

11th February 2021

Christ the King News

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term has flown by and despite the challenge of COVID-19 and high absence rates, we have much to celebrate. The pupils' learning behaviour and their kindness towards others has been exemplary and continues to ensure our school is a calm, happy and safe place to be. Thank you to all families that have been vigilant and engaged with regular lateral flow testing. This has significantly helped and enabled us to identify positive cases that were asymptomatic and which otherwise would have meant more pupils and staff absent.

Celebration of Learning

There has been so much exciting learning going on in school again this week. Children have enjoyed learning about a range of topics incorporating Geography, History, Mental Health, and internet safety themes. Year 4 have especially enjoyed their Romans topic – making mosaics, Roman shields and baking Roman biscuits.





Year 2 enjoyed making papier-mâché planet Earths re-using some birthday balloons! Yes, we became VERY sticky!! 🍯



Spring Term Parent Consultations

Appointments letters will go out next week and on-line booking will go live after the break. Consultations are scheduled for the week beginning 7th March 2022.

Punctuality is important!

Late arrivals unsettle the children and disrupt, not only their learning, but also the flow of learning for their classmates. After half term we will be launching our punctuality raffle which children will enter if they arrive at school on time. Incentives will include Hot Chocolate Fridays with their friends and staff!

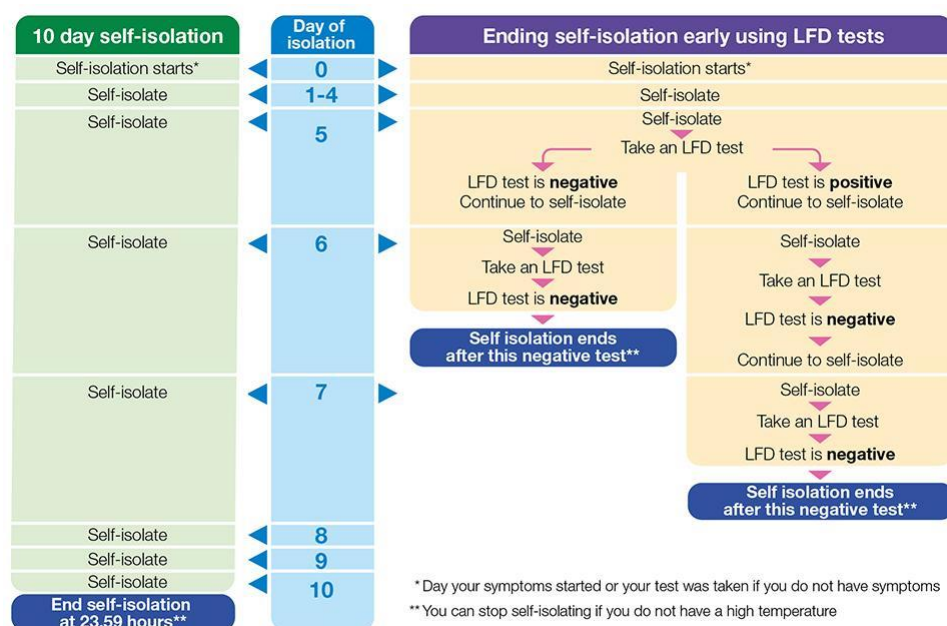
Attendance

Good attendance is 95% or above; sadly, we have seen a dramatic slide in good attendance across the school. Covid-19 has contributed to this as some pupils have needed to self-isolate or have been unwell. We will be sending out attendance letters to families where there are concerns and encourage you to work with us so that we can support you in getting your child in school regularly.

Covid Update

This week we have had six positive cases.

Self-Isolation Summary

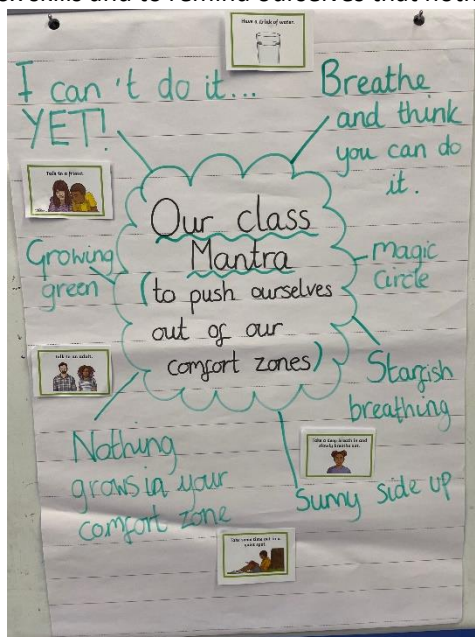


Safer Internet Usage

There are new games on the gaming circuit that your children may be exposed to. Some of these games can be scary for the children and inappropriate for their age. Please be especially vigilant where there are older siblings in the home so that the younger children are protected from content that may frighten them.

Children's Mental Health Week

Toucans class have created a class poster to help with ideas that push themselves out of their comfort zones when they may feel anxious or worried about learning or trying something new. Our mantra is "I can't do it.... YET" we also had ideas to use our breathing techniques, trick box skills and to remind ourselves that nothing grows in your comfort zone.



