



5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### **Christ the King News**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you, thank you and thank you! I hope this evening you all celebrate the end of lockdown home learning and enjoy a family meal to mark the end of this difficult time. The efforts that you have put in to supporting your children with their remote learning will have helped to close the 'learning gap' that the press and government keep talking about. Every little helps and obviously the more they have done the better for your child.

Over the past two weeks we have been busy preparing the curriculum for the children's transition back into school which will place a big emphasis on their well-being and physical and creative development. We will also use the next four weeks to identify any learning gaps in reading, writing and maths and plan 'catch up' programmes where they are needed.

The Risk Assessment has been updated and takes account of the new variants of the virus that have been circulating communities. One such measure will include staff wearing face coverings within the classroom settings. Visors may also be worn and teachers will ensure that their faces are seen when they are teaching and when distanced. Desks within classrooms will continue to be forward facing and pupils will be reminded at regular intervals about respiratory and hand hygiene. All bubbles will continue to be kept separate both during the school day and at breakfast and after school clubs.

Access to school will be from both Durdells Avenue and Creasy Road, however, we continue to ask all parents to walk single file on pathways, wear a face covering and not congregate in groups for catch up chats. I know it will be tempting to catch up with friends at drop off or pick up but as we continue to be in a national lockdown all families must leave site and head home without delay.

*Anxiety* has been a frequent word uttered by parents and expressed by some pupils over the last couple of weeks and we hope to reassure you that we have done everything we can to prepare and mitigate the risks of fully opening our school again. Class teachers have reassured pupils in their face to face live daily sessions and the assemblies posted by myself and Mrs Perry have also focused on encouraging pupils to feel positive about returning to school. Do share the Social Story with your children which is saved in the wellbeing resources on our CTK website Covid 19 webpage. It has also been shared on the new Ctk Facebook page.

#### **Staffing News**

We have several staff who will continue shielding until at least the end of March; Mrs Fry, Mrs Mead, Miss Oppo and Mrs Shutler. We send all staff our best wishes as we know they would very much prefer to be coming back to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March with their colleagues and the pupils. Mrs Greenwood will be teaching full time in Year R with Mrs Shutler teaching remotely and

Mrs Mahon will be supporting Year 2 OA with Miss Oppo teaching the class virtually. All shielding staff will be supporting the learning remotely and continuing to use the technologies that we have developed over the past 12 months.

### **Cycling to School**

We encourage active travel to and from school and our cycle and scooter shed will be open for storage from next week. Please remember any bicycles or scooter left, are done so at your own risk. All pupils cycling or scooting to school are required to **wear a helmet**. Helmets can be stored in the classroom.

### **Year 3 Stonehenge Creations**

Well done to Year 3 pupils for creating some amazing 3D models of Stonehenge.



### **Return to School**

Please read the FAQs included in last week's newsletter and reassure your child about returning to school. They will enjoy seeing their friends and their teachers and we will help them to resettlement and reflect positively on the last couple of months. It will be Science Week next week and I look forward to sharing some examples of the children's learning with you. Also look out for learning snippets and photos on the year group Twitter feeds.

### **School Class Photos**

Class photos will take place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### **School Video**

Please follow the link below and share with family and friends:

<https://youtu.be/33ZmKW4ipS4>

**Message from Elaine Redding, Interim Corporate Director, Children's Services at BCP**

**Return to Face to Face Education for most pupils from Monday 8 March 2021**

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*We understand how challenging this past year has been for families, particularly juggling home schooling arrangements with working/family commitments but we can now see some light at the end of the tunnel with the universal return to school from the 8 March 2021. More information is available through public Health [Dorset](#); and you will see from their website that cases are reducing in [BCP](#) . We expect them to fall further by the time schools reopen which is reassuring.*

*The majority of pupils will return to face to face teaching from this date, the only exceptions to this will be self-isolating children and those in the critically extremely vulnerable category, including those newly identified as [CEV](#). This group will have received a letter from their GP or clinician which will need to be shared with school/college.*

*We know that many parents/carers are worried that their children may have fallen behind in some elements of their learning and we are regular dialog with schools and colleges about how we help children to catch up, this is a huge priority for our schools and wider BCP education system.*

