



Christ Church CE (VA) Primary School

Friday 5th September 2014

Head Teacher: Mrs M Long
Deputy Head Teachers: Mrs E Quigley and Miss K Taylor
School Administrator: Miss C Westwood
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Welcome Back!!!

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope you have all had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday and are ready for the term ahead. We look forward to working with you over the course of the year.

It is with delight that I announce that Miss Taylor has been appointed to the position of Deputy Head along with Mrs Quigley—please feel free to speak to either if you have anything you wish to discuss.

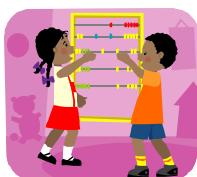
Welcome!

A BIG welcome to Mr Pepper (Year 1) and Miss Zafar (Year 3) who will be our new teachers. Also to Mrs Massop, Miss Seabright and Miss Gibbs (support staff) and Miss Allport and Mrs Fanthom who will be working SinglePoint—Inspiring Families Community Centre.



Classes

Nursery—Miss Baxter
Reception— Miss Gwinnell
Reception—Mrs Bennington
Year 1—Miss Millhouse
Year 1— Mr Pepper
Year 2—Miss Briggs
Year 2—Miss Javid
Year 3— Miss Zafar
Year 4—Mrs Sangha
Year 5— Mrs O'Driscoll
Year 6—Mrs Wildsmith & Mr Barr



Friday Assemblies

Friday assemblies are usually class led around a topic or theme they have been working on. We usually start with a collection and hymns. We finish with any out of school achievements—medals, certificates, trophies, etc. so please send them in on a Friday. Here is the list of themes and classes which will be doing our Friday assemblies this half term. As always parents are welcome to join us.

19th September	Year 6
26th September	Year 5
3rd October	Harvest
10th October	Year 4
17th October	Year 3
26th October	Year 2—Acer

Punctuality

Nursery starts at 8.40am with the rest of the school starting at 8.55am. Afternoon Nursery starts at 12.40.

Lessons will BEGIN at 8.55am and the doors and gates will be closed promptly so that a settled and calm start can be achieved. We will be working closely with the Attendance and Prosecution Officer to ensure that continual late comers are monitored. I am therefore asking parents to help in a number of ways. Firstly to make sure children arrive on time. We will, where possible, try to open doors at 8.50am to allow pupils to put coats and bags away before they start morning lessons. Reception, KS1 pupils should line up in the playground at 8.50 and KS2 outside the new classrooms.

Can I ask parents to stay out of the classrooms and the lines at the start of the day to ensure that lessons aren't interrupted and for pupils safety. If you need to pass a message to the teacher or make an appointment could you please speak to the office staff. This allows teachers to concentrate fully on the class at the start of the day.

Pupils who arrive at school after 8.55 am will be marked late. If your child arrives late they MUST be signed in at the office by an ADULT. This is due to Health and Safety reasons, in case of fire, etc. Pupils should NOT sign themselves in. The gates will be locked at 8.55 am for security reasons and it is essential that parents are off site by this time.

I hope you see this is for the benefit of the pupils to ensure a settled start to the day and a calm and productive learning environment.



Absence

As you may be aware the school works very closely with the Attendance and Prosecution Officer to monitor all pupils whose attendance falls below 90%. This does on occasion result in letters from school, visits or contact from the Attendance and Prosecution Officer to monitor the situation.

It is therefore essential that you contact the school if your child is ill. This ONLY needs to be done on the FIRST day of absence. If we do not receive a reason we have to record the absence as unauthorised. If your child has been vomiting they should remain off school for 24 hours after they are last sick to ensure all bugs are out of their system.

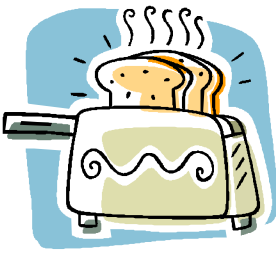
Can I also remind parents that ALL holidays during term time will be recorded as unauthorised and will be referred to the Attendance and Prosecution Officer. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE. Please think very carefully about taking your child out of school during school time as it is very disruptive to their education.

The school has attendance figures which need to be met and we can only do this with your cooperation. Please support us in this process.

Breakfast Club

We operate a Breakfast Club facility for a charge of £3.00 per day. This runs from 7.55am until 8.55am when they are then escorted to class. During this time they are able to receive a drink, breakfast cereal, toast and fruit as well as partake in a range of games and activities. A number of pupils come to the club and enjoy this great start to the day. We also take pupils from 8.25am for £1.50 per day but this does not include breakfast.

You are able to sign up for a day or week or just as a one off if the need arises. If you are interested in your child attending the breakfast club please speak to the office or breakfast club staff.



