**St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School**

**Executive Headteacher: Mrs M Keating**

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

25th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to school to all families, we hope you had a restful and happy Easter. This term’s topics are ‘*Materials’* and ‘*People who help us’*. Please see the information below for this half term’s staffing and curriculum in the Early Years.

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|  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Staffing | Mrs Overett (Class Teacher)  Mrs Smith (Teaching Assistant)  Mrs Healy (Teaching Assistant – PM only)  Mrs Lang (Learning Support Assistant) | Mrs Clark (Class Teacher)  Mrs Smith (Teaching Assistant – AM only)  Mrs Scher (Teaching Assistant)  Mrs Healy (Teaching Assistant – PM only)  Ms Donno (Teaching Assistant – PM only) | Mrs Clark (Class Teacher)  Mrs Smith (Teaching Assistant – AM only)  Mrs Scher (Teaching Assistant)  Mrs Healy (Teaching Assistant – PM only) | Mrs Clark (Class Teacher)  Mrs Smith (Teaching Assistant)  Mrs Healy (Teaching Assistant)  Mrs Crowley (Teaching Assistant- PM only)  Mrs Lang (Learning Support Assistant) | Mrs Overett (Class Teacher)  Mrs Smith (Teaching Assistant) |

After the May half term holiday, we would love to welcome any parents into class who would like to talk to the children about their job role. This will help to bring our *People Who Help Us* topic to life! If you have a job that you think the children would be interested to learn about, please do let a member of the Early Years Team know, so that we can arrange a suitable time for you to come in to class.

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| Curriculum Information - Topics | | | | | |
| **Autumn 1 2024** | **Autumn 2 2024** | **Spring 1 2025** | **Spring 2 2025** | **Summer 1 2025** | **Summer 2 2025** |
| My 5 Senses | Shadows and Light | Fantasy and Adventure | Jurassic World | Materials | People Who Help Us |

Below we have highlighted some of the key learning intentions for the beginning of the Summer Term, however please note these are not exhaustive and will be adjusted and adapted to suit the needs of individual children and the entire cohort.

