



September 2023

Christ the King News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome

I hope that all of our pupils and families have managed to enjoy the summer break. We have had a mixture of weather this year and I hope that you have all managed to spend time outdoors and enjoy the great locality that we live in.

It has been a very busy start to the term as we have welcomed new teachers and our wonderful new Reception children, who have settled in very well.

Baby News

Congratulations to Mrs Shutler and her family, on the safe arrival of her baby boy, Theo. We are looking forward to meeting him soon.

Staffing update

A very warm welcome to our new staff who joined Christ the King this week. Mrs Martin Yr5, Mrs Monk Yr5, Miss Skelton Yr3, Miss Betts TA and Mrs Lee MSA have all settled in well.

Ms Ayton has secured a new teaching position at a local school. Ms Ayton has been at CtK for 11 years, predominantly teaching in Upper Key Stage 2. Ms Ayton has been our Behaviour Lead, Antibullying Lead and Science Leader. We are so grateful for the work that she has undertaken and for her years of service at Christ the King.

Miss Leslie has made the very difficult decision to leave at the end of this term. Miss Leslie will be following her partner, who is in the Armed Services, and whom has been posted abroad for three years. This has been a very hard decision for Miss Leslie, but an amazing opportunity that she couldn't turn down. Miss Leslie has been at Christ the King for 11 years as an MSA, a TA, a training teacher and as a qualified teacher.

We wish both Ms Ayton and Miss Leslie every success in their new endeavours.

These posts are being advertised and interviews will take place in the beginning of October.

First Holy Communion Preparation

Please make contact with Jo Martin or the Parish Office if you wish your child to make their First Holy Communion. The Preparation Course will start in the Autumn Term and is applicable for children in Year 3 or above, who have been baptised and would like to make the First Holy Communion.

Thank You

The teachers, TAs and office staff would like to thank parents and pupils for the generous gifts last term. A smile and a quiet word of thanks is enough to encourage us all in our vocation to serve our community. Thank you.

School Communication 2023-2024

This year we will continue to send out a **monthly newsletter** to parents. Class teachers will also send out a **year group newsletter** at the start of each half term along with regular updates about the class on ClassDojo (see below). Information about your child's learning this year will be shared in the class newsletter and also posted on the year group pages on the school website.

During September class teachers will hold a **Meet and Greet** session with parents so that you can meet your child's teacher, see their classroom and familiarise yourself with the new routines and expectations for home learning, etc.

Parent consultation meetings will take place twice a year and parents will receive one written report. Parent consultation meetings this term are planned to be face to face, week beginning 16th October 2023 (Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th October).

Class teachers will be available on the door at the end of the day and may also be messaged on Tapestry or **ClassDojo**. Please email the school office for all other queries.

ClassDojo

ClassDojo connects teachers with pupils and parents to build an amazing community where are all connected and informed. Foundation will continue to use Tapestry, along with Year 1, and Years 1 to Year 6 will use ClassDojo. Google Classroom accounts will continue to be used as our remote and home learning platform.

Start and Finish Times

Our start and end of day routines will continue as follows: Parent/ carer may bring their child on site and drop off at the classroom / year group allocated door where there will be a member of support staff available to welcome each child and take any notes / queries. Teachers will be in the classroom engaging with the learning activities from 8.30am, but will be available on the door at the end of the school day. If you need a conversation with the teacher, please do message them on ClassDojo and they will either phone you or arrange a meeting.

At the end of the school day parents of pupils in Early Years to Year 4 are encouraged to collect their child from the classroom door. This ensures we hand over children safely at the end of each day and there is also an opportunity for teachers to catch parents should they need a quick hello. Parents of pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 have the option of collecting their child from the allocated door / area or to write a letter to the class teacher and office to give permission for their child to walk on / off site independently. The school keep a log of all walkers, and this is checked regularly.

Please ensure you inform the class teacher in writing of any persons who will regularly collect your child from school. We will not send a child home with any adults that we have not be notified of. If there is a change in pick up, please use our safe word system.

Safe Word System

If you need to change the person picking your child up at the last minute, please contact the school main office (NOT the class teacher) to give the following details:

1. Name of person collecting
2. Safe word.

The person collecting will give the safe word to the class teacher for your child to be released.

Year Group	Doors Open	Start Time	Finish Time
Pre-School	8.45am	8.55am	3.00pm
Year R	8.30am	8.40am	2.55pm
KS1	8.30am	8.40am	3.00pm
KS2	8.30am	8.40am	3.00pm

Uniform

Uniform matters - we pride ourselves on high standards of presentation. All pupils should wear the correct school uniform including a jumper or cardigan with the school logo.

Hair styles should be suitable for school – NO SHAVED cuts please. Shoes should be black - slip on shoes for girls are NOT encouraged as they inhibit safe playtime play.

