

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16:14



NEWSLETTER

13th June 2024



Last week marked the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings, a pivotal moment in World War II when Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy, setting the stage for the liberation of Europe from Nazi tyranny. This historic event stands as a testament to the courage, sacrifice, and unity of those who fought for freedom. As people across the world commemorated this milestone, it reminds us of the enduring importance of international co-operation and the need to stand against oppression in all its forms. The lessons of D-Day continue to resonate, urging us to strive for a world where peace and justice prevail.

Last Thursday we were delighted to welcome the PTA Committee and additional volunteers to help set up and run our Father's Day Sale. This Sunday is Father's Day (16th June) and I hope everyone is ready to spoil the 'marvellous men' in their families. We saw some discerning shoppers in the hall last Thursday morning with various gifts and surprises secreted away in bags. Hopefully these will remain well hidden before Sunday morning!

With the Father's Day Sale out of the way I know the PTA Committee are turning their attention and energy to the '**PTA Summer Picnic**' planned for **Friday 21st June 2024** (3:30p.m. – 5:45p.m). They have recently sent out additional information via a Parent Hub message, so I do hope you have had an opportunity to take note of the details. The event is open to families and friends of St Thomas of Canterbury Church of England Primary School and will be happening straight after Sports Day on the school field. Bring your own food or pre-order Domino's pizza via the PTA website for delivery to the field! There will be plenty of entertainment on offer from the Performing Arts Club and PC & Roo and it is hoped that with fine weather and good company it will be a fantastic community event. Don't forget to bring your picnic blanket!

Please do take note of the health and safety requirements:

- No nut products to be brought on to the school grounds please
- Due to the terms of the PTA licence, adults are unable to bring their own alcohol – there will be a licensed bar
- Domino's pizza must be pre-ordered – they will not be sold on the day
- Children will need to be supervised by a responsible adult throughout the event
- No dogs on site
- No smoking or vaping is allowed on the school site at any time

As always we look forward to strengthening our partnership with you and bringing another busy, challenging but successful academic year to a close. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

REMINDER: Non-Pupil Professional Development & Training Day

In case you have missed this date on our previous newsletters, Parent Hub and the school website we would like to remind you that **Friday 14th June 2024** is a non-pupil professional development and training day and the school is **closed** to the children. That's TOMORROW!!

Dogs – Not Permitted on the School Site

Can I please remind all parents, carers and other adults who bring children to/from school that dogs are strictly forbidden from entering the school premises. This includes dogs which may be carried by their owners. We would also remind you that securing dogs outside of the school premises on the public path can also cause disruption and a potential hazard, especially if they are left unattended. Dogs must not be secured to the school fence and careful consideration should be given to where they are left so that they are not trailing leads across the pedestrian paths. Children are naturally inquisitive and may try and stroke a dog which is outside the school. We all have a duty to safeguard our children and adults and I would ask for your support and cooperation in this matter. Thank you.



Midday Assistant Vacancy – We Need You!!

WE NEED YOU!



An exciting opportunity has arisen to join our fantastic team of Midday Assistants (MDAs) for September 2024. We have two vacancies for Midday Assistant roles in school to assist in the care and welfare of the children during the lunchtime period. The hours are 11:55a.m. – 1:15p.m. Monday to Friday. No previous experience is necessary and training will be provided. Any successful applicants will be subject to pre-employment checks including a DBS disclosure.

If you are interested in this opportunity and becoming part of our wonderful MDA team or would like to find out more information please give your details to the School Office. We will then arrange for an application pack to be sent to you with further details.

Sports Day 2024

As I am sure you are aware from the dates sent out at the beginning of this term, Sports Day is fast approaching and is scheduled for **Friday 21st June 2024**. This will obviously be weather permitting! We do hope that you will be able to join us for this popular annual event!

EYFS & KEY STAGE 1

Parents/carers and other spectators can enter the school premises from **9:10a.m.** when the pedestrian gates to the school premises will be opened. We would kindly ask that you allow us time to get the children in to school safely before asking you to re-enter the school site. The event is due to start promptly at 9:30a.m.

KEY STAGE 2

Parents/carers and other spectators can enter the school premises from **1:10p.m.** when the gates to the Lower School playground will be opened. The event is due to start promptly at 1:30p.m.

There will be refreshments available to purchase during Sports Day with cold drinks and snacks on sale from the PTA. Can I kindly ask you to use the litter bins provided once you have finished with cups, wrappers...etc.

Parents/carers are kindly requested to stay behind the cordon on the school side of the track and should not under any circumstances make their way across the track to the children. The children will be sitting in their house groups and cheering for the children competing on their behalf in each race. The children will be closely supervised by members of our own staff, first aid will be on hand, and there is absolutely no need for any parents/carers to come across to their children. Please respect these guidelines to ensure everyone is able to enjoy the event!

No smoking or vaping is allowed on the school site at any time.

Please remember there will be no Key Stage 2 swimming lessons on this day.



REMINDER: Class & KS2 Team Photographs

On **Tuesday 18th June 2024** we will be welcoming the school photographer from Kittle Photography in for the day to take class photographs as well as some team pictures. Can I remind you that all children need to be wearing school approved summer uniform on this day. Don't forget to brush your hair and ensure you bring your best smile! Please ensure your child arrives to school on time as if they are late they may miss being in the class photograph!



Open Classrooms - A special invitation!



We are delighted to inform you that we are going to have another 'Open Classrooms' opportunity for parents/carers on **Tuesday 25th June 2024** from 3:30p.m. until 4:15p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to view your child's working environment and marvel at the displays within the classroom. The classteacher's will also be present to answer any questions you might have about the work on display. You will also get a chance to look at some of your child's exercise books to see the work they have completed to date. It is not an opportunity to discuss academic progress and attainment as this will have been covered during parents' evening and updated in End of Year Reports.

This is an open invitation with no designated appointment times and I'm sure your child will relish the opportunity to proudly show you around their classroom. Please remember to wait on the playground until 3:30p.m. Unfortunately we are not able to admit any pushchairs due to health and safety/fire regulations. We look forward to seeing you!

Finally....

As well as preparing for various transition visits to their new Secondary Schools for September 2024, the Year 6 children are busy rehearsing for their end of year production – '**A Hint of Snow White**'. I am sure this will be a great opportunity to have a bit of fun and showcase their gifts and talents!

On the subject of gifts and talents, we are looking forward to our KS1 & KS2 **Summer Music Concert** which is being held on Tuesday 9th July at 5:30p.m. Tickets will be distributed shortly and we look forward to seeing you.

Please do continue to pray for our Year 5 & 6 children who are currently preparing for Confirmation with Bishop Jonathan on Sunday 21st July at St Thomas of Canterbury Church.

The staff and I would like to thank you for your continued support and trust. Please keep the life and work of the school in your on-going thoughts and prayers.

Mr D. Moran
Headteacher



**Summer
Term**

(....can someone remind the weather!!)

A Christian community where children are known by name and loved, which empowers them to learn and to grow in faith, knowledge and fellowship.

And...please remember if you have any questions or queries or comments feel free to contact us:

admin@stthomaspri.essex.sch.uk