



Christ Church C of E Primary School

'Let Your Light Shine!'

School Newsletter - Spring 2

Remote Learning

We just wanted to thank you all for everything you are doing to support your child at the moment. Many of the staff are in a similar position as yourselves where they are trying to juggle homeschooling their children and work. You are not alone. We understand how hard it can be.

Through our weekly calls to parents many of you have expressed concerns that you aren't doing enough, you can't get your child to complete all of the work everyday, you feel guilty that if you spend time with them that you can't do home tasks or vice versa. We want you to know that many of you are feeling the same so please don't worry. Some days will feel easier than others. As always we are here, if we can, to provide any practical support. This may be a chat to motivate your child, an additional call to yourself or signposting to external services. Please find some helpful strategies in the Engagement and Well-being section towards the end of the Newsletter.

Back to School Information

Following the announcement by Boris Johnson on Monday 21st February, we look forward to welcoming back all our pupils on Monday 8th March.

We have put in place further measures to prevent contact between bubbles at drop off and collection time including introducing a one-way system through the MUGA for siblings. Please find start and finish times at the end of this letter for each year group and note that some of these have changed from last term. Year 3 children for example will now need to be collected at the front gate at 2.50 pm. If you are collecting siblings, please do not arrive earlier than 2.55 pm as this creates difficulties for social distancing.

Whilst local infections levels remain very high, we politely ask that families are mindful of social distancing rules and continue to wear masks at collection and drop off times or when on the school site.

Please do not pull up on the double yellow lines as this puts our children at risk.

If your child is currently having a remote intervention, where possible, they will continue to receive an intervention which will be offered remotely on Friday afternoons. A member of staff will be in touch to discuss this with you. School will remain open to the Key Workers group only on Friday afternoon until after the Easter Holidays when our Catch Up programme will re-start.

Wrap Around

As mentioned previously, SinglePoint will no longer be providing on site wrap around provision once school reopens. To ensure that our families do not miss out on this valuable service we will be running before and after school care at the same times and prices as

SinglePoint to ensure a smooth transition. If you require this service, further information regarding bookings etc can be found on the school website (www.christchurchsandwell.com). Mrs Gyasi will be overseeing the provision so if you have any questions please email us at enquires@christchurchsandwell.org and she will be in touch.



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Staff News



Congratulations to Mr Mills on the birth of a beautiful daughter Maeve. Mr Wilding will be covering Chestnut class whilst Mr Mills takes his paternity leave towards the end of March.

We wish Mrs Deen all the best as she starts her Maternity Leave at the end of the term. To help with a smooth transition we are pleased to welcome back Mrs Siddle who will be the new teacher in Maple Class when we return.

Parent Meetings w/c 22nd March

Please expect a phone call in the next week or two from the staff to arrange a Parent Meeting to discuss how your child has settled back into school and how they are progressing. These will take place by phone or on Google Meet to suit. Most of these meetings will take place during the week beginning 22nd March (3rd week back). As Mr Mills will be on paternity leave, he will make his calls for Chestnut Class next week w/c 1st March. Focus Provision meetings will take place on Wednesday 24th March 2021.

Dates

w/c 1st March	Parent Meetings - Chestnut Class
Thursday 4th March	World Book Day (see below)
Monday 8th March	Back to school
(Tuesday 9th March	Year 3 Church Visit - postponed)
Friday 12th March	Virtual Mothers' Day Assembly EYFS, KS1- Google Classroom
Wednesday 17th March	Training Day - School Closed
Friday 19th March	Red Nose Day (see below)
w/c 22nd March	Parent Meetings
Wednesday 24th March	Parent Meetings - Focus Provision
w/c 29th March	Virtual Easter Celebrations - Google Classroom
Thursday 1st April	End of Term - collect at Friday finishing times including Key Workers Group

Curriculum meetings with children to discuss curriculum subjects will continue to take place in school on a Wednesday morning as previously planned until 31st March.



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Pupil Premium

If your circumstances have changed during lockdown please call or email us. We can advise you on how to apply for Pupil Premium funding which in addition to ensuring that your child receives a free school meal, brings in an additional £1,345 every year to the school to be spent on your child until they leave Primary School. Whilst we will be working hard to ensure that all our children catch up on any lost learning, we will continue to prioritize those children who are entitled to Pupil Premium funding for interventions and other benefits.

Writing Challenge

Well done to all the children who took part in the Digital Detox Writing Narrative Challenge. Your work is fabulous and we look forward to displaying your work in the Hall. A special congratulations to the winners of a £5 Amazon token:

Early Years	Bobby and Lilian
Year 1	Kylen and Ella
Year 2	Ronnie and Janelle
Year 3	Yashica and Harnisha
Year 4	James and Amelia
Year 5	Muhammad Rakha and Uliana
Year 6	Judah and Ruchika
FP	Kiera and Kacper
Overall creative idea	Joel Roberts



SHINE - Included

Well done to the children for responding well to their home learning challenge. It was heartwarming to read about the different ways you have tried to include and be kind to others during lockdown. We shall continue focusing on the theme of Inclusion until Easter.

Red Nose Day - Friday 19th March

We are looking forward to having some fun and raising some money to support people living incredibly difficult lives. On this day, the children can wear something that makes them feel happy. In school we will do some activities such as some smile-based artwork, some joke telling or even some silly dancing. Please send in a silver coin.