PE uniform expectations are equally important and school logo PE T-shirt is advised. Navy shorts, sweatshirt top and jogging bottoms should all be plain navy with no logos. Leggings are not permitted. Please continue come to school in PE uniform on PE days.

Packed Lunches and New Hot Lunches

Please remember that we are a NUT FREE school. Please ensure you check the ingredients of all items in packed lunches.

The new hot lunch system is now fully up and running. The food has received high praise indeed and all parents who require hot lunches for next week have placed their order prior to the deadline. Thank you to our wonderful Admin team who have worked behind the scenes to get the system operational and thank you to parents for your patience.

Winter Illnesses

As we move into the Autumn term, hygiene measures are increasingly important. Regular handwashing is crucial and class teachers will encourage children to do this.

We have visitor in school who has an autoimmune disorder. Their well-being may be affected by coming into contact with people who have chicken pox, measles or shingles. Please let us know if your child is off with any of these infections, so we can inform our visitor accordingly.

Summer Home Learning

I hope that all pupils have managed to spend some time practising their basic skills in reading and maths. Teachers can monitor access to IXL and note the progress made over the summer. For some children this will mean that they start the term with confidence. Our English Leaders are looking forward to finding out which pupils took part in the reading challenge this summer. Thank you and well done to all pupils who have tried to do a little home learning this summer!

Applying for a place at Christ the King School

BCP still manage our admissions, however, we still urge families to complete our school application forms which are available from our office or online. This year our new parents' evening for Reception 2024 will be held on Tuesday 10th October from 6-7.30pm.

Key Dates

Season of Creation - Friday 1st September- Wednesday 4th October 2023

New Year School Mass, CTK Church 9.30am - Thursday 14th September 2023

Key Stage 1 Meet the Teacher, 3.00/3.15pm start - Tuesday 19th September 2023

Key Stage 2 Meet the Teacher, 3.00/3.15pm start - Thursday 21st September 2023

Key Stage 2 Handball Taster Workshops -Thursday 21st September 2023

Year 4 MTC Parent Information Workshop, 3.15pm - Monday 25th September 2023

Year 6 SATS Parent Information Workshop, 3.15pm - Wednesday 27th September 2023

EYFS Phonics and Baseline Parent Information Workshop, 2.15pm - Thursday 28th September 2023

Year 1 (Year 2) Phonics Screen Workshop, 3.15pm - Thursday 28th September 2023

Grandparent's Day, 2.15pm - Friday 29th September 2023

Feast of St. Francis - wear something yellow - Wednesday 4th October 2023

PTFA Disco - Thursday 5th October 2023

Harvest Mass, 9.30am CTK Church and Cafod Family Fast Day - Friday 6th October 2023

CTK Open Evening for new Reception intake 2024-2025, 6-7.30pm - Tuesday 10th October 2023

School Photos - Tuesday 17th October 2023

Parent Consultations, 3-6pm - Tuesday 17th October 2023

PTFA Crazy Hair Day - Thursday 19th October 2023

Parent Consultations, 3-6pm - Thursday 19th October 2023

INSET - School Closed - Friday 20th October 2023

Season of Creation

Pope Francis established 1st September as the 'World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation' in 2015. The 1st September 2023 marked the start of this year's Season of Creation. It ends on 4th October, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology. The theme for this year is ***"Let Peace and Justice Flow."***

In this season of creation, the symbol of God's Spirit calls us to listen to the voice of creation, the cry of the Earth and awaken to the urgent need to heal our earth.

Pope Francis tweeted, 'This season of creation is an opportunity to cultivate our 'ecological conversion', a conversion encouraged by Saint John Paul II as a response to the 'ecological catastrophe' predicted by Saint Paul VI back in 1970.

Pope Francis calls us to respond with prayer and action. The children will start this new school year by revisiting 'Laudato Si' and what it means to Care for Our Common Home – to consider what we can do locally to help heal our planet.

[Prepare for Season of Creation 2023: Let Justice and Peace Flow](#)



[Season of Creation Song - Bing video](#)

Let Us Pray

We give thanks for:

- The summer break and the chance to relax and unwind with family and friends.
- The safe return home of

all of our pupils and staff following their travels this summer.

We pray for:

- A happy and safe academic year 2023-2024 with many smiles and many achievements to celebrate.
- Pupils and staff who left our school in July, that they all enjoy their new adventures and schools.
- New pupils and staff joining us this term, that they settle into our community.
- Our planet – that all Christians continue to pray and ‘act’ to save our world.

And finally, I look forward to supporting you and your children in their learning journey this year and ensuring they build happy memories of their time in our school.

Kind regards,

Melanie Lord

Headteacher

