

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

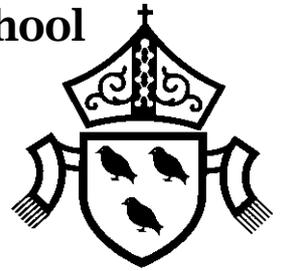
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Headteacher Mrs C B L'Estrange BA Ed (Hons) NPQH



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15th October 2021

Dear Parents,

Autumn Parents Evenings Thank you to everyone for joining us for these meetings this week. These are really important opportunities to enable both home and school to work together to support the children.

St Luke's Feast Day is next Monday, 18th October, which we will be celebrating in school. We invite the children in Saint Luke's House to come to school wearing something in their house colour - yellow. They can swap one or more items of their school uniform for something yellow - socks, skirt, trousers, top etc. During the day, our Worship will focus on Saint Luke and the children in Saint Luke's will have a special treat of a drink and cake.

Class worship Our first class worship of the school year will be next Wednesday, 20th October, and will be led by Y2C. Parents and younger siblings of children in Y2C are welcome to join us for this worship at 9am. Please be aware that this could change at any time. If you are joining us for this act of worship, we would be very grateful if you could take an LFT test prior to coming into the school building - this is just one way that we can all work together to do all we can to keep each other well and safe. As part of this, we would also be very grateful if you could wear a mask until you take your seat in the hall, just as we are all used to doing in various venues. You can remove the mask when seated.

Class Eucharists are one of the positive new things added to our school calendar as a result of COVID and working in bubbles during the last academic year. Father Mark is continuing to lead these Eucharists for each of our classes in the hall. They are a really special occasion for the children as Father Mark will be talking through exactly what is happening in the Eucharist. Next Thursday, it is Y1P's turn - I know that they will be praying for our whole school family.

Photographs As you will have seen on Tuesday's ParentHub message, the school photographs are ready to view. You use the QR code on your proof card. If you cannot find your proof card, call Vancols Parent Line: 01206 273711 who will ask you for an admission number - please ring the School Office for this, as they are all personalised to each child. Please ensure orders are made by 3rd November 2021.

Christmas Cards Earlier this week your child should have come home with their artwork for their own Christmas card for you to see. There are details with the artwork of how to order Christmas cards, gift labels, wrapping paper, mugs and spiral bound notebooks. You must use the unique code indicated on your child's sheet when ordering online. All orders are to be placed online, removing the need for money to be sent into school. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Giddings in the School Office. The turn round for orders is short, so please take note of the dates. In order for the artwork to be sent to the printers, all orders must be made by **8am on Thursday 21st October**. The children's artwork must also be returned to school by morning registration on Thursday 21st October. There is absolutely no flexibility in this. We will regretfully not be able to accept anything after this time.

School Meals We will be on week 2 of the menu next week, with pizza (pepperoni / cheese and tomato) on Monday.

Long Hair should be away from the children's faces for school, be that tied back in a ponytail or bunches, or held away from their face with a headband or slides. We really appreciate your support with this.

The Real Advent Calendar is available to order via the Parish shop: <https://pcc-of-brentwood.sumup.link> Orders need to be placed by Friday 22nd October. Please put 'Infant School' in the address and Father Mark will then kindly deliver your Advent Calendar to school.

Headteacher's Awards



Week ending Friday 15th October

Y2C	Scarlett Mugo	Y2S	Jemima Coe
Y21B -Y2	Vinnie Brown	Y1	Albert Dunnett
Y1P	Taaliah Halabi	Y1CA	Harper Benham
RBixby	George Malyon	RBeales	Reggie Bray
RNT	Samuel Goode		

Attendance Cup This week's winners are Y1P with 99.2%. 

Punctuality Bear This week's winners are Saint Luke's and Saint John's, both with the fantastic 100%. Well done also to Y2C, Y21B and RBixby who all had 100% punctuality. 

Global Neighbours Thank you for all the responses sent into school. If you have not yet responded to the School Council question, please do so. The question is:

'What do you think it means to be a Global Neighbour?'

Please consider the question together as a family and complete the slip sent home last week.

Let's Think is a conversation starter to get you all thinking and to encourage a family discussion. The issues will be varied, but all aimed to get you all talking! So, here is our first conversation starter:

'What can we do as a family to look after and cherish the beautiful world God has created for us?'
How creative can you be?

Your child will come home with two thought bubbles for your family's thoughts. Please send your thoughts and ideas into school and they will be added to the whole school display. We hope that you enjoy this year's first 'Let's Think'.

Worship Team At the end of our Worship today, I announced our new worship team. This group of children will assist Mrs Cumpstey and myself in both preparing for worship and reviewing our practice in school. I am delighted to tell you that our new worship team is:

Sebastian Burrell-Green, Liam Challis, Harriet Hodges, Jude Howard, Avishikta Mandal, Scarlett Mugo, Kemi Ogundehin-Veasey, Freya Rourke, Flynn Townsend, Stanley Whitaker.

Half term and Non-pupil day Just a reminder that the last day of this half term is Friday 22nd October. Monday 1st November is a non-pupil day and, therefore, school re-opens for children on Tuesday 2nd November.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline L'Estrange
Headteacher