

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

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



17
11th January 2019

Dear Parents,

Feast of the Epiphany This week we celebrated the arrival of the Kings, reflecting on their journey and the faith they demonstrated by their journey. It was a special and holy way to begin the new term. Each class was given an Epiphany Blessing inscription for their classroom door. The Epiphany blessing of homes is an old tradition in a number of cultures and asks for God's blessing on homes and reminds us to welcome visitors to our homes. Traditionally, over your doorways, or on your doors, you inscribe 20 + C + M + B + 19. The first and last two numbers give the New Year, while C M and B are the initials of the three Kings - Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. CMB also symbolises the initials of the Latin words '*Christus Mansionem Benedicat*' which means 'May Christ Bless this House'. The Worship Team, together with Father Mark, have made this inscription at the front of the school.

Calendar of events for the Spring Term is accompanying this newsletter. Please keep it safe as it has all the important dates for the term ahead.

Curriculum updates also accompany this letter. These give an overview of the topics which your child will be learning about over the next half term. Please read them carefully so that you can support your child in their learning.

School Meals We will be on week 1 of the menu next week, with pizza (pepperoni or cheese and tomato) on Monday.

Headteacher's Awards

Week ending Friday 11th January



Y2N	Agni Mandal	Y2C	Alice Rockute
Y21P -Y2	Ethan Mackintosh-Purr	Y1	Matthew Perks
Y1FA	Alexandra Unipan	Y1S	Harrison Briggs
ROH	William Penfold	RS	Blythe Dingley
RMN	Hope Medland		

Attendance Cup This week's winners are Y1S with the fantastic 100% 

Punctuality Bear This week's winners are St Luke's with 99.8% 

Dan the Skipping Man Dan the Skipping Man will be here in school on Thursday 31st January teaching the children some amazing skipping tricks. He will have available for sale the SOLAR SKIP, an amazing quality rope which changes colour in the sunlight. The SOLAR SKIP ropes are just £6. They will be on sale on the day. Ropes are also available from his website www.dantheskippingman.com where other ropes are also available ... including: Adult, Double Dutch and more. Please note it is cheaper to purchase on the day to avoid postage and packing etc. Dan says that 'Solar Skips are in short supply so please be quick to avoid disappointment'. Dan also has a YouTube channel to enable your child to continue to learn. Please take a look at <http://www.youtube.com/dantheskippingman> and, in his words, 'like, subscribe and enjoy'!

School Admissions for Reception intake September 2019 and Year 3 transition to the Junior School Final reminder that the closing date for both the Local Authority Common Application Form and the School Supplementary Information Form (SIF) is **next Tuesday**, 15th January 2019.

PE and generally - Jewellery It appears that several children have received some lovely gifts for Christmas; however, children are not allowed to wear any jewellery for PE. If children wear earrings (only small studs are permitted) they need to be able to take them out and put them back themselves. No other jewellery, except watches, should be worn to school. **Long hair** If your child has long hair please ensure that they have a 'scrunchie' or other suitable soft hair-bands with them every day as children with long hair must have it tied up for PE. Many thanks.

Think of a Question is our family challenge!

Thank you for all the interesting questions sent into school this week including:

'What does the frankincense smell like that the first King is carrying?' Isabelle S, ROH

'Where are the men marching to?' Deonna, ROH

'Are they the three kings?' Myla, RS

'Are they the three Kings because I can see the star? Isabelle G, ROH

If you have not yet sent in your question, there is a speech bubble at the end of the newsletter for you to do so.

Please send any questions that you think of at home into school next week and they will be added to the whole school display ...



Yours sincerely,

C B L'Estrange

Caroline L'Estrange
Headteacher

Think of a question 3