

Thank you for entrusting us to work in partnership with you to educate your child. It is the start of a special journey and relationship between home, school and the parish.



We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

Your child's education started at birth and you are your child's most influential teacher. During this time they will have learnt more than at any other time in their life.



We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

What can you do
to prepare your
child for school?

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

Walk past the school so your child comes to recognise it. Talk about who will drop them in and who will pick them up. Look at the website and discuss the photos. Share photos of you at school and talk about happy memories of your own time at school.



We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

Routine is so important.

Run through your morning routine regularly before September so your child is used to it

- What time will you have to wake your child up?
- What time will they need to have breakfast?
- What time will you need to leave the house?

A calm start to the day will make for a smooth transition into school.

Ensure you have a good bedtime routine.

- Bath, cuddle, story and early to bed.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

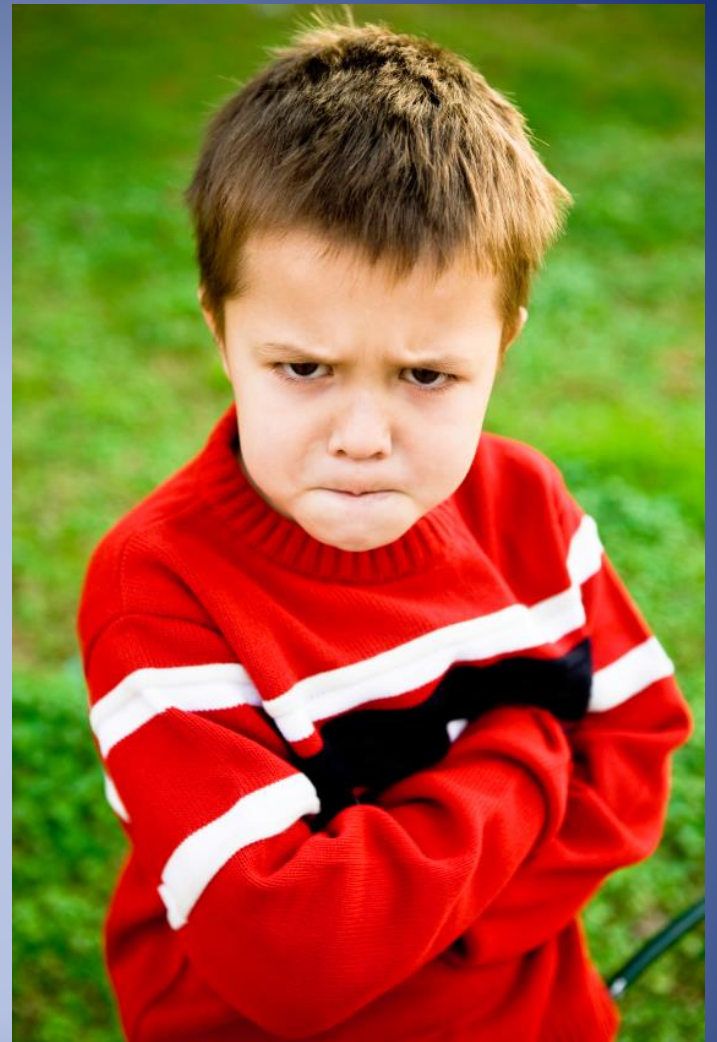


- Encourage your child to try on their school uniform and to practise doing buttons and zips.
- Name every piece of uniform and their Book Bag.
- Velcro fastenings on shoes are more practical and aid independence. Boots and Kicker style boots should not be worn.
- School coats should be navy blue.
- There is no need to buy the PE kit until the Spring term.
- No earrings or jewellery.
- No extreme hairstyles, motifs cut into hair or coloured hair extensions.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

Behaviour

- Have high expectations.
- Be consistent.
- We build on your discipline.
- Children should have kind hands and feet.



We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



If your child has a special toy or blanket encourage them to get used to not having it during the day.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Each EYFS has a set of toilets and be reassured your child will be able to use them whenever they need to.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Fruit will be offered to your child in the morning so encourage them to have a healthy snack at home too.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Initially the children will eat lunch in their classrooms so they are in a familiar setting. Please provide them with a healthy packed lunch. No fizzy drinks or sweets. Only pack what you know your child will be able to eat.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Encourage your child to be able to wash their hands independently using soap and water.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Encourage your child to use a tissue. Know to catch a sneeze in a tissue, throw it in the bin and wash their hands with soap.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Encourage your child to be independent - hang up their coat, put away their toys etc.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Teach social skills; turn taking, asking to join in a game, sharing a piece of equipment.

