

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex. CM15 9BX

Telephone 01277 223606

Fax 01277 232004

Email admin@stthomasinf.essex.sch.uk

Website www.stthomasofcanterburyinfantschool.co.uk

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



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15th September 2017

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. Our Information Evenings start next week, so please put the date or dates for your child or children in your diary. You will find further information about the Reception Evening next week below. Year 1 and Year 2 evenings are in the following two weeks.

Walking Together Thank you for the lovely 'feet' which have already been sent into school. Special congratulations must go to RMN, who have returned the highest number of feet! Well done RMN! I look forward to seeing everyone's feet on display in the hall - the feet which have already come in are up on display ready for everyone to see at the forthcoming information evenings.

Parents Committee Meeting is on Tuesday 19th September at 2.15pm in the staffroom. This group of parents is invaluable to the life and work of the school. If we can raise money to boost school funds, we are able to improve our resources to benefit everyone. However, events for parents also offer opportunities for everyone to meet and get to know each other. The committee is informal and everyone is very welcome. The more help, the more events we will be able to organise. If you can help please join us on Tuesday or register your interest with the school office. New faces are very welcome indeed. If there is enough interest, either on Tuesday or registered at the school office, we may be able to extend the scope of our current model but to do that the school needs your support.

Houses All the children in the school are put into 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.

St Matthew's Feast Day Thursday 21st September is the Feast of Saint Matthew. 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 an extra playtime together finishing with a drink and cake.

Reading in Reception The children in Reception will be coming home with a book from our School Library from Monday. The children have chosen a book of their choice from any section of the library. This will be happening for a few weeks to build their familiarity with the library. Their reading shelves will be allocated at the end of the month and children will then select books from their allocated shelf.

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.

Continuing the Learning Journey at Home is included in this newsletter. The English focus this week is writing which is a very important part of your child's learning journey. We focus on writing on a regular basis and hope that you will encourage your child to learn to enjoy writing for a range of different purposes each week.

Headteacher's Awards



Week ending Friday 15th September

Y2C	Saatvick Sateeshwaran
Y21P -Y2	Rose Tucker
Y1NT	Nanaama-Angel Boateng
ROF	Charlton Baron
RG	Charlotte Snow

Y2N	Daisie Harman
Y1	James Fallows
Y1G	Archie Ellmore
RMN	Teddy Callender

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



Punctuality Bear This week's winners are Saint John's with 99.6%.



School Meals We will be on week 3 of the menu next week, with meatballs on Monday.

Think of a Question is a family challenge!

Thank you for all the fantastic questions sent into school this week. We have received some really interesting questions including:



'Is it a house in the middle of nowhere?' Michael, Y21P
'How do they get their shopping delivery?' Dolly, Y2C
'How do the people who live here get to school?' Daniel, RMN
'How do they get out?' Melody, RMN

If you have not yet sent in your question, there is a speech bubble at the end of the newsletter for your question. Please send any questions that you think of at home into school next week and they will be added to the whole school display.....

Information evening As you will have noticed from the term dates, we are having an information evening for each year group this autumn. Next week we are starting with an evening for parents of our Reception children. It has been a joy to see the children begin their school career with us. They are all working very hard to make new friends and become familiar with the school routines. The meeting will take place next Thursday, 21st September, at 7pm when the Reception Team will share with you what your children have been up to and all about a school day! This evening is for parents only (children will not be admitted).

We will look at the importance of play based activities and how your child learns to read, the resources used and how you, as parents, can support your child as they continue to explore the world of literature. We will also look at how your child will be assessed during the year.

It is also an opportunity for you to meet with other parents over a few refreshments. The evening will last no longer than 1½ hours.

We look forward to seeing you. Could you please return the slip attached to this newsletter to your child's classteacher so that we know how many of you to expect.

I hope everyone has a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

C B L'Estrange

Caroline L'Estrange
Headteacher