

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex. CM15 9BX

Telephone 01277 223606

Email admin@stthomasinf.essex.sch.uk

Website www.stthomasofcanterburyinfantschool.co.uk

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



3
21st September 2018

Dear Parents,

It has been another busy week and it has been good to welcome our Reception children all day every day. I am very pleased to say that the children have settled in very well and it was good to see so many Reception parents at our information evening yesterday. I look forward to seeing our Year 1 parents next Thursday - more details below - and Year 2 parents the following week.

St Matthew's Feast Day Today was the Feast of Saint Matthew. The children looked great in their additional green items of clothing. We had a lovely celebration in the afternoon as a house - it was good to see children from all three year groups together. We will be celebrating the Feast of Saint Luke on 18th October.

Read with me From Monday 24th September the Reception Team invite you (or perhaps a Grandparent) to come into class when dropping your child to school on a Monday for 15 minutes reading time. This will become a regular Monday morning chance for you to read with your child, either a book you bring from home or one from the class library. We hope that many of you will be able to join us for 15 minutes at 8.45am every Monday. Sharing a book together is a great way to start your child's day in school and reminds us all of the value of experiencing a wide range of literature. The day of the week will change each half term, which will hopefully enable many of you to join us at some point in the academic year.

Year 1 will be making a giant Sukkah, weather permitting, on Thursday 27th September as part of their RE work. A Sukkah is an outside shelter. We would be very grateful to receive donations of any large pieces of fabric which can be cut up and used in this project. Please give any donations of clothes to Mrs Pugh, Mrs Forbes-Buckingham, Mrs Anthony or Miss Saunders as soon as possible.

Parents Committee Meeting is on Friday 28th 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 Friday or register your interest with the school office. New faces are very welcome indeed. If there is enough interest, either on Friday 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. At the same time will be having ...

Coffee and Cake in Aid of Macmillan Donations of cakes will be gratefully received in the school office - thank you in advance. This is a good opportunity to come and enjoy a cake and have a drink with other parents from our school family. All proceeds raised will go to support the Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning appeal.

Information evening As I said above, it was lovely to welcome so many parents from Reception to the information evening this week. We hope that you all found it both interesting and informative. Thank you to the Reception teachers for their presentation. Next week, the information evening is for the parents of our Year 1 children. The meeting is on Thursday, 27th September, at 7pm when the Year 1 Team will share with you how the learning journey continues in Year 1. They will give you an insight into what your children have already been up to, what is expected of them and how a school day in Year 1 works. This evening is for parents only

(children will not be admitted). It is also an opportunity for you to meet with other parents over a few refreshments. The evening will last no longer than an hour. We look forward to seeing you. Please return the attached slip to your child's classteacher so that we know how many of you to expect.

Open Classrooms We will be having Open Classrooms next week and look forward to seeing you in your child's classroom after school on Friday 28th September. This is a good opportunity to come and say hello to your child's teacher and see what your children have been up to in the first few weeks of this academic year. For parents of children in Year 1 and Year 2, your child's new targets will be available to collect at this time - please come and see how you can support your child in the next steps in their learning as they start the new academic year.

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

Class worship Our first class worship of the school year will be next Wednesday, 3rd October, and will be led by Y2N. Parents and younger siblings of children in Y2N are welcome to join us for this worship at 9am. We hope that everyone will enjoy the opportunity to come and join us for this year's class worships.

Recycle Used Postage Stamps The UK's Air Ambulance Services are charities which receive no government funding and rely entirely on charitable donations to continue flying and responding to life threatening medical emergencies. We can help raise funds for their crucial work through the recycling of postage stamps. All funds raised will be donated to the Association of Air Ambulances to be distributed equally to all UK Air Ambulance Services. Whether they are British or overseas, new or used, send any stamps into school and we will then send them on so that they can be turned into funds to keep the UK Air Ambulance Services responding to life threatening medical emergencies. We look forward to receiving all your stamps - all you need to do is cut, or carefully tear, the stamped corner from any envelope or packet that you receive. This project will be on-going. Thank you for your support in this - we never know when we, or our loved ones, will be the individuals benefitting from this vital service.

Dogs Please could the whole school family remember that dogs are not allowed on the school premises. This is to keep everyone within our school family safe. Thank you for your help with this.

Headteacher's Awards



Week ending Friday 21 st September			
Y2N	Connor Gowers	Y2C	Noah Miles
Y21P -Y2	Meena Zohri	Y1	Bertie Drake
Y1FA	Finley Moon	Y1S	Dolcie Evans
ROH	Isabelle Saggars	RS	Eleanor Riisnaes
RMN	Hamdan Ali		



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

Punctuality Bear This week's winners are Saint Matthew's, Saint Mark's and Saint John's with the fantastic 100%.

