence on Tuesday 7 June 2022. We hope that gives everyone the chance to enjoy these memorable celebrations with family and friends.

There are some very tired children coming home today - I hope that everyone can have a rest this weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'C. L'Estrange'.

Caroline L'Estrange
Headteacher