

# St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

## Curriculum Update

### Autumn Term 1 – Y2P

Dear Parents,

This letter informs you about what your child will be learning at school in their first half term of Year 2. We hope that you will be able to help your child explore and discuss these areas at home through some of the following ideas:

- researching areas at the local library and helping your child develop their library skills
- searching with them on the internet for child friendly material and relevant websites
- watching relevant television programmes that may support their work, or visiting a museum
- **and, most importantly**, talking to your child about what they have done at school! Listen to what they have learned and praise their achievements!

Subject	Our Learning
<b>Religious Education</b>	We will begin the term by exploring the meaning behind the Lord's Prayer. We will look in depth at the story of The Creation and discuss what it tells us about God, creation and the wider world. We will look at how Christians look after God's World and the things he has created. We will be finding out about the life and work of St Francis and making links with how we live our own lives.
<b>Science</b>	This term we will use the local environment to observe how different plants grow. We will be introduced to the lifecycle stages of a plant, including germination, growth and survival, in addition to the processes of reproduction and growth. We will work scientifically by observing the growth of a variety of plants as they develop from a seed or bulb and record our findings.
<b>Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)</b>	We will be creating our own classroom rules and thinking about the importance of rules to make the classroom a safe and happy place to be in. Through discussion, we will think about the responsibilities we have for others, both at home and in school. We will learn about the hazards associated with touching certain chemicals and liquids and how we can keep ourselves safe. As part of our work we will write rules for keeping safe in different situations. We will learn that as we grow and change we become more independent and identify opportunities for responsibility that independence brings.

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Topic	Our Learning
<p data-bbox="153 210 335 300"><b>Splendid Skies</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="389 174 1485 282">Our topic this half term is called ‘Splendid Skies’. In a few weeks’ time we will be going on a nature walk to Merry Meade Park to search for signs of seasonal change and to create natural sculptures.</p> <p data-bbox="389 322 1485 645"><b>Computing</b> We will be looking at how computers are used to help us predict and report on the weather, and record our own weather reports, using digital cameras and the tablets. We will learn what an algorithm is and how it is used to program a device. We will create a computer program using new vocabulary related to coding, such as command, repeat, input and output. Our internet safety focus for this half term is learning about what the internet is and what we use it for as children and how adults use it. We will discuss appropriate and inappropriate use of the internet.</p> <p data-bbox="389 685 1485 860"><b>Art and Design</b> We will explore colour, pattern, texture, line and shape when working with a range of different media. Throughout this unit, we will be looking at how artists, such as Berndnaut Smilde, represent the weather in their artwork and will use this as inspiration for our own weather-themed artwork.</p> <p data-bbox="389 900 1485 1223"><b>Geography</b> As part of our work based around our theme country, we will explore maps and learn the names of the countries which make up the UK. We will identify their capital cities and the seas which surround the UK. We will compare human and physical features of towns within our chosen country and familiar towns within the UK. We will write and present our own TV weather reports, using maps and symbols, and also look at aerial photographs and drawings to identify the human and physical features. We will record our own ideas on a simple map.</p> <p data-bbox="389 1263 1485 1518"><b>Music</b> We will learn songs, rhymes and poems about different weather and the seasons, and select percussion instruments to represent each one. Our topic within music is Hands, Feet and Heart. Within this unit we will listen to, appraise and explore South African musical styles. We will improvise by playing instruments to accompany different songs and tunes. This term we will begin to learn to play the recorder. We will find out how to hold the recorder, play some notes and tunes.</p> <p data-bbox="389 1559 1485 1774"><b>Physical Education</b> We will listen to different sounds and music which represent weather and create sequences in dance showing clear starting and finishing positions. Our games theme is ‘throwing and catching’. We will learn to throw, catch and bounce in different ways when standing still or on the move. We will choose and apply known skills to make up our own games.</p>