

# St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

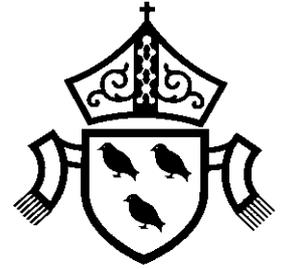
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Headteacher Mrs C B L'Estrange BA Ed (Hons) NPQH



11  
20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents,

**Y2B Class Worship** will be recorded next week, hopefully on Wednesday. Our Class Worship will be filmed in school and then shared via Vimeo as a private link only. The options to embed and download this video will be disabled. The private link will only be sent to the parents of children in Y2B and hopefully this will happen by the end of next week. Thank you to the parents in Y2B who have already completed the online form (<https://tinyurl.com/Y2B-Class-Worship>) sent out yesterday - 76% already! Please complete this by Monday. Many thanks.



We're supporting  
**Children in Need**

**Children in Need 2020** The grand total is £455. Thank you to everyone who supported this invaluable charity - we know that the money raised will be put to very good use.

**Christmas plans** Thank you for the decorations which have already been sent into school - my Christmas Team are delighted - but they tell me that they will gratefully receive lots more! So, if you have any Christmas decorations that you no longer want, we will certainly make use of them. I am reliably informed 'the more the better' and they will be somewhere where everyone can enjoy the spectacle!

**New ways of doing things** Thank you to everyone who completed the online form - I have heard from nearly everyone now. Now for another 'New way of doing things ...'

**Seesaw** All the children will be coming home today with an information sheet stapled inside the back cover of their reading diary. This includes a QR code and instructions on how to use Seesaw. Seesaw is an online platform that we are now going to be using as a school. It is one of the resources that we will use in the event that we need to isolate a class and we are also going to be using it for some of our *Continuing the Learning Journey* work. The children have all been shown how this works in school this week and will also be using it in their computing lessons. Please see your child's CLJ ParentHub message for further information.

**Class Eucharist** Our next Class Teaching Eucharist will be next week for Y2C.

## Headteacher's Awards



Week ending Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November

Y2C	Eliyas Halabi	Y2B	Rafferty Stirling-Howe
Y21C -Y2	Rishana Randall	Y1	Harriet Hodges
Y1P	Christine Panayotova	Y1FA	Akira Saraswat
RS	Mabel Shacklady	RB	Ashrei Akinsanya
RN	Shania Davies		

**Attendance Cup** This week's winners are Y2B and Y21C with 98.7%.

**Punctuality Bear** This week's winners are Saint John's with the fantastic 100%.



**Maths Games** should be coming home tonight with your child - but this can only happen if **everyone** returns their games to school on a Monday, so that they can be safely quarantined in school, ready to send out anew on Friday to the next family. Please ensure that all pieces are returned to school so that the next family can enjoy the game. Many thanks.

**Home-Start Essex** Now more than ever we are increasingly aware of the world around us and how we have a responsibility to think not just about ourselves but all people in need – be that through our actions, our prayers or our personal choices. This year we are again going to support Home-Start Essex which is a family support charity which works across Essex. Their work includes a long-established volunteer home visiting service offering emotional and practical help to families. So, we are asking for donations of Christmas sweets, chocolates and biscuits so that goody boxes can be made up to give to the families that Home-Start support. Please send your donations into school by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Global Neighbours** Thank you for all the responses sent into school. If you have not yet responded, 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.

**Together at Home** this week is a New Testament Story from Matthew’s Gospel about the sheep and the goats.

**Think of a Question** is a family challenge! Thank you for all the fantastic questions sent into school this week. We have received so many questions, including:

*‘Who is standing there?’, Taylor, Y1FA*

*‘How is there a shadow and no-one is there?’, Matilda, Y1P*

*‘Is the person invisible? Where is his head?’, Harriet, RB*

*‘Why is nobody wearing the shoes?’, Oliver M, RS*

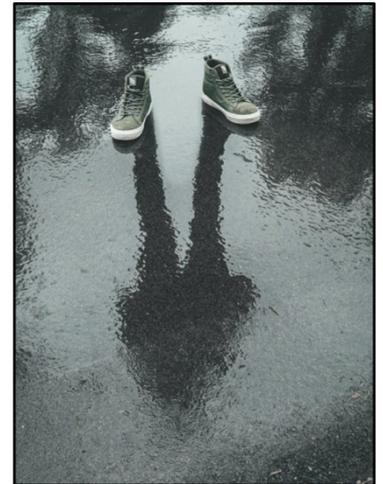
*‘How is he making a shadow when he has no body?’, Emily, Y2B*

*‘Whose shoes are they?’, Frank, RN*

*‘Is it flooded with shoes on the top and a shadow?’, Deonna, Y2C*

*‘Who left these shoes here?’, William Y21C*

If you have not yet sent in your question, please use one of the speech bubbles which have already been sent home.



**Admissions** The School Admissions process for both Reception and Year 3 places for the next academic year is now open. Please apply online and complete the relevant Supplementary Information Form (SIF) for the age group before the closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Both Year 3 and Reception SIFs should be returned to the Infant School Office.

**Easy Fundraising** You should have all received a ParentHub message on Wednesday about this great and very easy way of raising funds for our school. All you need to do is click on the link and add a few details and it can be downloaded as an app. Imagine if we all used this when placing our Christmas orders! We are hoping to purchase a second class set of iPads – please help us on our way – every penny counts!

**A reminder** - as always, in our current situation, please can conversations at the gate be kept to an absolute minimum and, if they do need to take place, please keep the 2 metre distance. I have noticed that, as staff have tried to step away, parents have been stepping closer and closer – please join me in keeping my staff safe and well and in school. The School Office are very happy to take messages and emails for the classteachers – please, please use this method of communication as much as possible. The wearing of facemasks on the school grounds is encouraged, supported and appreciated by us all. Many thanks.

Amazingly we are only one week away from the start of Advent! This Sunday is the Feast of Christ the King and we have already started to prepare for this important feast. Sunday is also often known as ‘Stir-up Sunday’ because traditionally this was the day on which the Christmas Pudding was made in order for it to have time to mature before Christmas Day! Time to do some baking in the L’Estrange house!

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Caroline L'Estrange in purple ink.

Caroline L'Estrange  
Headteacher