**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 7th January 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, we hope you all had a restful Christmas break and you are feeling refreshed and ready for the new term ahead! We are very much looking forward to working with you and your children this term.

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

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| Monday | Mrs Gilbert, Mrs Doncaster |
| Tuesday | Mrs Gilbert, Mrs Doncaster, Mrs Healy (am) |
| Wednesday | Mrs Gilbert, Mrs Healy (am) Mrs Hennessy, Mrs Crowley (pm) |
| Thursday | Mrs King, Mrs Doncaster , Mr Hill (pm) |
| Friday | Mrs King, Mrs Doncaster, Mr Fitzgerald(PE) |

Our Curriculum

Our R.E units will cover ‘The Good News!’ which focus on Jesus as a young boy, The Holy Family and Jesus choosing his Disciples. In the second half of the Spring term we will be covering ‘Following Jesus’ and explore the story of the Good Samaritan and the Easter Story. Our class Act of Worship will be on **Thursday 3rd of March** at **9.15am**. You are warmly invited to join us for our assembly which will focus on the period of Lent.

The children will have a daily Maths, English and Phonics lesson. We will also be continuing with our new reading scheme where the children will read in a small group sharing the same book for three consecutive days. They will then bring the book home for the weekend where the children should focus on expression, fluency and comprehension. It is very important that all books are returned to school each Tuesday so they can be used for another group. Alongside our work in school, we strongly encourage you to continue to share and read with your child on a daily basis. The children will soon be bringing home ‘Interest books’ which they have chosen from the library. They are not expected to be able to read these books independently. The purpose of these books are to be a topic for discussion with your child and to foster a love of reading.

Our Science topics this term are ‘’Little Masterchefs’ and ‘Materials Monsters.’ We will look at what makes a healthy balanced diet and how you can help stay healthy with exercise and good hygiene. The second half term will focus on materials around us their uses and properties.

In History we will be looking at The Greatest Explorers. We will learn about the discoveries they made and how they achieved their exploration adventures. After half term, our Geography focus will be on Journeys. We will investigate where our food comes from and the journey it has made from source to plate!

Mr Hill will continue to lead both Music and Computing, the children will experience using programmable toys and develop their skills by learning how to programme computer games!

PE will take place twice per week (**Mondays and Fridays**). Please ensure a **named** PE kit is in school every day as children no longer wear their PE kit into school; the PE kit consists of a white t-shirt and white shorts, and black or brown tracksuit and trainers. A pair of socks is also useful for when the girls wear tights with their uniform. Please ensure all kit is **labelled clearly.**

Year 1 and 2 will take part in Forest School in the summer term (more details will follow later in the academic year.)

Homework

Weekly spellings will be sent home on a Friday to be tested the following Friday. 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 continue to use 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 working in partnership with you throughout the year.

Kind Regards,

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