



### **Newsletter November 20<sup>th</sup> 2020**

Dear Parents,

Another week is over and we have so much to celebrate again. A special congratulations this week goes to Samuel, in Year 2, for a successful 'Spaghetti Dip on 17<sup>th</sup> November 'World Prematurity Day'.

Samuel's mother writes: "Thank you so much for everyone who donated for Samuel's Spaghetti Dip to raise money for Southampton Nicu where he was once cared for and saved many times when he was born. I have spoken with the charity and they told me that fundraising at the moment means more than ever due to the amount of events being cancelled due to Covid. Samuel's dip was on the 17th November and although he was very nervous he was amazing and has raised an amazing £1540. Please find attached some photos of his dip and also a link to a video that was live streamed on the day if anybody would like to see how he got on." Many thanks again Samuel and Vicky Maple.

<https://youtu.be/679oghMjBsI>



### **Michael Rosen**

Excitement is mounting for his virtual visit and I hoped you managed to order books if you wanted to. Do please look out for Twitter posts on 4<sup>th</sup> December!

### **Staffing**

Following our farewell to Mrs Bending, we are pleased to announce that Miss Branca will join our teaching assistant team later this month.

### **Remote Learning at Christ the King School**

Next week there will be information coming home with support about how to email and contact each class teacher. Please be aware that it is our policy not to expect staff to answer emails outside normal working hours. Thank you for your kind understanding.

### **COVID-19 Risk Assessment**

If your child or a member of your household becomes **symptomatic of COVID-19**, please follow the Government guidelines and apply for a test. This means that all members of your household must self-isolate unless the outcome of the test is negative.

Please inform the school that you are symptomatic and inform the school of the outcome of the test. If you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, then you must follow the Government guidance on self-isolation to protect others in the community.

### **TT Rockstars KS2 Competition**

Congratulations to all pupils who took part in the TT Rockstars competition – a special well done to Travis S and Ludo in Year 5L who were our CtK top scorers.

### **Sleep on the Floor for One Night**

The Catholic Children's Society is organising a sponsored '***Sleep on the Floor for One Night***' over the Christmas holidays. This will be shared with all parishes next week, and will be detailed in their newsletters, encouraging anyone interested to help raise essential funds over the Christmas holidays. We encourage as many families as possible to get involved.

### **Anti-bullying Week**

Thank you to Mrs Ayton, our Anti-Bullying Champion, who has supported the pupils through a range of anti-bullying activities in school this week – learning about kindness, what unkindness looks like and how to ask for help are really important parts of 'stamping out' bullying.

### **Flu Immunisations**

Flu immunisations will be going ahead on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Please log on and book your child a flu vaccine as they will not be able to be immunised without this.

### **Parents Evenings**

Teachers will be in touch next week with appointments for virtual progress meetings or phone calls. Please do let your child's class teacher know asap if you require a consultation.

## **Safeguarding**

Please talk to your children about kindness and keeping safe on line. As children play more games online we need to monitor the contacts they have – it is very important that children do not post 'Tic Tok' videos of themselves wearing school uniform or identify themselves in any way. They must keep their personal information safe and not share it.

## **Parent Questionnaire**

**Thank you** to all parents who completed the Sandwell parent questionnaire. A couple of concerns were flagged up:

1. **Narrow Pathways:** Some parents are unhappy that the pathways leading to the school from both Durdells Avenue and also Creasy Road are narrow. We recognise that this is a problem and have included this in our COVID-19 Risk Assessment. Please ensure that all parents and children **walk on the left in single file**. This will ensure that everyone can pass safely by. It is not fair on people coming the opposite direction if they have to step aside to avoid persons walking in pairs. Social distancing is also expected – please maintain a distance of 2 metres between families entering and exiting site. Please follow these guidelines to keep everyone safe. If the above safety control measures are disregarded, we will reconsider whether introducing a one-way system will be necessary.
2. **Communication:** Communication is something that we work very hard at to get right at Christ the King School. Good communication takes time and energy; it requires a commitment to genuinely improve outcomes for all pupils and families. We hope that the weekly newsletters are helpful – these are emailed to all parents and also uploaded to the school website. If you require a translation, please let our office staff know. We will also ensure that where we are aware parents are separated, both are informed of their child/ren's progress and have up to date information. Please let us know if you need us to contact you with information about your child/ren. Other forms of communication that parents have found helpful include: Our PTFA Facebook page, Marvellous Me, text messages from school, emails, website and Twitter. A couple of parents have mentioned the benefit of WhatsApp parent groups which is something we can explore further if there is enough interest.

## **RHE (Relationships and Health Education)**

Relationships Education and Health Education is statutory. Sex Education is non-statutory.

There is only one lesson (in Year 6) that is considered Sex Ed because it explores sexual intimacy. Parents may choose to opt out of this one lesson if they prefer to have the responsibility to talk about it at home. There are many overlaps with science, health education and relationships education, for example: Year 2 learn about body parts and gender differences – this falls under Health Education (for obvious reasons) and also Relationship Education because it is about child protection.

### **Lunch Time**

We are having a focus on table manners in school and ask that all parents take time over this weekend to reinforce with your children about the importance of table manners. Please also ask your child to recite our lunchtime prayer (Grace before Meals). Perhaps they could lead your family in the prayer before a family meal this weekend. 😊

This week a couple of children have had Nutella sandwiches – Nutella contains nuts and is not allowed – we have a **No Nuts Policy!**

### **EYFS Open Day**

Our Early Years virtual presentations and videos are posted on the website on our admissions page. Please do check this page regularly for updates. If you require a school place for your child in September 2021, note that the deadline for applications is January 2021. If you require any further information or advice, please contact the school and we will help you.

### **Pre-School Admissions**

We currently have places available in our Pre-School for pupils age 3 years+ Please do look at our virtual presentation and video on our website for more information.

### **Feast of Christ the King**

Our school feast day is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – this marks the last Sunday before Advent starts. The pupils in Year 6 have prepared a short assembly for pupils in KS2 for Monday to help them to celebrate the feast.



### **Let Us Pray**

We give thanks for:

- The pupil and staff community of Christ the King School.
- Our community of Christ the King Church and the support of the parish.

- Our pupils in Year 6 who have planned and prepared whole school collective worship for Anti-Bullying Week.

We pray for those in our community:

- All those suffering because of COVID-19, especially those known to us.
- All of our families – that our homes may be filled with peace, hope, love.
- Fr Chacko and all members of our Christ the King School and Parish family.

**And finally,** have a good weekend and enjoy time with your loved ones.

Best wishes to you all.

Clare Tickel  
Headteacher

