**St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School**

**Executive Headteacher: Mrs M Keating**

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

Friday 10th January 2025

**SPRING TERM CURRICULUM LETTER**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, we hope you had a wonderful Christmas and restful New Year. 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 King, Mrs Crowley, Miss Roux |
| Tuesday | Mrs King, Mrs Crowley, Miss Roux, Mrs Goode (music) |
| Wednesday | Mrs King, Mrs Crowley, Miss Roux |
| Thursday | Mrs King, Mrs Crowley, Miss Roux |
| Friday | Mrs King, Mrs Crowley, Miss Roux (am). Mrs Crowley, Mrs Hennessy, Mr Fitzgerald (PE) (pm) |

**Our Curriculum**

Our **R.E** units are ‘Galilee to Jerusalem’ - The focus of this branch is for pupils to develop an early understanding of the Christian belief that through the ministry of Jesus, some of those who encountered him recognised he was the Son of God. The second unit is ‘Desert to Garden’ - For pupils, the focus of this branch is to learn a little about the season of Lent as a time to prepare for Easter and to know the story of the last week of Jesus’ life, his death, and resurrection.

Our **Class Prayer service** will be on **Thursday 6th February** at **2:45pm**. You are warmly invited to join us for our prayer service.

The children will have a daily Maths, English and Phonics lessons.

**Maths.** Year 1 – we will be looking at Place value within 20, addition and subtraction within 20, place value within 50, length and height, and mass and volume. Year 2 – Money, addition and subtraction, length and height, mass capacity and temperature.

**English.** Narrative unit: Traditional Tales featuring ‘Rapunzel’ by Bethan Woollvin. Non-Chronological Report unit featuring ‘Big Blue Whale’ by Nicola Davies and illustrated by Nick Maland.

**Reading.** 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 Thursday and we would kindly ask they are returned to class by the following Tuesday.

In **History** we will be learning about Our Local Heroes – who are our local heroes and why should we remember them? – lives of significant individuals. In **Geography**, we will be learning about People and their Communities – Where in the world do these people live? Understand geographical features by contrasting the UK with a non-European country.

Mrs Goode will lead **music** with the children on a Tuesday where they will be looking at the music from a range of genres and playing simple instruments by ear.

**P.E** will take place twice a week, **Thursdays (**with Miss Roux) **and Fridays** (with Mr Fitzgerald). 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. The children will explore balance, agility, hand/eye co-ordination, throwing /catching, jumping and skipping.

**Art**. We will be looking at art from islands around the world – printing/pattern/texture – including work of famous designer. We will look to our everyday environment for inspiration of patterns and shapes that we can use to print with.

**Homework**

**Spelling**s for year 2 which will follow the progression of spelling rules and skills beyond phonics. For both year 1 and 2 we will not be formally testing the children on their weekly spellings. We will have a weekly ‘spelling review’ where we will be looking at the application of the sound rule taught. We will internally review and support children where needed. Your child will not be given a ‘score’. If we have any concerns about your child’s application of spelling, we will contact you. **Homework** will be set every half term and any completed homework can be uploaded to Tapestry or bought in to school. We will provide a cross curricular activity grid of six home learning opportunities which can be completed at home in any order.

If you need to make an appointment to see us, please either email (mrsking@stcanterbury.herts.sch.uk) 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 King and Mrs Crowley