

21<sup>st</sup> January 2021

### Christ the King News

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy start to the Spring term and Covid cases have remained high across the school – especially in KS2. This has impacted upon staff and pupil absence and again we have seen a shortage of supply teachers available across BCP. We are fortunate to have a talented, experienced and dedicated team of support staff, including Higher Level Teaching Assistants and Teaching Assistants. We are grateful to the team for maintaining continuity for the children. If your child is self-isolating and feels well then please inform the school so that we can ensure they access remote learning.

Colder weather – please do remind your child how to zip up their coats and please provide a warm hat and gloves to keep them extra warm outside. They will also need extra under layers to wear inside the building during these colder months.

#### **Punctuality is important!**

We are seeing a growing number of pupils in all year groups arriving late to school. We are having a huge push on punctuality this term to get everyone back on track with expectations pre-Covid. Late arrivals unsettle the children and disrupt, not only their learning, but also the flow of learning for their classmates. Watch this space as we look to put in measures to encourage pupils to arrive in school on time and maximise their learning time.

#### **Covid Update**

Please continue to take regular lateral flow tests – thank you to Year 6 pupils who have been advised to do this daily as cases are high in this year group. If you or your child has a positive LFD test you must self-isolate immediately and follow the Government guidelines. If you or your child has symptoms you must book a PCR test even if the LFD shows up negative. You may phone the office for advice but we will not allow any pupil showing symptoms in school until they have the result of their PCR test.

**Self-Isolation:** The SI period has been reduced again for any person who tests positive for COVID-19. Usually, you have to SI for 10 full days (with day zero being the day you test positive or develop symptoms), however, you can now leave SI on day 6 if you receive a negative lateral flow (LFD) test on both day 5 and 6 (must be 24 hours apart) and as long as you do not have a high temperature. More details here: <https://tinyurl.com/k8va5kxx>. It is still the case that you do not need to SI if you are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 as long as you are under 18 (or a fully vaccinated adult) and receive a negative result from a LFD test at home every day for 7 days. It is also still the case that you must SI if you receive a

positive test result (LFD or PCR) or develop any of the COVID-19 symptoms: high temperature; new, continuous cough; a loss of change to your sense of smell or taste. If you do develop symptoms, you must book a PCR test here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> Please ensure you report all LFD results (positive or negative) to the NHS via this link: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. Further guidance on COVID-19 and what you need to do can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

### **Children's Mental Health Week – 7th-13th February 2022**

Update from Mrs Atkinson:

To celebrate Children's Mental Health Week, we will be fundraising for Place2Be by inviting children to 'Express Yourself' and wear clothing of their choice which reflects themselves as an individual.

For instance, if you enjoy football - you may want to wear a football kit, or simply just coming to school wearing clothes of your favourite colour - be as creative as you like. The children will celebrate their uniqueness and differences by taking part in a range of activities throughout the week to promote positive mental health and well-being.

Please send your child into school with £1 donation on **Friday 11th February**. This week is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on children and young people's mental health. By getting involved, you will not only be raising important awareness, but also vital funds to ensure every child has easy access to mental health support.



## Reading Update from Miss O'Sullivan

### READING WITH YOUR CHILD AT HOME

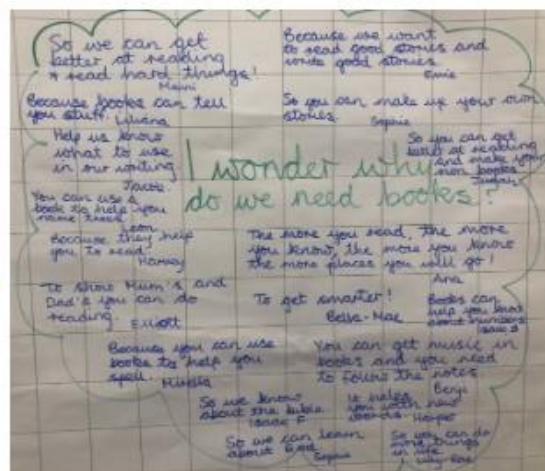
As a parent, you play the most important role in helping your child to learn. Helping your child read is very important because **reading is the foundation for ALL learning**. Children who read with their families develop a love of reading that lasts a lifetime.

At Christ the King, we expect children to read **daily** and have this evidenced in their Reading Diary. Please ensure that this happens for your child to enable them to become confident, fluent readers.

If you would like support with any area of reading, please contact Miss O'Sullivan who will be more than happy to help.

The **MORE** that you  
**READ**, the **MORE** things  
you will **KNOW**.  
The **MORE** that you  
**Learn**, the **MORE** places  
you'll **GO**.

A CHILD  
WHO READS  
WILL BE AN ADULT  
WHO THINKS.



## Scooters and Cycles

Please ensure that your child/children get off scooters and bikes at the site entrance – riding on school premises is unsafe for pedestrians.

## Uniform Policy

Please ensure your child wears the correct uniform for PE – navy blue tracksuit bottoms only instead of blue shorts. Pupils should not wear accessories such as large bows or wear nail polish. Haircuts should be a minimum of a grade 2 with no shaved patterns please.

## Catholic Life Update from Mrs Lord

Catholic Life.

Our Mini Vinnies have had their first meeting this week and our GIFT Team will be meeting next week to discuss the launch of our Synodial journey.

### SYNOD 2022

'May we try to listen and be silent in order to make space for the beauty of God' (Pope Francis)



Pope Francis wants to hear from you; He is listening!  
You have been chosen as Missionary Disciples!  
How can you make our Church amazing?

Our school SYNOD calls us to think about our Church and reflect in the presence of God about the needs of our Church and how our Church will evolve in the future

They will be answering these questions.

**GIFT Team:**

**Question 1:**

What does Church mean to you?

**Question 2:**

What makes you go to Church?

**Question 3:**

What should our Church be like in the future?

**Let Us Pray**

**We give thanks for:**

- The Year 5 music workshop
- Those returning from Covid isolation
- Those taking regular lateral flow tests

**We pray for:**

- A child who recently lost their Grandmother
- For all staff and families who are caring for ill relatives
- The vulnerable in our society

**And finally,** I look forward to seeing you after the weekend.

Kind regards,

*Clare Tickel*

Clare Tickel  
Headteacher



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SCHOOL



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sandwell  
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