Money

Please can you help us by ensuring wherever possible that you bring the correct money for payments. We don't keep money in school and have a limited amount of change which can cause delays.

ALL money (except tuck and toast) should come straight to the office—NOT sent with children to classes.

We no longer accept cheques.



Photos

Whole school individual photos will take place in school on Tuesday 23rd September. If you have a child who is NOT in school and would like your older child photographed with them then please arrive for 8.30. If you arrive at 8.50 you will need to take your older child to class for their mark and staff will collect them later. All school siblings will be photographed during the day



School Dinners!

We require parents to make a half term commitment to sandwiches or dinners as changing causes confusion for the children and can result in parents being charged for dinners.

Dinners cost £2.00 per day—payable at the school office.

Please also remember that if you claim income support your child is entitled to Free School Meals. If you are unsure please enquire at the office were they will handle your request sensitively and confidentially. Even if your child does not want a free meal it is very beneficial to the school to complete the form as we receive funds for every child who signs up. It may also help families in other ways.

Worry Sheets

A reminder that we do have 'worry sheets' in school for children to write down anything which is worrying them in school. They can then be returned to the 'worry box' in the main hall or in the 'Tell Us' box in the classroom. This will allow us to address any concerns. You may like to ask your child to collect a sheet if you think it will help them to share things which you feel are on their mind.

After School Care

SinglePoint—Inspiring Families Community Centre will be providing After School Care via the Complete Kidz. If you are interested please pop in to the centre for details.

TRIPS!

Classes will organise a range of trips linked to their topics over the year. We aim to keep costs down and spread them through the year. If you wish to pay in instalments this is fine however all forms and money need paying BEFORE the trip so that adult:child ratios can be maintained. More details on separate letters.

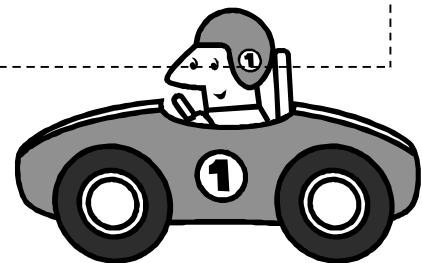


Parking!

We are working closely with the local council, police and traffic wardens to improve the parking situation. Please remember that the double yellow lines are there for YOUR child's safety. Do not park on them before or after school.

Parents must NOT use the school driveway at ANY time or park on zig zags/ no waiting lines as you will be fined.

Please park on the LARGE car park OPPOSITE!!!! Passes are distributed via the council but ONLY to parents living over 1 mile from the school. The medical centre and small businesses have asked that I remind parents NOT to park on their car park as it is for patients only. Those not complying with these requests may have a letter from the local police.



Lost Property

A reminder to parents to label all their children's clothes and to check lost property when things go missing. This is situated in the main entrance. Can I also ask parents to return any clothing which they know isn't their child's. Governors do not take responsibility for any lost items.

Workshops

In an effort to involve parents in their child's education as well as show you children's work we have organised workshops each week for different year groups. We very much hope that you will be able to attend. All workshops will start at 9.10am until 10.00am. Hope to see you there!



Reading Workshops

9th September	Curriculum
16th September	Year 6—SATs
22nd September	Reception
30th September	Year 1
7th October	Year 2
14th October	Year 3 & 4
21st October	Year 5 & 6

Topic Workshops

4th November	Year 1
11th November	Year 2
18th November	Year 3
25th November	Year 4
2nd December	Year 5
9th December	Year 6
16th December	Reception

Maths Workshops

6th January	Year 1
13th January	Year 2
20th January	Year 3 & 4
27th January	Year 5 & 6
3rd February	Reception
10th February	Year 1

Topic Workshops

24th February	Year 2
3rd March	Year 3
10th March	Year 4
17th March	Year 5
24th March	Year 6

Writing Workshops

14th April	Year 5 & 6
21st April	Year 3 & 4
28th April	Year 2
5th May	Year 1
19th May	Reception

Topic Workshops

2nd June	Year 1
9th June	Year 2
16th June	Year 3
23rd June	Year 4
30th June	Year 5

Parents Evening

3rd December 3.15—6.30
25th March 3.15—6.30
1st July 3.15—6.30

Whole School Photos

23rd September

REMI NDERS!

I thought I would start the term with a few reminders.

