



CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Clare Tickel

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Francesca Perry

Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Melanie Lord

Durdells Avenue Kinson Bournemouth BH11 9EH Tel.(01202) 574277

Fax. (01202) 594114 e-mail: christtheking@ctkcps.com

Diocese of Plymouth, registered charity number: 213227

Website: www.ctkcps.com

30th March 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope that the first week of home learning went well for you all and that you are all continuing to follow government advice to stay at home.

Thank you for supporting your children with their learning at home and for the messages of support to teachers and staff. It is not easy for any of us adapting to new work routines and maintaining a connected community. Well done to everyone who has adapted well and managed to overcome some of the challenges that home learning presents. I hope that in time everyone will feel that they are establishing a good routine at home.

A number of questions have arisen around difficulties logging onto devices and the amount of work that has been set, and regarding the expectations of what your children should be completing at home. It is difficult to give one simple answer to these questions, the reason being that your children and your circumstances are unique. Therefore, please liaise with your children's teachers if you are unsure as to whether you feel there is too much work, the work is too challenging, etc. We need to be flexible in this time and support you all to the best of our abilities. We will be updating you on our plans for work over Easter Holiday later this week.

I am aware that many of our families may be facing challenges unlike any you have faced before. For example, you may be struggling to buy enough food to feed your families, or juggling adults working from home alongside supporting children in learning, you may be anxious about the health of a loved one. If you are struggling in anyway please email us and we will be in touch to signpost you to the services that are available. If you are in receipt of Free School Meals our admin team will be in touch with you regarding a new scheme for food vouchers during school closure periods.

Some top tips to help you manage home learning:

- ❖ If there is only one electric device – set up a rota.
- ❖ Set up home learning spaces in a quiet area of the home.
- ❖ Structure your day – the teachers have posted useful timetables to help you do this.
- ❖ Use incentives and rewards at home to encourage and motivate your children to learn.
- ❖ Continue to use our 7C rules at home and have clear boundaries for behaviour.

I would like to thank the staff who have worked in school over the past week, and will continue to do so over the coming months, to provide emergency care for the children of key workers. This is an invaluable service and one which directly supports the nation's efforts against COVID-19.

Well done to our PTFA for raising £184.30 for Hope for Food on our Mufti Day Friday 20th March. The PTFA rounded this up to £300 - Hope for Food are immensely grateful to everyone in our community.

Please do email the school with any photos or pictures of your children learning and we will endeavour to share as many of these in our weekly letters. We will also be sharing any important updates regarding school, celebrating those children who have been producing great work and requesting prayers for members of our community. I am also appealing to you to contribute by sending in:

- ❖ Any tips and strategies for keeping your children engaged with their work
- ❖ Websites that have been really helpful
- ❖ Other activities that are helping you as a family during these unusual times
- ❖ Sending us photos of anything interesting you have been up to – perhaps we could start with a picture of your family completing the Joe Wicks workout!

Resources to help:

- ❖ Dragonfly Impact.Co.UK is a group on Facebook that posts daily videos to support wellbeing, mentoring for parents, advice for parents with children with ASD/ADHD and for children who are difficult to motivate at home.
They can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/dragonflyontrack/>
- ❖ Email the school office if you have any requests for prayers. These requests will be included in the next email and the CTK Prayer Shot Community will pray for your needs. All requests are added anonymously.
- ❖ When we cannot attend Mass in person, we are encouraged to participate 'virtually' in an on-line Mass, especially on Sundays. You can find live streaming from some of our local churches www.churchservices.tv
- ❖ Many craft, liturgy and Bible resource links to help our children and families grow in faith can be found at www.avonstour.co.uk/resources/prayer/childrens-and-family-resources
- ❖ Further adult resources are available on the Diocesan website at <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/coronavirus-information>
- ❖ Short daily audio recordings of The Gospel and prayer which can be used for personal reflection can be found at www.pray-as-you-go.org
- ❖ Daily prayer time for children led by a member of Portsmouth Diocese Education Team
<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/our-schools-and-children-at-home-thought-for-the-day>

Please keep in touch and stay safe
Kind regards,

Clare Tickel

Clare Tickel

Headteacher

