

St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Infant School

Curriculum Update

Autumn Term 1 - Y1P

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 the 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.
Computing	We will learn what an algorithm is and try to write a simple set of instructions for our friends (and Mrs Pugh) to follow. We will look at how everyday devices can be controlled by following a series of instructions and try to program a small robot to move along a given route. We will learn 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.
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 shall think about the needs of other people and all living things, recognising different groups and communities we all belong to. As part of our topic, when exploring 'George's Marvellous Medicine', we will also learn about the hazards associated with touching certain chemicals and liquids and how we can keep ourselves safe.

Subject	Our Learning
Geography	As part of our work based around our theme country, Australia, 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, Australia, and familiar towns within the UK.
Music	Our topic within music is 'Hey You!' This unit uses an old-school hip hop style to teach children about the differences between pulse, rhythm and pitch. We will listen to, sing and play different instruments whilst exploring fun hip hop tracks.
Physical Education	We shall learn how to safely and correctly perform forward rolls and cartwheels, with the support of an adult. 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.

Topic: Muck, Mess and Mixtures

Our topic for this half term is called Muck, Mess and Mixtures. We will begin this unit by having a Messy Mixtures Morning where we will explore a variety of weird and wonderful mixtures.

Science We will be learning to distinguish between what an object is and the material from which it is made. We will identify and name a variety of common materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock, and talk about their properties. We will use this knowledge to compare and group everyday materials.

Art We will explore a wide range of art and design techniques in order to create models, collages, paintings and patterns. We will explore colour, pattern, texture, line and shape when working with a range of different media. Throughout this unit we will learn about the work of famous artists such as Carl Warner.

Design and Technology We will be learning about food technology. We will explore and evaluate a range of food products and sort them based on where they come from, for example food from plants and animals, and the countries they come from. We will follow recipes in order to safely and hygienically construct simple dishes.