Play board games and don't always let your child win!

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

Value the importance of talk. Enrich their vocabulary and give them the opportunity to ask lots of questions. Use the journey to and from school to talk. Please avoid greeting them and being on your mobile phone, your child will be very excited to see you and tell you about their day.

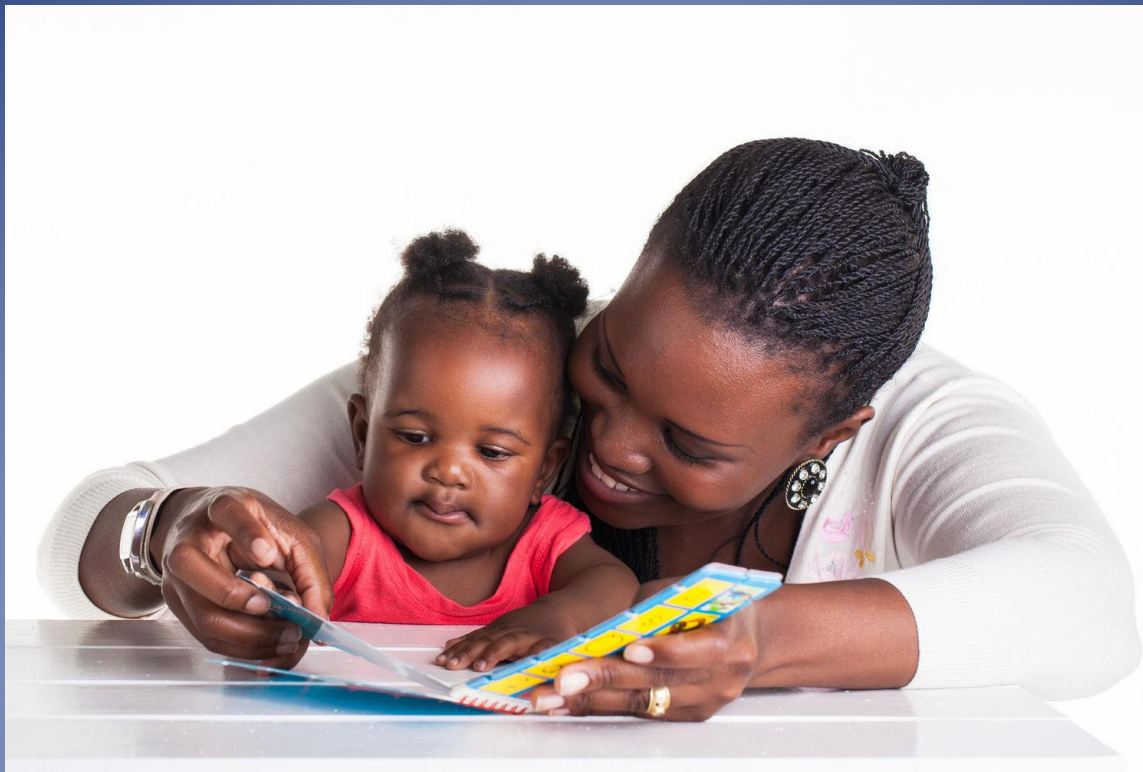


We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



You are a role model for your child - show them the importance of books by reading and enjoying books, newspapers and magazines. They will want to copy you.

