**St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School**

**Headteacher: Mrs M Keating**

 “Learn, Love and Respect Through Jesus” St Francis of Assisi

##  CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

Friday 21st April 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, we hope you had a wonderful Easter. We are looking forward to starting another exciting term with your children.

Staffing in Year 1/2 for this term will be as follows -

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| Monday | Mrs Gilbert, Mrs Hennessy, Mrs Stevens. Miss Roux , Mrs Crowley, Mr Gooding |
| Tuesday | Mrs Gilbert, Mrs Stevens, Miss Roux, Mrs Crowley, Mr Gooding, Mrs Stockwell |
| Wednesday | Mrs Gilbert, Mrs Hennessy, Mrs Stevens, Miss Roux, Mr Gooding, Mrs Crowley |
| Thursday | Mrs King, Mrs Crowley, Mrs Stevens, Miss Roux, Mr Gooding, Mrs Keating (PE), Mrs Stockwell |
| Friday | Mrs King, Mrs Hennessy, Mrs Stevens, Miss Roux, Mr Gooding, Mr Fitzgerald (PE) |

Our Curriculum

Our R.E units will cover ‘the Resurrection’ which will focus on Resurrection stories, Jesus’ appearance to his disciples and the Ascension. In the second half term our focus will be ‘The First Christians’, where we will look at the Holy Spirit and the Apostles and the story of Peter. We will also learn about a world faith, Sikhism.

Our class Act of Worship will be on **Friday 5th May** at **9.15am which will focus on the King’s Coronation**. You are warmly invited to join us for this Celebration.

The children will have a daily Maths, English and Phonics lesson. We will also be focusing on learning our times tables and taking part in group reading sessions three times a week. Alongside our work in school, it is very important for you to continue to read with your child daily. The children will bring home their reading books on a Friday and we would kindly ask they are returned to class by the following Tuesday.

Our Science topics this term are ‘Polar places’ and ‘On Safari’. We will be learning about the flora and fauna of each environment, how animals and plants have adapted to live there and what it might be like to live there ourselves. We will take on the role of fearless explorers and think carefully about what we will need to survive in these hostile places on the earth.

In History we will be learning about ‘Great inventors’. The children will develop their historical research skills, understand and recall events in the past in chronological order and use historical vocabulary. They will be focusing on how the first flight changed the world and why these events were important. In geography they will be learning about ‘animals and their habitats’, looking at where animals live and how they navigate their local area.

Music will be led by Mrs. Earl on Tuesday afternoons, in addition to this, Year 2 will have a weekly recorder lesson on a Tuesday. Please can you settle a payment of £3.50 via School Gateway. School have ordered a recorder for each Year 2 child to take responsibility for and to bring to school each Tuesday for their lesson.

Computing will be led by Mrs Hennessy on a Thursday morning.

PE will take place twice a week (**Thursdays and Fridays**). Please ensure the children come to school in their PE kit on those days. PE kit consists of a white t-shirt and white shorts, and black or brown tracksuit and trainers.

SATS

Year 2 will be taking their SATS tests this term during May. We will be taking a very calm approach with the children to reduce any worries around this.

Class trip to Southend Sealife Centre

Our class trip will take place on **Tuesday 4th July.** More details will follow.

Homework

Weekly spellings will be sent home on a Wednesday to be tested the following Wednesday. Please practise these regularly with your child.

Homework will be set via Tapestry and any completed homework can be uploaded to hand in. We will provide a cross curricular activity grid of six home learning opportunities which can be completed at home in any order.

School Diaries

We will be using home/school diaries which you can use to send us a message or comment regarding your child’s learning or reading. We will record your child’s reading comments via the diary. The diaries will be checked in school daily so please make sure it is in your child’s bag.

If you need to make an appointment to see us, please either email or contact us through the school office if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to continuing to work with you.

Kind Regards,

Mrs S Gilbert and Mrs V King – Year 1/2 Class Teachers