

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
Religious Education	We will begin the term by exploring the meaning behind the Lord's Prayer. We shall 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.
Computing	We will learn what an algorithm is and will look at how everyday devices can be controlled by following a series of instructions. When using a robot, we will plan and test an algorithm and make appropriate changes, if necessary. We will learn 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.
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 responsibilities we have for others, both at home and in school. When exploring 'George's Marvellous Medicine' 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.

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 and familiar towns within the UK.
Music	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 and play some notes and tunes.
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 about the uses of everyday materials. We will identify and discuss the uses of different materials so that we become familiar with how some materials are used for more than one thing. We will learn about the work of Charles Macintosh before investigating which materials are waterproof and therefore suitable for a given purpose.

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 plant and animals, and the countries they come from. We will follow recipes in order to safely and hygienically construct simple dishes.

