

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

Curriculum Update

Autumn Term 1 – Y1FA and Y1S

Dear Parents,

This letter informs you about what your child will be learning at school in their first half term of Year 1. 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
Religious Education	We will begin the term by exploring the meaning behind the Lord's Prayer. We will move on to explore the story of Creation thinking about what it tells us about God and how it fits into the 'Big Story' of the Bible. We will be looking at different ways that people give thanks during the Christian Harvest Festival and the Jewish Festival of Sukkot.
Science	We will be exploring our school grounds throughout the year and identifying and naming the plants and animals that we find. As part of our topic, we will learn about the four seasons and describe the different types of weather for each of them. We will locate hot and cold areas in the world and discuss how the weather affects the clothes we would wear and what we can do. We will keep a daily weather chart for 2 weeks this half term, using the appropriate equipment and symbols to record rainfall and temperature. When learning about Sir Francis Beaumont's wind scale, we will explore the force and speed of the wind with kites and windmills and find out facts about the sun when investigating shadows.
Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)	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 needs of other people and all living things, recognising different groups and communities we all belong to.

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Topic	Our Learning
<p data-bbox="153 210 335 300">Splendid Skies</p> 	<p data-bbox="389 210 1485 315">In a few weeks' time we will be going on a nature walk to Merrymeade Park to search for signs of seasonal change and to create natural sculptures.</p> <p data-bbox="389 353 1485 680">Geography 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="389 719 1485 898">Computing We will be looking at how computers are used to help us predict and report on the weather. We will search the internet for artwork depicting different types of weather and use Revelation Natural Art to create our own versions. We will also continue to develop our typing skills.</p> <p data-bbox="389 913 1485 1055">Our internet safety focus for this half term is learning about what the internet is and what we use it for. We will discuss which apps, games and websites are appropriate for children and those that are designed for adults.</p> <p data-bbox="389 1093 1485 1234">Music Our topic within music is "Hey You!" We will use an old-school hip-hop style to teach us about the differences between pulse, rhythm and pitch. We will listen to, sing and play different instruments whilst exploring fun hip-hop tracks.</p> <p data-bbox="389 1272 1485 1384">Art and Design We will be looking at how artists represent the weather in their artwork and will use this as inspiration for our own weather-themed artwork.</p> <p data-bbox="389 1422 1485 1570">Physical Education We will explore different forms of dance, responding to a range of stimuli and choosing appropriate movements to express our dance ideas. We will make rounded and spiky shapes with our bodies and create different patterns in the air or on the floor.</p> <p data-bbox="389 1585 1485 1697">In gymnastics we will learn to bounce, hop, spring and jump using a variety of take offs and landings, and will link together two or more actions with increasing control.</p>