It has been lovely to see the children dress up today in outfits that express their individuality. We have used this as a theme in our collective worship today – that we are all special and that it is ok to ask for help when we feel sad.

Hot Meals

Please involve your children in selecting their hot meal choices – this week we have seen an increasing number of children saying they don't like their chosen meal. We really want the children have a happy and calm lunchbreak and not liking your food choice can be stressful for some.

Catholic Life Update from Mrs Lord



Walk Against Hunger for CAFOD!

This Lent we are supporting CAFOD and joining other schools around the country to help stamp out hunger. Around the world, 200 million children are at risk of malnutrition. By challenging ourselves to walk and get sponsored on Just Giving this Lent, we will be helping children to grown big and strong.

To raise money, classes are going to take part in a variety of walking activities as part of our Walk Against Hunger event on Friday 11th March 2022, you can follow this link to donate directly.

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/christ-the-king-are-walking-against-hunger>

How our fundraising will help

CAFOD is the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, working together with people living in poverty in some of the most hard-to-reach places in the world.

Our fundraising will support people like Lombeh who lives in Sierra Leone.

When she was a baby, Lombeh was dangerously malnourished. One day, her mother Amie met a group of women walking along the road. They were new mothers just like herself and they told her about a CAFOD-funded clinic where Amie was taught how to make a highly nutritious food paste from a traditional recipe – perfect for malnourished babies – and it helped Lombeh get better and grow.

Now Amie is teaching other new mums in her local community how to make the baby food.

We have chosen to support CAFOD as a way for our pupils to put their faith into action. By raising money to tackle hunger, we will be supporting our brothers and sisters around the world and living out our school mission.

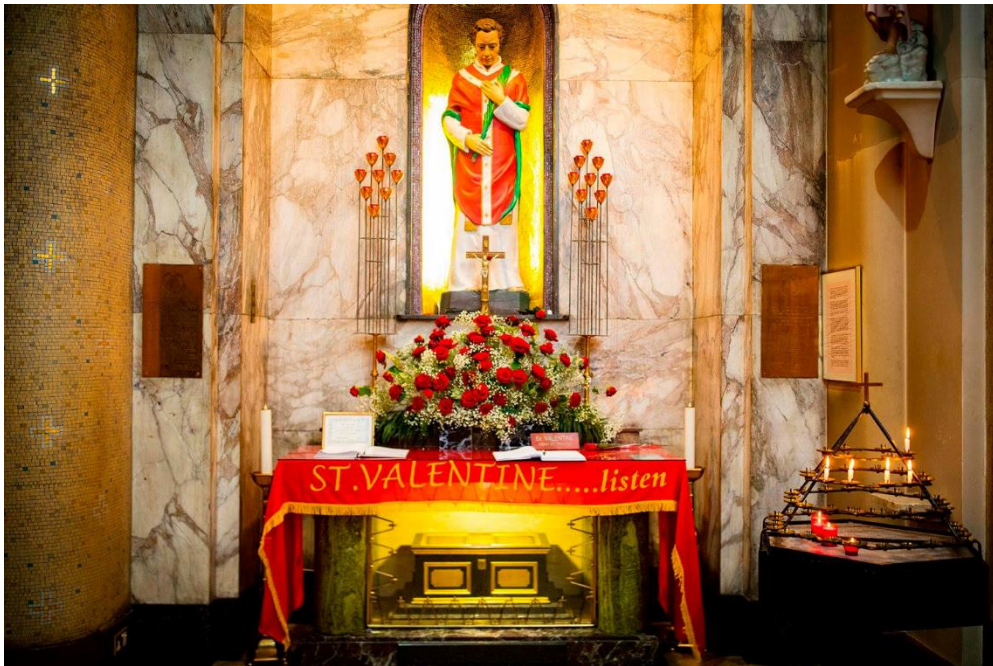
Join the CAFOD raffle

Another way to get involved at home is to take part in the CAFOD raffle. Search 'CAFOD spring raffle' to find out more.

We really appreciate your support and hope that everyone has fun helping us raise money for CAFOD.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Melanie Lord



On Monday we celebrate the feast of St Valentine.

Saint Valentine, officially known as Saint Valentine of Rome, is a third-century Roman saint widely celebrated on February 14 and commonly associated with "courtly love."

Although not much of St. Valentine's life is reliably known, and whether or not the stories involve two different saints by the same name is also not officially decided, it is highly agreed that St. Valentine was martyred and then buried on the Via Flaminia to the north of Rome.

Relics of St. Valentine can be found all over the world.

The photograph above shows the shrine of St Valentine at the Carmelite Church, Whitefriars Street in Dublin.

We pray in a special way for all those who will get engaged or married throughout 2022.

St Valentine pray for us.

As love grows in you,
beauty grows too. For
love is the beauty of
the soul.

- Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

Let Us Pray

We give thanks for:

- The opportunities we are given to love and serve each other
- The people who show us love and kindness towards us
- The compassion and understanding that we encounter every day.

We pray for:

- All those who are affected by broken relationships and the loss of loved ones.
- Love and peace across the world.
- Our school community and Parish, that we may all grow in faith, hope and love.

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

Kind regards,

Clare Tickel
Headteacher

