St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Year 2 – Autumn 1 Newsletter

Miss Sheridan • Mrs Kemp • Mrs Ndekwe



It is with great excitement that we welcome you to Year 2! I (Miss Sheridan) am delighted to be your child's class teacher and cannot wait to begin the year together. Mrs Kemp and Mrs Ndekwe are equally excited to be part of the Year 2 team, and we are all looking forward to building a happy, caring and successful classroom community.

Our aim is to ensure that every child feels happy, safe and valued whilst developing a love of learning. We also believe that a strong partnership between home and school is key to helping children thrive, so please don't hesitate to get in touch if you ever have any questions or concerns.

You can contact me via the school office at **office@st-thomascanterbury.medway.sch.uk** or by sending me a message through **ClassDojo**.

Learning at Home

Each half term, you will receive a **Curriculum Map** outlining what your child will be learning across the curriculum. Throughout the year, we will also send home regular homework to support and reinforce the learning taking place in school.

Reading

Reading is one of the most important ways you can support your child at home. We ask that children read with an adult as regularly as possible and record this in their Reading Record. Even confident readers benefit from reading aloud and discussing what they have read. During Term 1, books will be changed on **Wednesday, Thursday or Friday**, depending on your child's reading group. We will review this arrangement if necessary.

Maths

We also encourage children to practise their multiplication facts regularly, as these are an important part of Year 2 maths. By the end of the year, children are expected to know their **2, 5 and 10 times tables** (please amend if your school also expects the 3s). All children will be shown how to use **Times Table Rock Stars** independently, so please make use of our school subscription. Further information will follow.

Homework

Homework will be sent home every **Wednesday** and should be returned by the following **Monday**.

Each week, your child will receive:

- a new spelling list with a spelling activity to complete;
- one additional piece of homework linked to their learning in class.

Children will learn their spelling rule in school before bringing their spellings home to practise. We use our **Bubble Writing** handwriting scheme to support correct letter formation, sizing and spacing, so the spelling activity will also reinforce handwriting.

Spelling tests take place every **Monday**. Homework books will then be marked and returned on **Wednesday**, ready for the following week's homework.

As children move through Year 2, we encourage them to become increasingly independent and take responsibility for their own learning. We would really appreciate your support in encouraging your child to complete and return their homework as independently as possible.

PE

We have an exciting year of PE planned! Our PE day is **Thursday**, so please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit.

Children should wear:

- a white school PE T-shirt
- royal blue PE shorts
- trainers

During colder weather, children may wear plain navy tracksuit bottoms and a plain navy hoodie with no large logos.

Weekly Reminders

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday
✓Homework due ✓ Spelling test	✓ New homework ✓ New spellings	✓ PE kit worn to school

Thank you

Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to a fantastic year filled with learning, laughter and lots of wonderful memories!

Miss Sheridan, Mrs Kemp & Mrs Ndekwe

Helping your child at home

Reading	Writing	Maths
Good readers make for good writers. It is important that we support the children in becoming resilient learners who read for pleasure. Regular reading is essential in any year group, so we ask for the children to be read with as much as possible at home. We recommend that all children - even confident readers who prefer to read to themselves, are heard reading aloud daily. Visiting the library is a great way to get children excited about reading. There are various libraries local to us that will welcome you into their reading community: • https://www.medway.gov.uk/directory/6/find_a_library	Your child will be sent home with new spellings every Wednesday. Why not encourage them to try using a dictionary to practise finding the definitions for tricky or unfamiliar words on their lists? We will be focusing lots on uplevelling our vocabulary this year too, so beginning to use a thesaurus to explore synonyms would be great support. • https://kids.wordsmyth.net/we • https://kidthesaurus.com • ictgames.com	In Year 2, the expectations for mental arithmetic are slightly different from those in the previous academic year. This year, we'll be expected to count in steps of 2, 3, 5, 10; double and halve one and two digit numbers; and know the multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Here are some useful websites that you may wish to explore at home: • https://ttrockstars.com • https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check (you will be receiving a log in soon) • https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button • https://www.mathsframe.co.uken/resources/categgory/7/multiplication-and-division

play nice. work hard. stay kind.