

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

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



24
29th March 2018

Dear Parents,

It is amazing to think that this is the last newsletter of the Spring Term – today is the last day of term and I am sure that the children are all looking forward to their Easter Holiday. The children have been working very hard all term and deserve a good rest.

We have enjoyed acting out the last days of Jesus' life in our worship over the last two weeks. Children across the school have portrayed these days with thought and reverence. As always, I am very proud of all the children for the manner in which they engage with worship.

School Meals We will be on week 1 of the new menus for the first week back after Easter with pizza on Monday 16th April.

Farewell We have said farewell to Miss Gibbs today and I am sure that you will all join me in wishing her well as she embarks on the next stage of her journey. Please keep her in your prayers.

REMINDER: Reception trips to Merrymeade These trips have now been re-scheduled as follows:

ROF Monday 23rd April

RG Tuesday 24th April

RMN Wednesday 25th April

The children will need a pair of named wellies, a waterproof coat or jacket with a hood, an extra pair of socks, comfortable trousers (that may get wet and muddy) and an extra plastic bag, all in a named bag. We hope that the weather is kinder to us on this occasion!

Eco Race Essex Thank you to everyone! Eco Race week 3 winners were Y1NW with 604 points.

Children's Health Project – Parent Workshops will take place on Thursday 19th April 2018 from 1.40pm - 3pm and Thursday 26th April from 1.40pm - 3pm. The parent workshops will include ideas and strategies for improved family health with well researched, evidence-based knowledge delivered in both active and theory sessions. These will include ideas for healthy movement in the garden, or at the park, nutritious meals for each part of the day, the health habits that will most benefit you as a family, and how to discuss healthy thoughts, such as body image, with your children.

We hope that many of you will be able to join us for these exciting workshops. Each workshop is different, and it would be wonderful to see lots of you at both sessions. Pre-school siblings are very welcome to join us. Please indicate on the slip overleaf whether you are able to attend, including how many of you there will be. Please return slips by Tuesday 17th April.

Uniform Many of you have asked 'Is it summer uniform after Easter?' I am being optimistic! So, I will be delighted to see summer uniform after the Easter holiday – weather permitting. The children will need to return to school for the Summer Term with a cardigan/jumper/sweatshirt and a coat in school. Over the Easter holiday please could everyone check that each item of school uniform is clearly labelled. Also could you please check that your child returns to school with a **complete** PE kit – shorts, t-shirt, tracksuit bottoms and plimsolls that fit – again all clearly labelled. Many thanks in advance.

Reception Read with me will be on Friday from after the holidays. You (or perhaps a grandparent) are invited to come into class when dropping your child to school on a Friday for 15 minutes reading time. This is a chance for you to read with the children, 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 Friday. 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.

Recycle Used Postage Stamps for the Air Ambulance Services Please remember to ask family and friends over the holidays to start collecting for this vital agency – every little helps them continue to provide their amazing service. I look forward to seeing lots of stamps come into school after the holiday.

Prayer Group From after Easter, the school prayer group will be meeting on Thursday morning just after the bell goes (from 9am for about 15 minutes). As a Christian School, we value the opportunity to pray for the school, its staff, governors and children and the wider community. It would be great to welcome new parents to our small group, just come round to the school office.

Headteacher's Awards

Week ending Thursday 29th March

	Y2C	Ruby Riordan	Y2N	Zach Haines
	Y21P - Y2	Tanya Kapoor	Y1	Isobel Nunn
	Y1NW	Hollie Wylie	Y1G	Ava Shorter
	ROF	Cody Pace	RMN	Evee Freeman
	RG	Grace Moxley		

Attendance Cup

This week's winners are RMN with 98%. 

Punctuality Bear

This week's winners are Saint John's with 99.5%. 

Attendance I was delighted to give out 74 attendance stickers to those children with 100% attendance this term. Well done everyone.

LENT *Give up a few minutes* The Worship Team have written some daily challenges for the remaining days of Lent. Their challenge for the last few days of Holy Week is 'To look out for someone who is sad and find a way to cheer them up'.

Easter Garden After Easter Mrs Winter and the Worship Team will be creating an Easter Garden. Any donations of flowers, blossom or small plants will be gratefully and excitedly received at school on the first day of the new term to add to our garden to celebrate Eastertide.

I have again included the times of the services at St Thomas' Church for your information, I hope that many of you will be able to go to St Thomas' Church for Stations of the Cross for Children tomorrow, Good Friday. It is very appropriate for our children.

I look forward to seeing you all on **Monday 16th April 2018** for the start of the Summer Term.

I hope everyone has a lovely holiday and a really blessed Easter.

Yours sincerely,
C B L'Estrange

Caroline L'Estrange
Headteacher

THE PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS OF CANTERBURY ST THOMAS' ROAD, BRENTWOOD		
SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER		
		
PALM SUNDAY 25th March	8.00 am Mass 10.00 am Blessing of Palms at High Street Chapel, Procession to church and Solemn Mass 6.00 pm Choral Evensong & Stations of the Cross	
MONDAY 26th March	12 noon Chrim Mass at Chelmsford Cathedral 8.00 pm Mass and homily	
TUESDAY 27th March	9.30 am Mass 8.00 pm Mass and homily	
WEDNESDAY 28th March	12.15 pm Mass 8.00 pm Mass and homily in the hall 9.00 pm Sung Compline	
MAUNDY THURSDAY 29th March	9.30 am Mass (Book of Common Prayer) 8.00 pm Solemn Mass of the Last Supper * (followed by the Watch until midnight)	
GOOD FRIDAY 30th March	9.30 am Stations of the Cross for Children 10.30 am Walk of Witness from Brentwood Cathedral 2.00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion *	
HOLY SATURDAY 31st March	9.30 am Morning Prayer and Litany 8.00 pm Paschal Vigil and First Mass of Easter *	
EASTER DAY 1st April	8.00 am Mass (Book of Common Prayer) 10.00 am Solemn Mass of the Resurrection * 6.00 pm Choral Evensong	
* These services will be taken by Bishop Norman		

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Children's Health Project parent workshops



We are/are not able to attend the parent workshop on Thursday 19th April 2018

Number of adults ----- Number of pre-school children -----

We are/are not able to attend the parent workshop on Thursday 26th April 2018

Number of adults ----- Number of pre-school children -----

Children's Health Project - Recipe of the week - Meatballs

Ingredients

Meatball ingredients:

- 1 pound of ground mince (grass fed)
- 1 onion
- 1 tablespoon of oregano
- 1 small egg

Sauce ingredients:

- 2 handfuls of fresh basil
- 2 garlic cloves
- 2 tablespoons of Worcester sauce
- 2 tablespoons of balsamic vinegar
- handful of spinach (optional)
- 1 onion
- 400g tomato puree
- 160g tinned sweetcorn
- pinch of salt and black pepper



Method

How to make meatballs:

1. Mix the mince, 1 egg, $\frac{1}{2}$ chopped onion, and oregano together in a bowl. Then roll up small balls out of the mince.
2. Start to fry the meatballs in a large frying pan with coconut oil.

How to make sauce

1. While the meatballs are cooking, start to make the sauce. Blend all the sauce ingredients together apart from the sweetcorn.
2. Add the sauce to the frying pan and simmer for 20 minutes until the meatballs are cooked.
3. Add sweetcorn and simmer for another 5 minutes.

Serve with courgette spaghetti/wheat free spaghetti/ rice and broccoli.