



Christ Church C of E Primary School

'Let Your Light Shine!'

School Newsletter - May 2020

Head Teacher's Comment

As a parent in a similar situation to that in which you find yourselves in, I wanted to say thank you for caring about the amount of work that is being completed at home. I would like to reassure you that what you are doing is enough. It doesn't matter if you get a full day of activities done, maths work completed and an essay written up before lunch or whether you take a day to recalibrate, talk about how you are feeling and sit outside in the sun. You are raising children and doing your best at a time when they are trying to process what is happening outside. If there are days when you feel like you need to take the pressure off, have a cup of tea together and start the weekend a bit earlier than usual then it makes sense to do that. Through your phone calls with staff I have learnt about all of the exciting things you are doing together as a family. I am impressed by the way you are promoting the positive mental health of the children by giving them time outside, taking breaks, time to make and create, to talk and to relax. It seems like many children have learnt a range of valuable life skills: riding a bike, cooking and cleaning. I am not saying work isn't important as it is and we would like you to continue to access Google Classroom and support with the tasks being set but take time to look after each other.



Phased Return to School

The Government has asked Primary Schools to open to pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 classes from Monday 1st June. The Local Authority is currently looking at how this may be implemented safely across Sandwell schools. At the same time, we are preparing Risk Assessments and continue to make plans for when the children come back. We will of course keep you informed of decisions made at a local level when we know more.

For the Grown Ups in the family

Free online courses to build your digital and numeracy skills

<https://theskillstoolkit.campaign.gov.uk/>

Reading



We have enjoyed looking at the photographs of the reading dens you have made. Don't forget that you can still use Reading Eggs and Mathletics from home. Please visit our new **Reading Page** on the school website where you will be able to find links to Letters and Sounds phonics resources and lessons, stories to listen along, your teachers' story videos, book lists suitable for each year group, reading challenges and much more as we develop the page.





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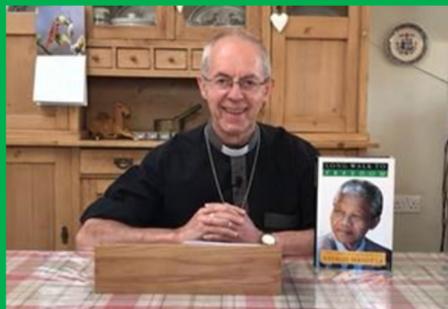
Collective Worship

We hope that you enjoy this weekly worship resource.

<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/schools/worship-at-home/>



Also, on Thursday 30th April, the Archbishop of Canterbury led the first ever national school assembly from the Oak Academy website - <https://www.thenational.academy/> These assemblies will continue weekly as part of the Church of England's Faith at Home initiative, which will also provide resources for prayer, care and spiritual development.



A Prayer for these troubling times.

O God,
Help me to trust you.
Help me to know that you are with me.
Help me to believe
that nothing can separate me
from your love
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen



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CHANGE OF CATERING SERVICE

As of the 12th June 2020 we will be changing caterers from Dolce to SIPs. SIPs is a Sandwell run service that caters for many schools within the borough.

What does this mean for you?

We are hoping that the transition will be as smooth as possible for both the children and yourselves. Our dinner ladies will remain the same as they have done for the past 5+ years, so your child will still be familiar with our kitchen staff.

Please do not apply any more money to your school grid accounts. If you have any money in credit on your account please contact Dolce direct on: 01942 707709 to get this refunded.

Going forward all meals as of the 12th of June will be ordered and paid through your ParentPay account. This will hopefully also help with everything being in one place i.e. Trips, events and meals can all be paid through this platform. If you do not have an account please contact a.bruce@christchurchsandwell.org where all details can be emailed out to you.

Meals will be pre-ordered at home, but upon ordering your meal (if your child is in Years 3-6 and not pupil premium) payment will be required. Lunches will not be provided for children who have not paid, parents will be contacted and asked to bring lunch in for their child.

Our menus will remain similar to what we offer now, there will be a choice of 4 meals everyday: a hot meat option, a hot Vegetarian option, a sandwich or wrap and jacket potatoes. The prices of school meals will also remain the same. For further information please visit: www.sips.co.uk/foodportal