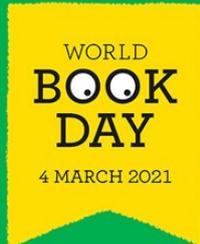


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World Book Day - Thursday 4th March



World Book Day takes place on 4th March and we would like to invite you to join us in helping your child to make the most of this special occasion. World Book Day celebrates the joy of reading, especially for children. This year has been challenging for so many families; we want to make sure that World Book Day 2021 sends a powerful and positive message about books and reading.

The children usually enjoy coming into school either dressed as their favourite book character or based on a theme but although we are not in school this year, don't let that hold them back, why not dress up at home and post photos on

Google Classroom and maybe we can share them on social media. We appreciate however that dressing up is not everyone's idea of fun. Please do reassure your child that it is also fine to maybe have a prop from a story or wear a badge representing a favourite book or character if they would prefer.

There will be a range of activities scheduled to take place via Google Classroom- these will include an Academy class, a chance to hear from authors and other activities specific to your child's year group. Please keep an eye out for these activities on Google Classroom. In addition to this we will be running a cooking competition. We would like children to be inspired to create a delicacy based around a book of their choice. This could be in the form of a cake, a pizza, an open sandwich or an option of their choice - let their imaginations run wild! More information via Google Classrooms.

Every child receives a £1.00 World Book Day Book token that can either be exchanged for one of 12 very special £1.00 World Book Day books, or used to get £1.00 off any book (costing £2.99 or more.) You can find out more about the books at worldbookday.com/books. The tokens can be printed from Google Classroom and are also available in school when we return.

On the 4th March a representative from Usborne book (Kayleigh Saunders) will be hosting a virtual book fayre for you and your children to browse, explore and buy 100s of different books! There will be a vast variety of books to choose from, covering all interests, topics and reading abilities. As well as some games / competitions along the way too. But that's not the best part!

By attending the virtual book fayre you can help get FREE books into your child(s) school!

The link below will take you directly to the virtual fayre. I hope to see you all there and cannot wait to share all of our beautiful books and activities with you!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/717948268921511/?ref=share>

We hope you can join us on this very special day!



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Start and Finish Times

	Start	End	Friday finish	Gate
Siblings (brothers & sisters)	8.45	2.55	12.45	Top gate
Year 1	8.55	2.45	12.35	Top gate
Year 2	8.50	2.50	12.40	Top gate
Year 3	8.50	2.50	12.35	Top gate AM Office gate PM
Year 4	8.55	2.55	12.45	Top gate AM Office gate PM
Year 5	8.50	3.00	12.40	Office gate
Year 6	8.55	3.05	12.30	Office gate
Rec	8.40	2.40	12.20	Office gate
Nursery and Little Angels	8.35- 11.35 AM	12-20 - 3.20 PM	N/A	Office gate
Focus Provision	9.20 am	2.30pm (2.15pm for transport)	2.30pm (2.15pm for transport)	Office gate

Engagement and Well-being

We recognise that everyone has found the lockdown a challenge. Children, parents and teachers alike have never experienced anything like the last 12 months before and we appreciate all your hard work over this time.

Here are some suggestions and thoughts that we hope may help.

Parents, you can only do their best and that we appreciate that it isn't easy to engage your children all day in the tasks set when you have other responsibilities. Try to look at the positives and the good times, see this as a chance to be with your child more and be so involved in what they are doing.

It might help if you/they

- Have a good routine, with a clear get up time and bedtime similar to school day if possible. Make sure you all know what time learning starts and finishes
- How do I feel today? activity - Chirpy Chick etc Children can try to name their emotions, score it on a scale of 1-10. This gives them the opportunity to share anxieties and will make them feel better about themselves and the day ahead.
- Use of worry monster, make worry bag, worry monster at home.
- Have lots of fun breaks, make sure they have something to look forward to, a walk, play in the garden, cooking activity etc.



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- Make sure they get some exercise if at all possible and fresh air too. A walk around the block can be really helpful to refocus
- Know what the plan for the day is and how much work they need to do. Have a look at the tasks and see if you can work out what can be done independently and what your child might need help with. This can then be arranged round your day.
- Have clear expectations and boundaries, break things down into step by step tasks. First do this..., and then we can do ...
- Show them how to do something rather than just tell, If you don't know don't worry but ask . Working on it together might be fun.
- Don't worry if it doesn't go to plan
- Have a time everyday to think about positive things, what they are good at, what makes them feel good, and what I would like to do in the future.
- Think about what makes them happy, draw their happy place, a happy time, look at photos
- Some days will be better than others
- Try to stay positive about the good days and don't worry about the bad
- Try not to feel guilty or compare yourself to other parents/families we are going through thing completely differently
- Ask for help if you need it. We are here and lots of other services are too
- Talk to others even if it is us and we can only listen it may help
- Allow children to be creative with their submissions, particularly for afternoon sessions. Let them enjoy the learning.
- Include a relaxing activity before bed, or find a way to allow your child's brain to unwind. (drawing, sand raking, relaxing music, massage etc)
- Allow the child to keep a notepad and pen at the side of their bed, so that if they wake in the night with any worries, questions or thoughts they can write them down and go back to sleep knowing they can deal with them in the morning. It really helps.
- Encourage social contact with friends in COVID safe ways such as regular video calls, phone calls or even becoming pen pals.

These links may help

<https://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do/childrens-wellbeing-activities-for-teaching-staff-and-families.html>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/supporting-your-child-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>



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Prayer



Lord God,
You have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.