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| Summer 1 Curriculum | | |
| Curriculum Area | Nursery & Reception | Home Enrichment Activities |
| ***Personal, Social and Emotional Development*** | To understand some ways in which we can look after our world and why this is important.  To develop their sense of unique self by talking about similarities and differences to others.  To think about the perspectives of others.  To explain how they can demonstrate friendly behaviour.  To manage their own needs. | Reinforce expected behaviour in the home setting. Discuss the consequences of inappropriate behaviour/actions. Play turn taking games and reinforce that winning and losing are both okay. Talk about feelings with your child and help them to understand: happy, sad, angry and scared. Encourage them to express how they might be feeling.  Cartoon Baby |
| ***Physical Development*** | The children will learn to assess risks involved in using hammers and nails in Forest School and they will develop safety awareness, balance and coordination skills to enable them to travel in a variety of ways, including over, under, through and around obstacle equipment. Children will continue to engage in a variety of fine motor control activities including: sewing, scissor control, threading, construction, mark making and dough activities. We will support all children to develop their pencil grip and pencil control further. | Encourage your child to dress and undress independently wherever possible including having a go at zips on coats and Velcro shoe straps or buckles.  Support your child in assessing and taking appropriate risks such as using a new piece of playground apparatus at the park.Playground Equipment | Swings, Multi Play Structures, Themed Play and more  | KOMPAN  Encourage proficient and independent hand washing before snacks, meals or any food prep.  You might like to practise some basic sewing skills (starter kits available online / in Hobbycraft) as we will be learning to sew at school this half term! |
| ***Communication and Language***  ***Literacy*** | Children will continue to be encouraged to take part in circle time activities within small and large groups. There will continue to be lots of opportunities for pupils to express their views, share stories and become confident to speak in a familiar group and we will continue to support children in responding to ideas expressed by others with relevant comments and questions. Children will be encouraged to use talking to help work out problems and organise thoughts  Children will be introduced to a wide range of vocabulary linked to our Materials topic, including***man-made, raw, natural, magnetic, metal, plastic, fabric, denim, wool, recycling.***  Targeted Language interventions will continue to be delivered to those pupils who will benefit from the extra opportunity to develop their expressive and receptive language skills and early language development. | Encourage your child to have a go at labelling any pictures they draw or models they create. Other opportunities for writing at home include writing shopping lists, writing cards to family or friends, making tickets for shows or movie nights. It is fine for Nursery’s writing attempts to just be marks on paper!  Reception children will continue to bring home phonics sheets to help consolidate our phonics learning each week.  Nursery children will continue to bring home a weekly story sack or wordless book to share. Please support your child in talking about the pictures / characters / storyline and plot in detail.  Read a story to your child every day. Encourage your child to talk about the illustrations in the stories. Model how to hold a book correctly and turn pages. Feed your child’s imagination and deepen their vocabulary by telling them a range of stories |
| ***Mathematics*** | Children in Nursery will be learning to count and recognise numbers from 5-10 and beyond if they are ready. They will also be using the language of space, size, distance and time sequence and they will look in detail at repeating patterns. Children will also be subitising numbers to 5 in games.  Children in Reception will become competent in subitising and counting on or back within 10. We will then develop understanding of tens and ones of teen numbers to 20. Children will use tens frames and number lines competently to solve mathematical problems. We will be working hard to consolidate our recall of number bonds to 10 as well as doubles facts, subtraction and addition. | With Reception children, practise counting, sharing amounts between two groups and recognising numbers up to 20 with your child. Find opportunities to practice addition and subtraction up to 10.  You might like to go on a ‘Shape Hunt’ searching for and describing basic 2d (square, rectangle, triangle, circle) and 3d (sphere, pyramid, cone, cube, cuboid) shapes around your home.  Shapes Scavenger Hunt Free Games | Activities | Puzzles | Online for kids |  Preschool | Kindergarten | by Ellen Weber  With Nursery children, use familiar objects or colours to make repeating patterns encouraging children to describe the patterns they make / see. |
| ***Understanding of the World*** | Children will be learning about the properties of different materials and the difference between raw and man-made materials.  We will also be learning about the changes to the season and searching for these changes in the environment.  For our ‘People who help us’ topic we will learn about the roles of different professions and Road Safety. | Go on walks and point out the changes that are taking place in the environment as we move towards summer.  Discuss recycling materials and how you do this in your home. Point out different materials and their properties in the environment.  ***If any parents would like to talk to the children about your profession, we’d love to hear from you! Please contact a member of the Early Years Team.*** |
| ***Expressive Arts and Design*** | Children will be taught a range of skills to help them develop confidence and enjoyment of expressive arts, from singing and dancing to selecting appropriate media and materials to create. | Allow children to explore creatively using tools such as paintbrushes, dabbers, sponges. Talk to them about their choices and creative ideas. Encourage creative role play and expression through music / singing.  Perhaps you can research an artist and share what you find on Tapestry? We’d love to hear from you! |
| ***Religious Education*** | Our R.E topic this half term is To the ends of the Earth.  Children will learn about the joy Jesus brought at Easter and about his Ascension to his Father in heaven. We will look for signs of new life in the beautiful world around us and thank God for these things. We will learn about the Holy Spirit and the apostles in the early church. | Go for a Summer walk to look for signs of new life such as flowers and baby animals growing.  Say prayers to thank God for the beautiful world he has created.  Free Prayer Clipart Pictures - Clipartix |

Reception, please continue to return reading books every Monday. A member of staff will take these out of the children’s bags and tick them off once received. Unfortunately if books are not returned, your child will not be able to take the following week’s book home to practise.

Nursery can enjoy their wordless books or storysacks for a full week before returning them to class every Friday please.

Forest School sessions will continue this term on Thursday afternoons. Please ensure your child has named welly boots and Forest School kit in school every Thursday. There may be occasions where other school events occur and Forest School sessions will not take place.

If you have any questions please feel free to catch us at drop off or collection times and we will be happy to make an appointment to discuss all queries or concerns.

We look forward to another busy and exciting term ahead!

Mrs Overett Mrs Clark

EYFS Teacher EYFS Teacher