

1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

## Christ the King News

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had such extremes of weather this week – spring sunshine and cold icy wind - at the start of this week the children enjoyed the sunshine and being free from their coats and then this Thursday and Friday they have felt the chill again. Please ensure they continue to bring a coat to school next week!

Uniform: Just a reminder that after the Easter holidays, the children are welcome to return in the summer uniform. The summer dresses need to be pink (not red) gingham. Children can wear white socks with summer dresses in the summer term. Please remember that any hair bands and hair accessories need to be in school colours. Children may continue to wear their winter uniform throughout the summer term if they prefer.

### Covid Cases

This week there have been **11 cases**.

### COVID-19 Safety Measures - April 2022

We are following Government advice and will be guided by our Trust and BCP. Our priority continues to be the safety and wellbeing of pupils and staff within our community. We will be using a common-sense approach to 'Living with Covid19' and many of our control measures will remain in place. These include all hygiene and cleaning regimes, ventilation of learning spaces and promoting awareness of the symptoms of Covid-19.

The three key symptoms of Covid-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- A new continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell

We recognise that access to Covid-19 testing is becoming increasingly restricted, and will become chargeable in some instances, as a result it may not always be possible to identify cases of covid-19. We will therefore take the following approach to illness:

- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature will be asked to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. Government guidance states that "they can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend".

- People with symptoms of a respiratory infection, including Covid-19, and a high temperature or who feel unwell, will be asked to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.
- Anyone with a positive Covid-19 test result will be asked to avoid contact with other people for five days, which is when they are most infectious (although it should be noted that free testing for the general public will end on 1st April).

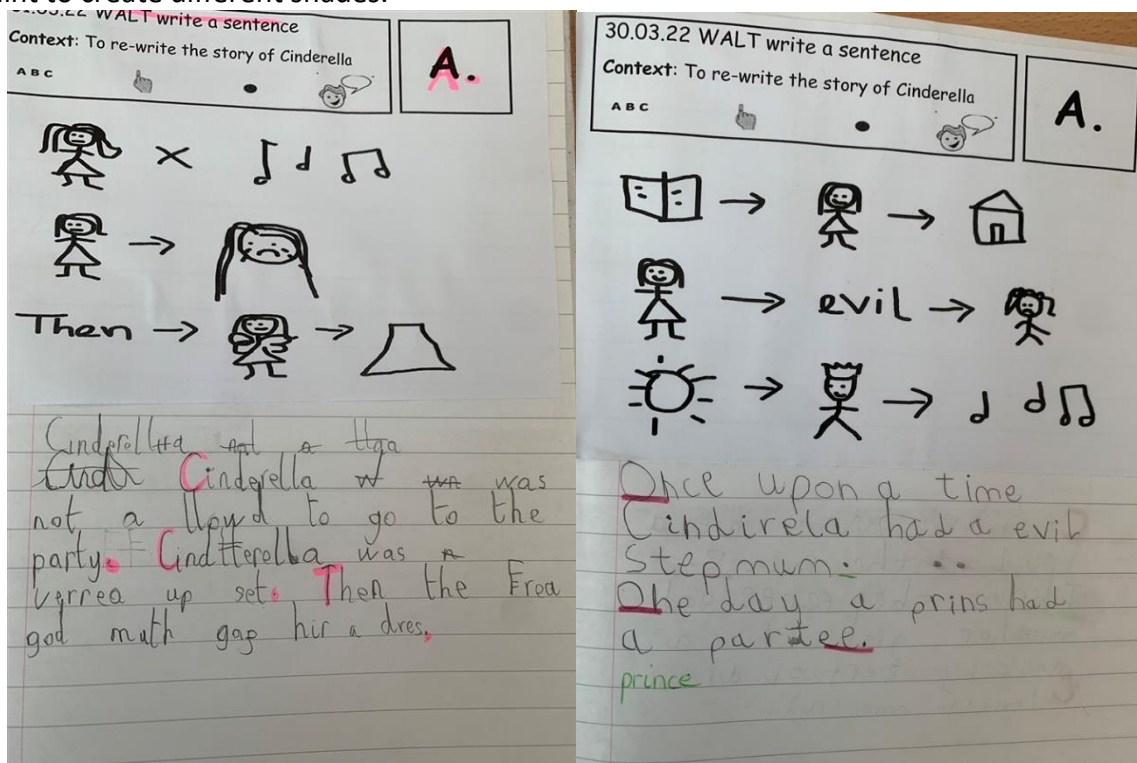
It is important that you continue to communicate the test result on the COVID 19 email [covid@ctkcps.com](mailto:covid@ctkcps.com)

### **Celebration of Learning**

We are grateful to the teachers again this week for their hard work in planning exciting and engaging learning experiences for the children.



Year 2 have been ordering the Stations of the Cross and Year 1 have been learning about castles and mixing paint to create different shades.



Year 1 have also been writing a simplified version of Cinderella.

## **CHOIR**

It's so lovely to hear our Choir singing so enthusiastically again, Mrs Fisher does ask that if children are in the Choir, they stay every week, unless there is a reason they can't, in which case they are asked to tell Mrs Fisher during the day.

On **April 4th**, the Choir will come outside the front of the school at **3.30pm** to sing some of their songs; you are welcome to come along to hear them! If it is wet, we will invite you to come into the hall. The practice will finish at the usual time of 3.45pm.

## **CASH FREE School**

A reminder that we are a CASH FREE school. If you have problems paying on line, please TALK to office as often problems are simple to rectify.

