

## **Newsletter**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Dear Parents,

Thank you again to everyone within our community this week for your continued support and good cheer. As we edge towards the end of what has been a challenging term for many within our community, we are all now looking forward with Faith, Hope and Love to a well-earned rest and a chance to celebrate a peaceful and simple Christmas.

### **End of Term**

School is open as planned on the morning of Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. The Plymouth Trust have advised all schools to not close a day early.

Please note:

The finishing times for the last day of this term, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 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

### **COVID-19**

Please be aware that when we are notified of a positive C-19 case within our community PHE and the DfE advise us to self-isolate potential contacts immediately as a precaution. It takes several hours, sometimes more, to forensically track and trace contacts. We are always hopeful that following the original notification that your child has to self-isolate, we will be able to ascertain that your child is 'not' a contact and therefore will no longer need to self-isolate. We will always inform you by phone if this is the case. We recognise how disruptive any self-isolation is to each family, the pupils learning and to the running of our school.

We are very aware that there is a heightened anxiety amongst families as everyone wants to protect time with loved ones over the Christmas Break. For the final two weeks of term we have reduced the

year group bubbles at playtimes. Staff are incredibly vigilant in logging pupil movements and interactions – all in line with the NHS Track and Trace criteria.

We cannot authorise any absences without a good reason and sadly wanting to quarantine before meeting with loved ones at Christmas cannot be authorised. The children learn better in school and it is unfair to expect teachers to plan remote learning on top of their face to face teaching commitments.

### **Attendance**

Whilst we understand that there are some parents that wish their children to miss the last week of school - absence will be unauthorised and teachers – if teaching in school – will not be able to set remote learning.

### **Remote Learning at Christ the King School**

Well done to all pupils this term who have engaged with remote Learning and Home Learning. To encourage engagement, the teachers will introduce 'Remote Learning Champions' for pupils working from home – each pupil who engages in remote learning will have their name included in a Remote Champion raffle draw for a prize.



### **Crazy Hair Day**

There has been a fabulous response to our Crazy hair – all funds will support the children. Thank you from the PTFA.

### **Christmas Raffle**

The draw will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> December and the results will be posted on the PTFA Facebook page and the PTFA page on our website.

### **Christmas Cards**

Children may bring in Christmas cards for pupils within their class from next week. All cards will be quarantined and sent home on the last day of term – ready to be opened on Christmas Eve.

### **Christmas Gifts**

We are always grateful to parents and pupils who give gifts at Christmas – this year we ask that there are no home baked goodies please – we are being extra cautious in the current climate.



### **Virtual Choir and Virtual Nativities**

Thank you to Mrs Fisher and her Virtual Choir for helping to spread a little bit of joy this Christmas!

Christmas wishes to you all from the staff and pupils at Christ the King School, Bournemouth.

Please follow the link below:

<https://youtu.be/sD9bFD-5Udg>



### **[CTK Virtual Christmas Choir](https://youtu.be/sD9bFD-5Udg)**

It's been a tough year for everyone and we have missed our usual Christmas performances but are proud to have managed to put this virtual choir performance t...

[youtu.be](https://youtu.be/sD9bFD-5Udg)

The Nativities will be shared next week.

### **Michael Rosen Visit**

This was planned for 4<sup>th</sup> December and, unfortunately, had to be postponed. Please be assured that the visit by Michael Rosen is being rescheduled (date to be confirmed). He is keen to visit, virtually, and will be Zooming in to see us next term! If you have ordered any of the books prior to the visit, we will arrange for this to be delivered for the event next term.

### **EYFS Open Day**

Our Early Years virtual presentations and videos are posted on the website on our admissions page. Please do check this page regularly for updates. If you require a school place for your child in September 2021 the deadline for applications is January 2021. If you require any further information or advice, please contact the school and we will help you.

### **Pre-School Admissions**

We currently have places available in our Pre-School for pupils age 3 years+ Please do look at our virtual presentation and video on our website for more information.

### **Attendance Matters**

Whilst we sympathise that everyone's home circumstances are different, we have a legal responsibility to have children in school, on time and to report their attendance. It is the parent's legal responsibility to ensure that their child/children arrive in school and on time as lateness impacts on children's learning time and is disruptive to the class when pupils arrive late after the lesson has begun.