<p><u>School Rules and Sanctions</u></p> <p><u>School Rules</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Always do as you are asked first time.• Raise your hand and wait when you have something to say.• Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.• Be responsible for yourself and make good choices.• Show consideration for yourself, other people and our school. <p>We have a range of rewards—class and individual which your child should get over the course of the year. Please ask your child about them.</p>	<p><u>Sanctions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• verbal warning• yellow card on chart• red card on chart and name entered in the 'Behaviour Book'. Child sent to senior staff for 10 minutes. Text sent to parents. Child not allowed to join end of term treat.• If child repeats behaviour on the same day parents will be asked to come in to speak to staff.• If 3 incidents occur in one week a letter will be sent to parents. <p>3 letters in one half term results in letter posted to parents inviting them to discuss their child's behaviour with the Head Teacher. Poor behaviour may result in your child going on the Special Needs Register and receiving a behaviour plan and external support.</p>
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Pink Forms

Next week a form will be coming home with your child containing personal data. Can you please check and change if required. It is ESSENTIAL that all phone numbers are updated. These forms need returning by 30th September at the latest. Thank you.

2 Year Old Pupil Funding

A reminder that we have provision for 2 year olds (Little Angels). If you feel you may be eligible for a funded place (depending on benefit entitlement) please contact Sandwell Families Information Service on 0121 569 4914 to complete the necessary paperwork and request a place at Christ Church. They will be able to determine if you are eligible for a funded place. We also offer places to other 2 year olds at a chargeable rate if you are not entitled to these benefits. We hope that this will provide affordable childcare to our families.

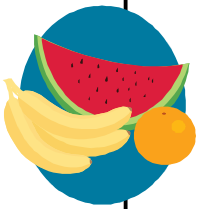
Late Collection

Can I remind parents that we are obliged to contact Social Services if children are not collected within 10 minutes of the end of lessons. If we cannot contact parents and we are unaware of reason for a delay your child may be taken to the local police station. This system is inline with LA guidelines and procedures.



Tuck

Pupils have the opportunity to purchase healthy snacks from the tuck trolley at breaktimes. Toast is on sale at morning breaktime for 10p per slice. Children may buy 1 or 2 slices a day. This is available to all children and is very popular in the colder weather.



Key Stage 1 and Early Years are entitled to free fruit.

We strongly encourage healthy eating so if you send your child with their own tuck please keep this in mind—crisps and chocolate are NOT a healthy snack alternative.

Fizzy drinks and sweets are not allowed for snacks or lunchboxes.



PPA Cover

As you may be aware ALL teachers are required to have 10% non-contact time in order to do Planning, Preparation and Assessment. For us to achieve this we are hoping wherever possible to use our staff to cover lessons. Miss Jones, Mrs Mortimer and Mrs Piras will be allocated to different year groups to ensure continuity wherever possible.



PE Kits and Uniform

Pupils **MUST** have PE Kits in school at all times. This consists of a T-Shirt, shorts and pumps (trainers are not permitted unless they do PE on the field). The T-Shirt should be plain and **SUITABLE**—not straps, sequins, etc. Tracksuits (without a hood) may be worn when pupils are outside in colder weather. PE is an essential lesson to maintain health and well being. Pupils should not miss out due to lack of kit. If for **ANY** reason your child cannot do a lesson please send a note or speak to your child's teacher. This should be the exception rather than the norm.

Uniform should be worn at all times. Pupils should not wear trainers to school or inappropriate footwear, e.g heels, open toe sandals, etc.

Clubs

A reminder that clubs are available for the autumn term but you need to sign up ASAP to secure a place.

We will be inviting selected pupils to attend a range of curriculum clubs over the course of the term to provide extra support with their academic needs. We will change the clubs on offer over the course of the year so suggestions are welcome.



Please do come and talk to a member of staff if you have any worries or concerns. In the first instance this should be the class teacher. After that please speak to Mrs Quigley or Miss Taylor. Misunderstandings can often be sorted out quickly and your mind put at rest.

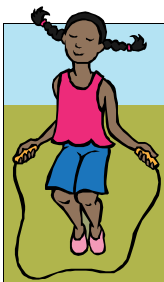
TEXTING!

The schools mobile phone number is 07891476298. Texts may be sent to this phone if your child is absent but you need to give name, class and reason for absence. Please make sure we have up to date mobile numbers at all times if you require this service.



Games

If you are planning a clear out and have any old games or jigsaw (all pieces in there) that the children could play please send them to school. We can always make use of them. Thanks



Equipment

Key Stage 2 pupils need a small pencil case containing the following items: pencil, rubber, sharpener, ruler and pencil crayons.



Gifted and Talented

At Christ Church we like to celebrate the achievements of our children both inside and outside school. If you have any photographs of your child receiving awards or taking part in successful activities outside school, e.g. football training, swimming, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Music, Gymnastics, Dance, Karate, etc. then please send them in with a brief note explaining why you think they should be included on our achievement board. We look forward to hearing from you.