*The best way that parents/carers can help their children is to ensure regular school attendance as soon as schools are able to accommodate them, from 8 March 2021, and to work with the setting to explore and engage in any additional help and support available.*

*Schools will be in touch with parents about how the return to face to face learning will be managed in their setting and whether there will be any additional Covid health and safety adaptations*

*Wraparound childcare services will also be available from 8 March 2021 to support working parents. You will find information about childcare providers on the [Family Information Directory](#) . If you require support with childcare arrangements you may contact the BCP Family Information Service who will be pleased to help you.*

*Telephone 01202 261999*

*email - [familyinformation@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:familyinformation@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)*

*I would like to extend my best wishes to you and your children for a safe and enjoyable return to school.*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elaine', with a horizontal line underneath.

*Elaine Redding  
Interim Corporate Director, Children's Services*



### **Book Week**

I hope all pupils had a chance to watch the 'Masked Reader' video and attempted to guess who the staff were. Well done to all pupils who have joined in with the challenge to turn a potato into a favourite book character. There is still time to have a go and return your spud charter next week! Well done to the entries below:



### **Message from the Education and Road Safety Team and Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service**

*Dear Parents/ Carers*

*During lockdown, the roads have been a lot quieter than usual. As the school run starts again, we want to keep all children safe and well as they travel to school. Over the last few months, there have been less vehicles on the road. We anticipate the roads will become busier when schools reopen fully, so now may be a good opportunity to remind your child about the importance of being aware of their safety, however they are using the road (as a pedestrian, cyclist, on a scooter or as a passenger). This is especially important if they are beginning to make this journey independently.*

*Why not spend a few moments looking at the "Tales of the Road" with your child, helping to remind them about staying safe. [Tales of the Road \(think.gov.uk\)](https://www.think.gov.uk) The interactive booklet can be viewed*

online, just follow the instructions on page 2 to navigate to the sections relevant to your child, or if you wish you can print a copy. If you would like to look at additional resources to help discuss road safety with your child, visit [Education resources – THINK!](#)

If you've been staying at home, with only maybe the odd trip to the shops or to care for a vulnerable loved one, the chances are you may feel a little nervous getting back on the road yourself. Please have a look at this leaflet to ensure you are as safe as possible. [DWFRS-Back-on-the-Road-4.pdf](#) ([dwfire.org.uk](http://dwfire.org.uk))

Please remember as the school runs start again for all children, the roads around the school can become busy with vehicles such as cars and buses as well as children walking, biking and scooting. Please take extra care, both as a pedestrian or a driver, and be aware of the many other, very young road users around the school during drop off and pick up. We understand the pressure when dropping off and picking up children; most people are considerate when parking and understand the risks of blocking the road for other road users, but there have been a few issues in the past when emergency service vehicles have not been able to get easy access to school premises. Please watch this video for further guidance on driving with emergency vehicles. [Blue Light Aware \(YouTube\)](#)

Thank you

[www.dwfire.org.uk](http://www.dwfire.org.uk)

# LENT

## Pray + Fast + Give

### **Pray. Stop. Go.**

Our theme for Lent this year is 'Pray. Stop. Go.' which is a child friendly interpretation of this same Gospel. Throughout Lent, our resources will encourage children to make their **prayer** life richer, to **stop** doing some things which in turn will free them to **go** out to others with acts of service. Please do ask children about their 'Lent Adventure'. Here's a teaser trailer to help you get excited:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter/>

### **Let Us Pray**

We give thanks for:

- Parents who have worked hard during this lockdown to support home learning for their children.
- School staff who have prepared been virtual teachers during lock down.
- The children, for their enthusiasm for life, for the hope they give us all.
- The vaccination programme, and all those involved, as it reaches more and more people every day.
- Signs that Spring is on its way
- Our clergy who have prayed for us during this pandemic

We pray for:

- The smooth reopening of school on 8<sup>th</sup> March
- Those pupils and parents who may be worried about coming back into school
- Those who are unwell, especially a parent, a pupil and one of our governors.
- Fr Chacko and all of our priests and local clergy

**And finally,** have a restful weekend, celebrate the end of school lockdown and I very much look forward to seeing you and your children again next week.

Best wishes to you all.

Clare Tickel  
Headteacher

*faith*  
*hope*  
*love*