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:

- 'What does the Queen, who lives in the castle look like?', Emilia, ROH
- 'Is the wall around the castle to protect the people living there?' Sam, Y21P
- 'How many people live there?' Olivia, RMN

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



Yours sincerely,

C B L'Estrange

Caroline L'Estrange
Headteacher



Continuing our Learning at Home - Year 1 - Y1P

Reading	Please remember to read at home every night. Share a range of different fiction books. Discuss the different story themes within your books and link them to your own personal experiences. For example: if the book is about a birthday party, think about a party you have been to and talk about how it compares with the party within the story.
Mathematics	Can you identify the number of tens and ones in two-digit numbers? 16=1 ten and 6 ones 24=2 tens and 4 ones 35=3 tens and 5 ones Which number is 4 tens and 3 ones?
Splendid Skies	Can you find out about different types of clouds? Make a list of words you might use to describe them. Play with a sponge in a bowl of water, watching the sponge absorb the water and then squeezing it, when heavy with water, to make a rain shower - think about the weather vocabulary we have been talking about - e.g. rain, clouds, shower, storm, droplets.



✂-----

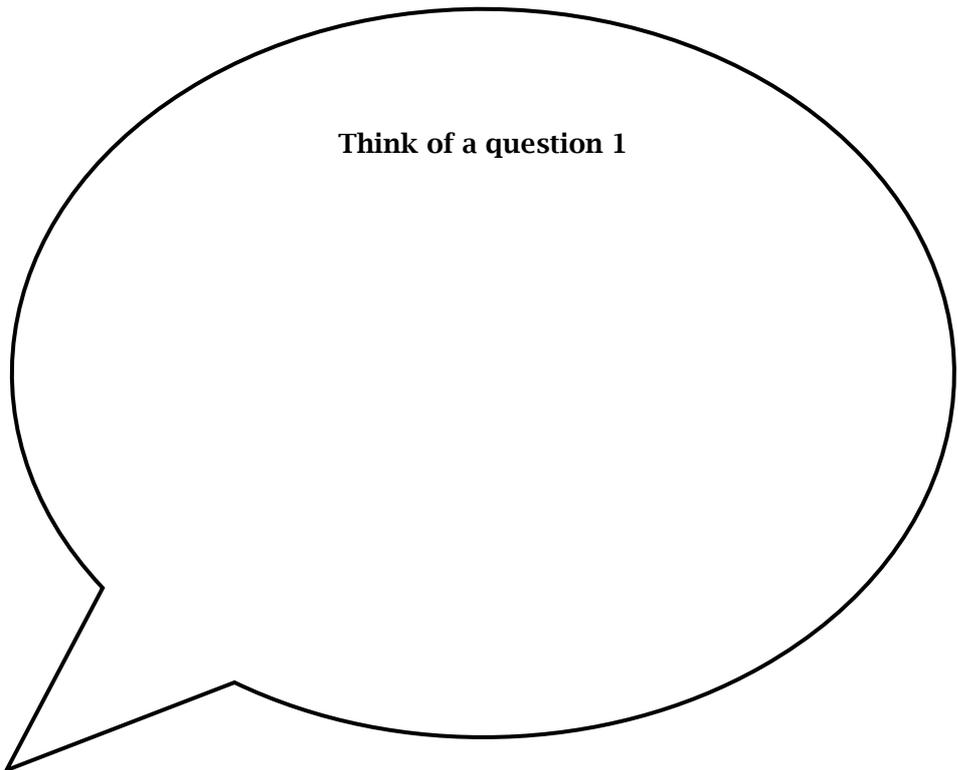
I / we will / will not be able to attend the Year 1 Information Evening on Thursday 27th September 2018 at 7pm.

Child's name -----

Class -----

Signed ----- Parent

✂-----



Children's Health Project - Recipe of the week - Carrot and Courgette Fritters

Serves 2 **Cooking time** 25 minutes

Ingredients

½ cup of quinoa
1 carrot
½ courgette
1 egg
25g flour
½ tsp ground cumin
½ tsp curry powder
½ tsp coconut oil



Dipping sauce

2 tbsp soy sauce
1 tbsp rice wine vinegar

Method

1. Add water and quinoa to a saucepan and bring to the boil. Then simmer for 15 minutes.
2. While the quinoa is cooking, grate the carrot and courgette and mix them in a bowl with the other fritter ingredients.
3. When the quinoa is cooked, add it to the other ingredients and mix together.
4. Melt the coconut oil in a frying pan, then add balls of the fritter mixture into the pan and flatten slightly. Cook for 3 minutes on each side until golden brown.
5. Just before serving, mix the soy sauce and rice wine vinegar together in a bowl.

Note:

These work well in lunch boxes or as a quick snack. They are also a good way to get your children to eat more vegetables throughout their day.