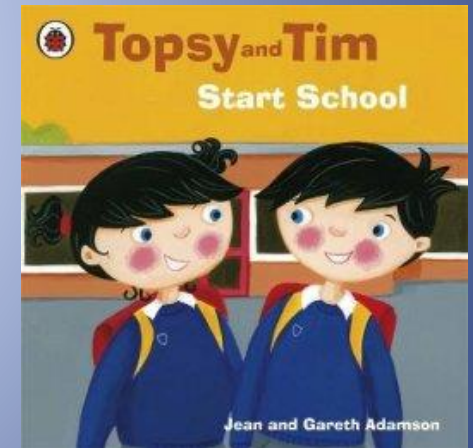
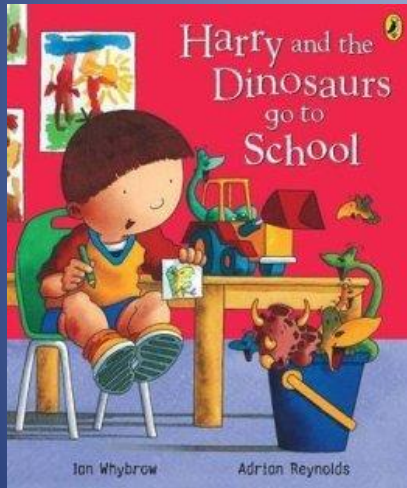
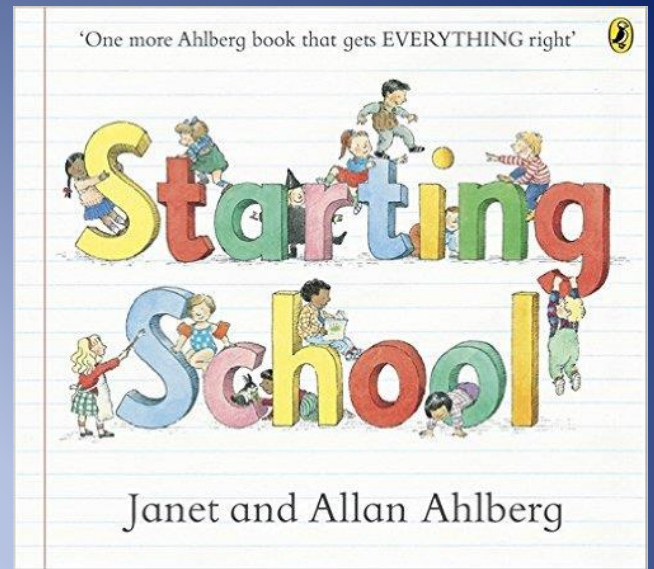
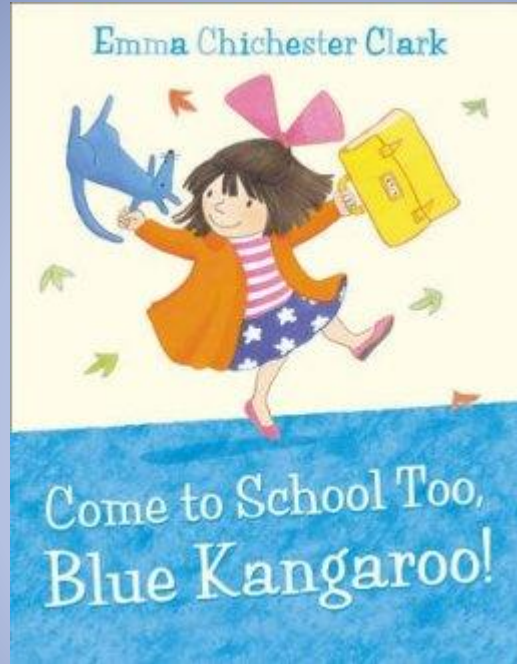
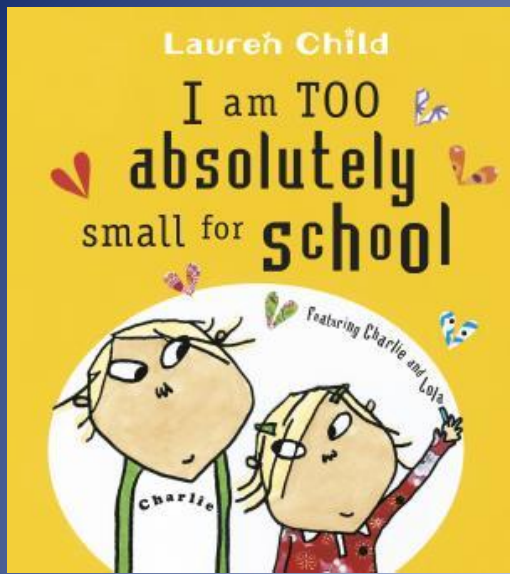
We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Make reading fun and part of your daily routine:

- Share stories
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes
- Use different voices
- Encourage them to join in

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Share books about school

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



Although the library is closed at the moment if you go onto <https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/libraries> you are able to borrow e-books.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

Activities to do with your child:

- Counting games
- Show your children how to point to objects as they count
- Counting songs
- Shape hunts

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

Develop fine motor skills - good foundation to writing

- Threading - beads, buttons and pasta
- Weaving
- Construction toys: Lego, Knex
- Cutting and sticking activities
- Recognise name - write name on cards, artwork, letters and postcards.
- Colouring drawing and painting
- Building junk models

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.

- Listening and moving to music
- Be active: swimming, climbing equipment, running games, riding a bike/scooter, ball games.

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT



**At St Thomas' we are learning to follow Jesus,
showing respect and consideration for ourselves
and others.**

**We all have the opportunity to learn and work to
the best of our ability in a safe and loving
environment.**

We look forward to meeting you and your child in September

We learn, achieve and love following Jesus.