



26th March 2021

Christ the King News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all parents who booked a virtual parents meeting with your child's class teacher this week. I know that a few parents had technical difficulties but overall the feedback has been positive. It has certainly been easier to meet with teachers and not have to worry about baby sitters or waiting in the hall for the teacher to be ready. Any parents that missed the opportunity, we strongly urge you to email your child's class teacher to arrange a catch up after Easter. Our partnership and dialogue is essential in order to secure your child's best opportunities to learn and catch up with their learning.

Parent Questionnaire

Next week we will email out our annual parent questionnaire. This will be an online format this year which should be easier and quicker for everyone to complete.

Easter Break

The Easter break is nearly here and despite only having been back in school since 8th March, the children have been 'in remote school' since 5th January and deserve a rest from school work. Please do, however, continue to read to your children each day and listen to them read. We have seen a drop off in basic skills for many children where these regular reading habits have been difficult to maintain during lockdown. Please keep to the government rules for mixing with other households over the break and avoid all gatherings or making unnecessary trips.

School Class Photos

Class photos will take place on Monday 29th March 2021. No PE kit – only main school uniform. If pupils have PE please bring their trainers in to school in a named bag.

End of term Timings

Pre-School - 11.45am (no lunches)
Reception - 1.20pm (after lunch)
Years 1 - 1.30pm (after lunch)
Year 2 - 1.30pm (after lunch)
Year 3 - 1.35pm (after lunch)
Year 4 - 1.35pm (after lunch)
Year 5 - 1.25pm (after lunch)
Year 6 - 1.25pm (after lunch)

Please ensure that you continue to exit the site swiftly after pick up time and avoid blocking the pavements outside school.

Easter arrangements for track and trace

If a member of your household develops symptoms within the first week of the holiday it is essential that you email the school at covid@ctkcps.com as the DfE expects schools to inform Public Health England.

COVID 19 – Testing Families

All adults in households with school and college age children can access rapid free COVID-19 tests. There are a number of ways in which you can access these, but the preferred method is that the kits are collected from one of the sites in the area. You can find further details by following this link <https://tinyurl.com/3mn6mmcv>. We strongly urge all of our families to take part in this scheme to help keep our community safe. As with the testing in school, this initiative is recommended but not compulsory. It is also only to check for asymptomatic cases, if anyone in your household has symptoms of COVID-19 (new continuous cough, high temperature, loss or change in sense of taste or smell) you all must follow the stay at home guidance and order a PCR (laboratory) test: <https://tinyurl.com/vr6pdnrmr>

Testing at home throughout the Easter holidays for schools and colleges

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme on the return to school and college, it is vital that staff and families keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term. If your household are accessing the free COVID-19 lateral flow test then please:

test twice a week at home from now on (all those who are able to)

- › report results [online](#) as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping us to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country
- › continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays
- › test before returning to school for the summer term, ideally the night before.

ONLINE SAFETY: Omegle

Omegle Launched in March 2009, Omegle has recently become popular again due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This 'virtual chat room' offers random users to have unmoderated chats with one another from anywhere in the world. The main risks associated with this site involve children speaking with strangers online. For more information, follow the link below.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-omegle-what-parentsneed-to-know/>

Bicycle Safety

Many more children are cycling to school and we remind all families that pupils must wear a helmet and walk their bicycles along the school pathways. We have a small supply of high visibility jackets to giveaway to anyone riding their bikes to school.

All bicycles and scooters are left at school at your own risk. The school site is secure during the school day. Pupils should take their helmets into their classroom for safe keeping. This week one of our Year 3 pupils was distressed to find that his bicycle has been moved and his helmet had been damaged. We have reminded all children of the importance of respecting property and treating other's belongings as they would like to have their things treated.

PTFA

Thank you to the PTFA this term who have kindly donated chocolate eggs and bunnies for the pupils and subsidised a Year 6 virtual reality learning experience.

Author Visit

We are delighted to announce that our much awaited author virtual visit by Michael Rosen has now been rearranged for Thursday, 13th May 2021. Michael Rosen is a much loved author and poet who has written over 140 books. He also served as Children's Laureate June 2007 to 2009. For anyone who had previously ordered books signed by Michael (for the visit that was scheduled for 4th December), we will arrange for these to be delivered for the day of the visit. Exciting times!