## **No Smoking Policy**

Our school site is a no smoking zone – this includes vaping.

## **End of Term**

A reminder that there is free after school club provision on the last day of each school term until 3.00pm for those parents who are unable to make alternative arrangements for the earlier pickup time. Please email the school office you require a place for your child.

**The finishing times for the last day of this term, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022 are as follows:**

**Pre-School 11.45am (no lunches)**

**Reception Classes 1.15pm**

**Year 1 1.30pm**

**Year 2 1.30pm**

**Year 3 1.25pm**

**Year 4 1.25pm**

**Year 5 1.20pm**

**Year 6 1.20pm**

## **Guitar Concert**

We were treated to a wonderful Guitar Concert today and it was lovely to welcome the guitarist's proud parents in to school to enjoy the performance first hand. We are sure the concert has inspired many young budding guitarists. New places will be available for Year 3-Year 6 from September onwards.

## **Sporting New**



Congratulations to our Girls and Boys from Years 5 and 6 who played their first away match at Kingsleigh. The children played really well with lots of goals scored and saved. There is no official winner as the children played in mixed teams, including members from both schools. Great sportsmanship was demonstrated by all children, well done!

### **Drumming Workshop Music Feedback**

Feedback from our drumming expert, Cheikh, who visited school last week:

*"It is a great pleasure to have visited and shared djembe rhythms with you and your very musical pupils at Christ the King School. I've had a wonderful day there topped with very touching Cards ... with flowers made by Year 3 classes. These pupils are very keen and well behaved, also very lucky to have a dedicated music teacher, they were really easy to teach. I look forward to hopefully returning in the near future."*

### **Assessment Information**

Next half term Year 6 pupils will be taking their end of Key Stage 2 statutory assessments, week beginning Monday **9<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**, in English and Maths. Their writing and Science assessments will carry on until the end of June. Assessments are also scheduled next term for pupils in Year 2 for their end of Key Stage 1 statutory assessments, Year 1 phonics assessment, Year 4 Times Table assessment and the Foundation Stage profile. Year group teams will disseminate information regarding these assessment before Easter. It is imperative that we maximise learning time for all of our pupils and avoid absences unless a child is unwell.

### **Grants and benefits to help you pay your energy bills**

This can be a worrying time for many families, as we find out that fuel costs are increasing. The Citizen's Advice link below has a wealth of information about the support that is available.

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your-bills/grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills/>

### **Diary Dates**

#### **Inset days for 2022-2023:**

1. Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022
2. Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022
3. Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022
4. Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023
5. Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

#### **Inset days for 2023-2024:**

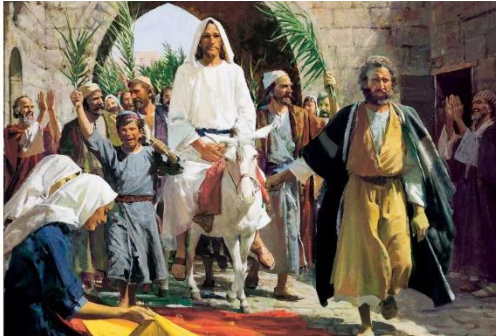
1. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023
2. Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023
3. Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024
4. Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024
5. Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024



## **Catholic Life**

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

Fr Chacko and Fr Babu would like to invite children to be part of the procession that will take place at the beginning of Mass. Please let your child's class teacher/ Mrs Lord know if your child would like to be part of the procession and or read a Bidding Prayer. The Mass starts at 9.30am. We do hope to see many of you there!



The day is called both "Palm Sunday" and "Passion Sunday."

The first name comes from the fact that it commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, when the crowd had palm branches (John 12:13).

The second name comes from the fact that the narrative of the Passion is read on this Sunday (it otherwise wouldn't be read on a Sunday, since the next Sunday is about the Resurrection).

**Palm Sunday - April 10th, 2022**

**Holy Day of Obligation**

Palm Sunday is the final Sunday of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week, and commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified.

Palm Sunday is known as such because the faithful will often receive palm fronds which they use to participate in the re-enactment of Christ's arrival in Jerusalem. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a young donkey, and to the lavish praise of the townspeople who threw clothes, or possibly palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. This was a customary practice for people of great respect.

Palm branches are widely recognized symbol of peace and victory, hence their preferred use on Palm Sunday.

The use of a donkey instead of a horse is highly symbolic, it represents the humble arrival of someone in peace, as opposed to arriving on a steed in war.

A week later, Christ would rise from the dead on the first Easter.

During Palm Sunday Mass, palms are distributed to parishioners who carry them in a ritual procession into church. The palms are blessed and many people will fashion them into small crosses or other items of personal devotion. These may be returned to the church, or kept for the year.

## **Let Us Pray**

**We give thanks for:**

- Our freedom and the community in which we live.
- The musical opportunities we have at school and Mrs Fisher our fabulous music teacher!
- The opportunity to play football against Kingsleigh School this week.
- Our KS1 Kings and Queens dress up day.

**We pray for:**

- All refugees who feel displaced and hopeless.
- All those suffering with mental health as a result of loneliness and poverty.
- Peace in our world, especially in Ukraine and Russia.
- That we will be generous hearted and open our hearts and minds to helping the disadvantaged.

**And finally,** I wish you and your family a happy weekend. See you next week!

Kind regards,

Clare Tickel  
Executive Headteacher

Melanie Lord  
Head of School

