**St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School**

**Headteacher: Mrs M Keating**

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

##  CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

4th September 2023

**Year 5/6 Curriculum Letter**

Welcome back; we hope you had a great summer break. Year 5/6 (29 children) have made a really positive start to the year and we hope this will continue on through the year.

In class I will be supported by Mrs Crowe. On Thursday and Friday mornings Mrs King will lead the class.

This term our theme will be ‘Eureka!’ a study of the influence that the Ancient Greeks had on society today. History, Geography, Art, DT and where possible Science and English will be linked to this theme.

Below are the main areas of study to be covered in each area of learning this term:

**R.E.** :

* Kingdom of God
* Covenants

We will continue to celebrate liturgical festivals of Harvest and All Saints as well as highlighting other Saints’ days. Our Christmas preparations will close the term. Our class assembly will be on **10th November** at 9.15am.

Other topics covered this term will include:

* Science: Staying Alive – the heart and the circulatory system with a consideration of the effects of a balanced diet, exercise and drugs on our health. Let it shine – a study of how we see things and the behaviour of light. Electrifying - learning about the components in electrical circuits.
* Computing: Year 5 will be looking at searching the Internet and filming and editing short videos. Year 6 will be looking at data transfer online, Google Slides and webpage creation.
* Design and Technology: development of construction skills through study of what makes a strong structure, design and construction of an Ancient Greek temple.
* Art: construction of clay pots using the coil technique and theatre masks in relief. Still Life composition.
* Year 5 will have the opportunity to learn to play the ukulele on Tuesday afternoons this year. There will be no charge for this.

Please ensure that all P.E./Games kit is named clearly – including socks!

Children should have the specified school kit (see website). A pair of trainers is needed for games use and these should be left in school to be available every day – these should not be the same pair that are used for Forest School.

Homework - In Years 5 and 6 we encourage children to become independent with their homework as we begin the preparation for the transition to secondary school. Parental support for encouraging a good homework routine is essential; enabling children to become confident and independent in completing tasks with minimal parental input. Following lessons often depend on this work having been completed. Children are encouraged to plan their homework schedule (particularly project work) carefully to meet deadlines in a way that does not leave everything until the night before it is due.

Year 6 children are expected to spend an average of 40 minutes per night and Year 5: 35 minutes per night on homework tasks. Apart from weekly English and Maths tasks, there may be theme based, history, science or R.E. research, and there are always spellings to learn, times-tables to practise and, when all that is done, reading.

Thank you for your support. Please do not hesitate to contact me either in person or via email at MrBooth@stcanterbury.herts.sch.uk should you have any queries or concerns.

Mr A Booth

Senior Assistant Headteacher