Uniform

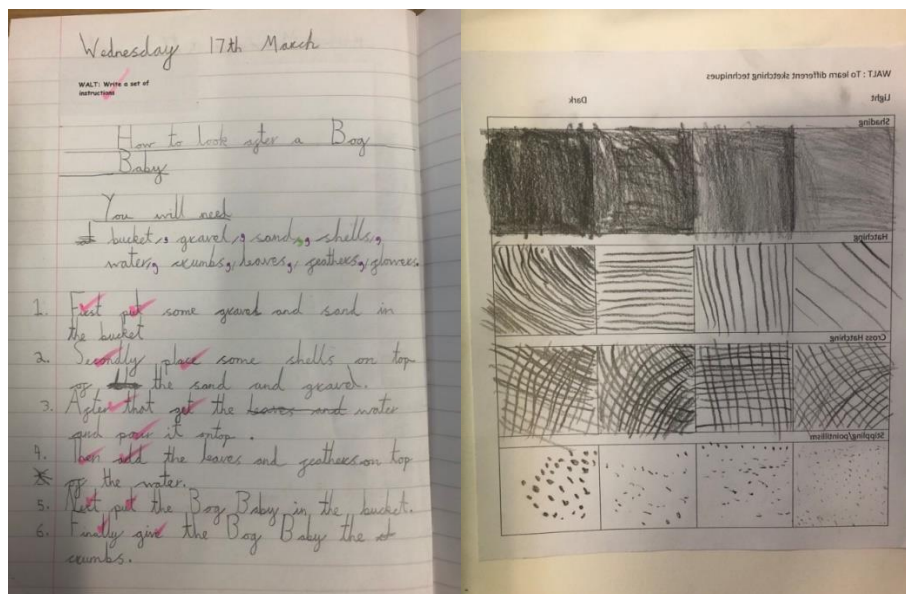
After Easter our expectation for uniform will be back to normal and all pupils should wear school shoes (not trainers) with their main uniform. PE uniform must also follow our school policy. Pupils will continue to wear PE uniform to school on their PE days and on 'Fit Friday'. Summer dresses may be worn after Easter by the girls – please ensure you buy a 'pink' check.

Celebration of Learning

Pre-school have loved learning all about the Goldilocks and the three bears story! They have been amazing at feeding baby bear some porridge!



Year 2 writing instructions about caring for a bog baby ... and drawing skills in Art this week



Year 2 drawing with oil pastels inspired by Claude Monet water lilies and children created a habitat for an imaginary bog baby creature for home learning.

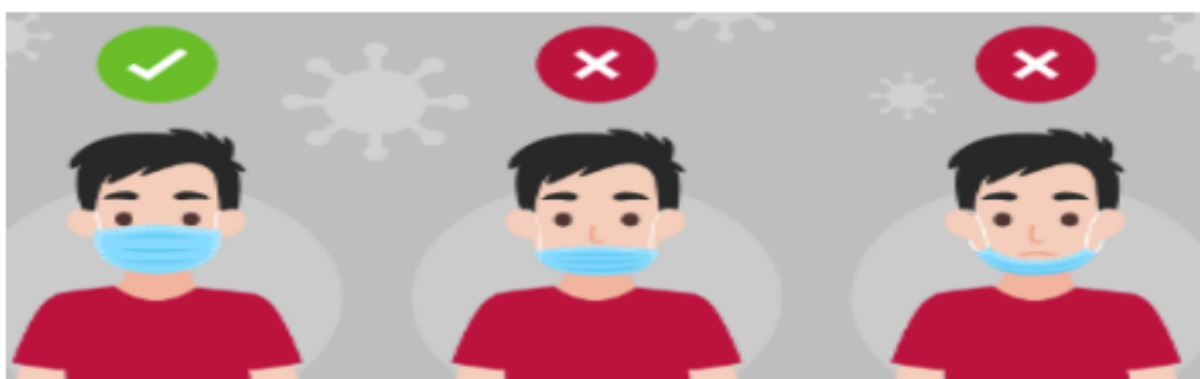




Be COVID Safe

Thank you to the majority of parents and carers who continue to support our request to wear a face covering on the school premises. Over the past week there has been an increase in the number of parents and carers not wearing a face covering. We do realise that this may be inconvenient, but this measure is in place to keep all the school community safe.

Please wear a mask at all times when on the school site. Thank you



Mental Health

Dorset NHS have shared a video with us that you may find helpful if your child is struggling with the return to school: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3GkzXqKjHQ> This is well worth a watch!

School Video

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

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

CAFOD Family Fast Day

Thank you to everyone who took part in our LENT Family Fast Day mufti day on Friday 26th March. All money raised will go to support the work of CAFOD – the Catholic Association for Overseas development.

Let Us Pray

Yesterday, 25th March, was the Feast of the Annunciation. We hope to be inspired by Mary's 'YES' to God's plan and open our hearts to His grace and wisdom in our lives. We pray that we live with courage and humility just as Mary did, in service of others. We ask Mary to pray for us. May we too say 'yes' to those around us in crisis. May our love be non judgemental and forgiving. In doing so we hope to find true happiness.



We give thanks for:

- Those within our community whose small acts of kindness often go un-noticed.
- The warmer weather and the opportunities to learn in our school outdoor grounds.
- Mothers and carers who find the courage each day to love tenderly despite mental health barriers.

We pray for:

- The on-going health and protection of our community
- Families mourning the loss of a loved one or feeling the pain of separation.
- Those who are unwell, especially a parent, a pupil and one of our governors.
- Those who have recently died, may their souls rest in peace.
- Fr Chacko and all of our priests and local clergy.

And finally, I hope you all manage to enjoy the weekend. I hope we all manage to 'stop' and pause for a while, to put 20 minutes aside this weekend to be still, to pray with gratitude for our families, our health and our intentions.

Best wishes to you all.

Clare Tickel
Headteacher

faith
hope
love

