

Christ Church CE VA Primary School

'Let your light shine'



Headteacher: Emma Bray Deputy Headteacher: Rachael Clarke Senior Teachers: Aaron Rogers & Emily Walker

11 September 2020

Dear Parents

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It feels so good to be back. We've had a super first full week with ALL of the children back in school, including our new reception children who have visited this week. We have enjoyed seeing all of our new families during home visits and the stay and play sessions, and welcome you to our Christ Church community. Our older children in Year 1 and upwards, have been working hard in their new classrooms with their new teachers, and I couldn't be more proud. I wish you could all see how hard our fabulous staff are working tirelessly behind the scenes to make our new normal feel as safe and happy as possible.

During the week, we have had new national safety measures announced, which will be enforced from Monday. I would like to reiterate, that although things may seem more normal now that children are back at school, we still must remain vigilant with COVID-safe protective measures in school, which include social distancing. Drop off and pick up times have the potential to be at a higher risk in the lane, due to overcrowding, which is why we have staggered times in place. Please adhere to the timings strictly so there is room for social distancing.

From Monday, staff at the gates will be wearing masks, as further protective measures. It is not always easy to speak at the gate and we politely request that you contact your child's teachers via ClassDojo, by email or telephone. Incidentally, the government has stated that staff and children in primary school do not need to wear face coverings, with the exception of some adults who work with vulnerable pupils.

UNIFORM

All children have looked exceptionally smart this week and it is wonderful to see them taking such pride in themselves, wearing the correct uniform and being ready to learn. As the weather is beginning to grow colder, I would like to remind parents and children that only black, polishable shoes are permitted, **not boots**, nor trainers, (unless children are wearing their PE kits to school), as per our school uniform policy. All long hair must be tied up to prevent the spread of headlice.

STAYING SAFE

What to do if you have coronavirus symptoms

It is essential to self-isolate at home and book a coronavirus test if your child:

- develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms:
 - a high temperature
 - a new, continuous cough
 - the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell, or
- is recommended to get tested by a healthcare provider (e.g. GP or nurse)



If your child develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms described above, **only they** should be tested. There is no need for their households to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic. Tests can be booked online or by phoning 119. Do not visit your GP or come into school if you have coronavirus symptoms. Please inform the school of the test results by forwarding the email to the school email address or screenshot an image to your child's teacher on the ClassDojo app.

*What to do if you are **told** to self-isolate*

If you are **told** to self-isolate, you should remain at home for 14 days. You do not need to get a COVID-19 test unless you develop symptoms. It is possible to test negative for COVID-19 whilst the virus is in its incubation stage, which can be up to 14 days. Therefore, if you are **told** to self-isolate, you must self-isolate for 14 days, no matter what.

PERSONAL BESTS

Our first Personal Bests of this academic year! Well done to all the children who have come into school looking so smart and with big smiles on their faces. We are so pleased to see you all. A particular well done to:

- YEAR 1 -** Toby for settling in **so** well, for always listening and making the right choices!
- YEAR 2 -** Aiden for counting forwards and backwards.
- YEAR 3 -** Noah for showing such positivity and 'can do' attitude!
- YEAR 4 -** Theo for a great start to Year 4 and answering lots of questions in class.
- YEAR 5 -** Shalen for an amazing start in a brand new school!
- YEAR 6 -** Rosie for enthusiasm for learning, contributing in class and overcoming her fears!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Jayden in Year 6 received our first star of the week for immediately taking responsibility in his new leadership role as 'Health and Safety Officer,' by checking internal and external parts of the school. Mrs White was our adult star of the week for being so positive in her new role as class teacher of Year 4, letting her light shine despite having to learn a million and one new routines and procedures. Congratulations to both of them.

READING PERCENTAGES

As you will remember we encourage the children to read 4 or more times at home to an adult. This can be a magazine or newspaper even, it doesn't have to be a book. Anything will help! This week we started counting our reading records again and I'm pleased to say that Year 3 have won the reading cup for this coming week. We are hoping that the scores will be a lot higher next week as we all get into the swing of school again. Please encourage your children to read, it will help them so much in life!

READING BOOK RAFFLE!

As with last year, all the children who read 4 or more times with an adult, out of school, will be entered into our raffle draw for a lovely new book to add to their collection. Start reading at home today!

NEW PUPIL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Democracy and what that means to our children has been the focus during the week, as school council elections were held in bubbles. Announcements will be made next week alongside introductions to our brand new Year 6 pupil leadership team.

YEAR 6 TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Today, we emailed out a letter from Schools' Admissions giving details of the timings for applications of Secondary School places. The on line application starts **TOMORROW** and closes on **SATURDAY, 31**

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OCTOBER AT 11.59 P.M. There is a list of virtual open days and contact information for all schools included in the letter. Please ensure you read this and ensure your application is in by the deadline.

RECEPTION 2021

If your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 they will be eligible to start school in September 2021. Applications for places are open from 12 September with a deadline of **12 JANUARY 2021 AT 11.59 A.M.** If you know of anyone with a child born between these dates please let them know. If you already have a child at this school **you must apply as normal.** You will not automatically be given a space. A Parent's Guide to starting school will be available on North Somerset Council's website from tomorrow. Thank you.

WATER BOTTLES

Please remember that your child should bring a water bottle to school with them each day. We have a number of school bottles in the office priced at £1.50.

I wish you all a happy and safe weekend.

Mrs Bray
Headteacher

