



28th January 2021

Christ the King News

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to grasp that pupils have not seen a full school year through, since 2019! The last time all of Year 6 were in school for a full year, was when they were in Year 3! Most of Year 2 children have not yet had one full year at school! Some of our pre-school and Reception children have only had a glimpse of pre-school experience!

Why does this matter?

We have to remember that many children missed almost two years of social and emotional development between 2020-2022 due to lockdowns and self-isolating. This has denied children many chances to play, share, take turns and learn to resolve squabbles and hug.

So what can we do?

Build in lots of opportunities for your child for social and physical play but be there to supervise, support and join in. Expect fall-outs but help them to listen to each other and understand different points of view. Re-teach sharing, taking turns, listening and being part of a group. Our children have proved how resilient they can be and together we can support them to be the best that they can be!

Celebration of Learning

Year 4 are enjoying learning to play the Ukulele.



Year 2 designed their own posters of Courage - I especially like Mirella's phrase, 'Encourage the courage'!



ONLINE SAFETY

How do I help my child to stay safe on online games and apps? It is natural to worry about the dangers of online games and apps. But you can help your child learn how to keep themselves safe by following these steps:

- Take an interest
- Teach your child how to stay safe online (such as the SMART rules)
- Check if a game/app is appropriate
- Use parental controls
- Make time for other activities
- Be open

Spring Term Parent Consultations

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

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

We have had 13 members of staff and 33 children self-isolating following positive COVID tests this week. There are cases in every year group with Y4 and Y5 having the majority of the cases. Most children have reported very mild symptoms, including headaches and sore throat. If your child has any symptoms, however mild, we strongly encourage you to take a PCR test, as this will pick up the virus if your child has it mildly, where a LFT will only pick it up at the height of the infection. We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the Public Health Dorset and BCP. Cases in BCP Primary schools account for over 80% of cases in BCP. Year 5 have been remote learning since Tuesday but we look forward to their return on Monday 31st January. Well done to all pupils for excellent engagement this week! Our setting remains open, and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. All students and staff, regardless of year group, should remain vigilant regarding COVID19.

For this reason, our control measures remain unchanged and we continue to ask adults on site to wear face coverings until half term.

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

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. 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.



Uniform Policy

Correct uniform is expected and important as it fosters a sense of belonging and pride in our school. Please talk to Mrs Hodge or a member of staff if you find it difficult to finance uniform – we always want to help where we can.

Catholic Life Update from Mrs Lord

The First Holy Communion Children from Years 3, 4 and 5 have all made their First Reconciliation. This is the second Sacrament that they have received, the first one being Baptism. The Children recommence their journey this weekend as they will now prepare to receive their third Sacrament, when they make their First Holy

Communion in early summer. Please ☐☐ pray for the 16 children and their families as they prepare to receive Jesus Christ fully into their lives.



Let Us Pray

We give thanks for:

- The opportunity for Year 4 pupils to play ukulele.
- The opportunity for Year 1 pupils to make African masks.
- The excellent engagement of Year 5 pupils in their remote learning this week.

We pray for:

- Children in our school who suffer with health issues.
- Grandparents and the elderly who continue to feel anxious about Covid-19.
- Our families from Scotland who celebrated Burns Night this week.

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

Kind regards,

Clare Tickel
Headteacher

faith
hope
love



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL



the
sandwell
well-being
charter
mark

