



St. Thomas the Martyr C.E. Primary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

The children have all settled really well and have worked so hard in their first half term in school. I am really proud of each and every one of them. Thank you for all of your support and we look forward to an exciting lead up to Christmas.

This half term we are continuing to spend lots of time outdoors and will be enjoying the different weather as winter arrives. Please ensure your child has a pair of wellies and a spare set of clothes that can be left in school every day. Please include a full change of clothes including socks and underwear with a top and pants or leggings. The children are becoming more independent when getting ready for outdoor play and it really helps if they have their own clearly identifiable bag of clothes if they get wet or muddy. Please remember to label all clothes/uniforms and please could you check all of your school jumpers/cardigans as a couple of labelled cardigans have already gone missing. As the weather becomes colder please provide a hat and gloves as the children enjoy choosing to play and learn outside and we encourage outdoor play whatever the weather.

The children are using their water bottles well and thank you for your co-operation in filling them with only water and no juice. This supports our healthy school award and encourages the children to regularly drink water compared to sweet tasting juices. The children are enjoying the different healthy snacks and fruit and they are encouraged to be independent in their choices. Snack money for this half term is £6.00 and please can this be sent into school in a labelled envelope to Reception staff please before Friday 10th November.

The children will all be receiving their reading books and reading record books with the sign in codes for Oxford Owls. There will be a phonics/ reading meeting in school for Reception Parents only on **Wednesday 8th November at 2.15** in the school hall. Reading books need to be in school every day and will be changed once a week on Fridays. Please only sign the reading record book once for each book but read as many times as you can throughout the week. Reading a wide variety of enjoyable books alongside their school book will help to engage the children in a life long love of reading. See if they can spot any of the sounds from their reading books in other books and retell the story they have listened to in the correct order. Please provide a school book bag that is clearly labelled so reading books and reading records do not get mixed up. We continue to have a wide selection of books available in our 'Book Swap' box so please feel free to use this each week.

Thank you for a great start engaging with Seesaw and commenting on the pictures and sharing them at home. The children are always keen to talk about their photo's and show off their creations. Any access or support needed with Seesaw please don't hesitate to ask.

PE day in Reception is staying as MONDAY for this half term so please send your child into school on Mondays with trainers on or in a bag. Please ensure your child can put on and fasten their own shoes- Velcro is always a good help here. We swap shoes/ trainers/ wellies many times a day so independence is always encouraged.

Thank you for your support with the recent school raffle and different charity events. We will provide details of the upcoming Christmas events and please ensure any money is sent into school in a labelled envelope so we know what it is for.

Please try to read the weekly newsletter on our school website each week to ensure you are up to date with all that is going on in and around school. <https://stthomasthemartyr.co.uk/>

Remember to send any used batteries into school for our ECO council recycling scheme and any junk for modelling will be gratefully received. Please remember no toilet roll tubes but kitchen roll tubes are fine.

Please remember to send into school any family photo's that can be shared on our Family wall in class. The children enjoy seeing their family members and chatting to their friends about their families and fun experiences. Photos will be copied and returned or alternatively please email any photo's to r.ironside@st-thomasmartyr.lancs.sch.uk

Here are a few important dates for your diary-

Monday 6th November- Individual School Photographs.

Wednesday 8th November- Flu vaccinations in school.

Wednesday 8th November -Phonics & Reading Meeting- 2023 2.15 pm in the school hall.

Thursday 7th December- Christmas Jumper Day. Come to school wearing your Christmas Jumpers.

Wednesday 13th December- Elf Day. Children can come to school dressed as an elf with a donation to support The Alzheimer's Society.

Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December-10.30am -Nursery and Reception Christmas Nativity-In the school Hall -All welcome.

Tuesday 19th December- Breakfast with Santa from 8am in the school hall- children to have breakfast together and welcome a very special visitor to join us.

Tuesday 19th December- Christmas Party Day-Children to come to school wearing party clothes.

End of Term- Thursday 21st December- School closes at 2pm.

Monday 8th January- School opens at 8.40am.

Thank you for your ongoing support.
Miss Ironside & The Reception Team.