## Advent



The highlight of the Second Week of Advent, as we journey towards Christmas with Mary, is the FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

This feast makes us think of St. Bernadette Soubirous. The Virgin Mary appeared to her in one of the apparitions at Lourdes, and said, "I am the Immaculate Conception." And when she heard Mary say this, Bernadette ran to the local priest, to tell him.

What does that name mean? It means that God chose a mother for his Son, a unique woman, whom he wanted to be perfect. So God filled her with grace and holiness from the moment of her conception in her mother's womb. God also gave Mary a listening heart; She had to be attentive, aware, and patient, to hear God's voice in the midst of daily life.

This Advent is the time for faith. So like the Blessed Mother, and like St. Bernadette, we're called to be attentive, to listen and to act, trusting God's will in Faith, Hope and Love.



## Some useful Links for Advent:

### 1. ACN

ACN's Advent Resource this year uses the Star of Bethlehem to inspire each set of weekly prayers for use in the classroom or at home. We'll be focussing on the effects of Covid on all of us here at home and on the millions of Christians elsewhere in the world who need our help. There's also an opportunity to see how ACN helps children in Syria at Christmas with Christmas parcels.

- <https://acnuk.org/resource/advent-resource-2020-secondary/>

### 2. Children's Liturgy with Emily

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

Emily shares, "Our project is called 'Advent in a Shoebox' - the idea is (using a shoebox as a starting point) journeying along with Jesus throughout Advent by taking part in short, simple daily activities and then putting each one in your shoebox as a gift for Jesus There are 3 types of activities:

- Learning about the Nativity Story, through craft activities,
- Using your heart to be like Jesus by being good and kind,
- Praying as a family"

### 3. Ten Ten Collective Worship for Children

[www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter](http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter)

Please do have a look at this link from Ten:Ten, there are some wonderful resources here for you to engage with your child as we journey into Advent, the season of preparation.

### 4. CAFOD's Family Advent Calendar 2020

Our 2020 online Advent calendar for families has a daily reflection and free activity for you and your children in preparation for Christmas. Join us as we journey throughout the season of Advent with our global family.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/For-families/Family-Advent-Calendar>

### 5. Advent Prayer Calendar

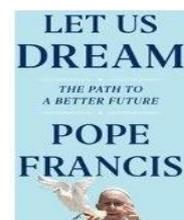
Another way to pray during Advent is to follow an Advent Prayer Calendar, with scripture, prayer materials and an image to pray with each day, created by the Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow. Open up a 'door' each day to reveal that day's prayers.

<http://iscglasgow.co.uk/advent.html>



### 6. Pope Francis : My life's three moments of solitude.

Get Pope Francis' new book, released in December 1<sup>st</sup>: "Let us Dream: the Path to a Better Future", in which the Pope describes three of his own personal "Covid" moments: his illness, Germany and Cordob.



- ### 7. Midwinter Meditation:
- As we enter into the season of Advent, we prepare to welcome the Christ Child into our hearts and minds once more. The Jesuit parishes of Great Britain invite you to

journey through Advent to the Epiphany together through a series of short video meditations



[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCz2kFxfSoYBCb\\_lfAPPgvA/featured](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCz2kFxfSoYBCb_lfAPPgvA/featured)

### **Let Us Pray**

Where there is little faith, may there be faith.  
Where there is little hope, may there be hope.  
Where there is little love, may there be love.

We give thanks for:

- The hard work of scientists producing a vaccine for Covid-19.
- The passion and generosity of our PTFA who help raise valuable funds for our school.
- The support of our local community and local churches.

We pray for:

- All families as they prepare for Christmas.
- The continued good health of our community.
- Members of our community who are currently not in school due to on-going illness
- all those in our school community having to self-isolate at the moment, especially those finding it hard.
- A member of our community who has recently lost her father.
- Fr Chacko and all members of our Christ the King School and Parish family.

**And finally,** have a good weekend and enjoy time with your loved ones.

Best wishes to you all.

Clare Tickel  
Headteacher

*faith*  
*hope*  
*love*



ARE WE WORKING  
THIS CHRISTMAS?

I HONESTLY  
HAVE NO IDEA!