



## Year 1 Summer Newsletter 2025

Welcome back to the summer term and we hope you all enjoyed the Easter holidays with your families.

Year 1 has a structured timetable and all National Curriculum subjects will be taught. We welcome communication with parents as we are available at the end of the school day once the children have been dismissed. We will continue to use ClassDojo to communicate and message parents directly and you are able to contact us via this platform. Please ensure you have access to the school Arbor account to receive all letters and contact from the school office. Key information can be found on the school website: <https://www.stthomascanterbury.org.uk>

Our main focus of learning continues to be Reading, Writing and Maths. Please refer to the Curriculum overview which provides further information about the subjects the children will be learning about this term.

Our PE lessons are on a Tuesday and a Thursday this term. Please ensure PE kits are named and they will be kept in school for the term. Earrings should be removed for PE lessons.

Spelling tests will be in place for Thursday's – information to follow.

We are planning to walk to the church this term for Mass and to have a look around the church and learn more about the different areas.

As part of our Ten Ten topic we are talking about People Who Help us – if your job involves helping people we would love to invite you into our classroom for you to tell us all about your job and the difference you make. Please let either teacher know, we would love to hear from you.

Homework will be given out on a Thursday and should be returned by the following Wednesday at the latest. Unfortunately, we will not be able to mark homework that is submitted after a Wednesday so encourage all homework to be completed on time. Children should complete their homework with a pencil and we ask for it to be your child's work only please.

Your child will have two reading scheme books to read at home. Please aim to read with your child for **10 minutes every day** and record this in the reading contact book. Word lists will be checked weekly. Your child will also choose a school library book to share at home every week. Please encourage your child to look after school books and ensure that they bring their reading folder to school every day.

Certificates are given to the children who read twenty times or more over the term. Research is very clear that the more children read at home, the more they succeed! Last half term we awarded 16 children for reading more than 20 times at home. Let's see if we can get all children reading at home to receive a certificate at the end of this term 😊

The Year 1 children will complete their Phonics Screen in Year 1 and we will arrange a meeting to explain the process to parents.

How can you help your child at home?

Reading and Phonics	Writing	Maths
<p>Read, read, read. Reading with and to your child is the single most powerful thing you can do to support their learning and progress at school.</p> <p>Join the local library and get involved in their activities.</p> <p>Bed time stories.</p> <p>Reading to family members.</p> <p>Phonics! Sound out letters and practice letter sounds. We will share weekly phonics work with you via ClassDojo for you to support class learning.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to write in sentences, but make it fun and meaningful. For example, writing a recount of a day out, writing a story or writing letters to friends and family.</p> <p>Correct letter formation is a focus in Year 1. Practise handwriting and letter formation. If your child has a weak grip or struggles to hold a pencil, strengthen their fingers using activities such as playdough, bead threading, construction with bricks and card lacing.</p>	<p>Practice counting to 100 (and beyond!) forwards and backwards.</p> <p>Count forwards and backwards in steps of 2, 5 and 10.</p> <p>Practise telling the time to the hour and half hour on a clock with hands.</p> <p>Practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.</p> <p>Talk about 'more than' and 'less than' and look for 2D and 3D shapes in the world around you.</p> <p>Involve your children in real life maths such as measuring, problem solving.</p> <p><a href="http://www.ictgames.com">www.ictgames.com</a> is a fantastic website the children love to explore.</p>

If you have any concerns, queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact us. We are more than happy to meet with you 😊

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Thomas and Miss Wright