



# Christ Church School Newsletter

*Nurturing lifelong learners with God's guidance*

**Love    Courage    Honesty    Faith    Forgiveness**

## **Autumn 1**

Dear Parents and Carers,

This will be my last newsletter before retiring. I leave the school in the capable hands of Mrs Hudson who will be the acting Executive Head Teacher. She will be assisted by Mrs Gravett, acting Deputy Head and Mr Lane, Assistant Head, until the new Executive Head teacher, Mrs Richardson, takes up her post in January 2021.

I shall take away many memories of my time at the school. It has been a real joy to see children grow and flourish, particularly where they have succeeded in the face of significant challenges. At Christ Church we have sought to instil values so that children can act with integrity as they go on through life. Our survey last year revealed that many of our children are showing the school values in their day to day life at home, with many parents and carers commenting on how this had become more evident since starting school.

It has been great to see love and kindness in children's actions; just small things in the everyday day to day life of school such as holding the door open or helping a friend. In a place where children are nurtured and loved, they find the courage to own up to mistakes and know the relief that honesty and forgiveness brings. It has always been our ambition that children's tomorrows should not be marked by their past mistakes.

I know that the staff team care deeply about the children in the school and the environment we create together. They will continue to work together to nurture and care for the children in our school family.

It seems that the Coronavirus pandemic will continue to overshadow our day to day lives for some time to come. I know that the school and its children will be held in the prayers of many at this time of uncertainty. I have seen our staff team rise to the challenges of changing their teaching practices several times over in the last few months and am confident that they will pull together to manage what lies ahead, keeping the best interests of your children at heart. For those of Christian faith there is the knowledge that whatever happens God will guide our steps and give us the wisdom and energy to face the challenges of each day. In the bible, in Proverbs 3:5, 6 it says:

*Trust God from the bottom of your heart;  
don't try to figure out everything on your own.  
Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go;  
he's the one who will keep you on track.*

I pray that God will continue to guide and bless all those who work and learn within Christ Church School, and the wider community which it serves, especially in these difficult times.

## **Hot meals**

We have reviewed our arrangements for Covid safe service of lunches and will be able to offer a hot meal every day to children after half term. It will still be necessary for you to order the lunches a week in advance. Please look out for the email with the link to the order form which will be sent during half term. We will no longer be offering the packed lunch option. Children may either have a school hot meal or bring their own packed lunch.

Please note that if you pay for your child's school meal but do not have sufficient money on your parent pay account, the caterers will not be able to give your child a lunch. Please set up a reminder on your parent pay account to top it up before it drops too low to avoid this disappointment for your child.

## **Certificate of appreciation from Councillor Humayun Kabir, Mayor of Croydon 2019 – 2020**

Last academic year some of our children; Shona Fowells, Joshua Lynn, Sofia Kologyij and William Venckus took on the role of being the mayor's ambassadors and set out to help raise money for his chosen charities. Although their fund raising ambition was cut short by the lockdown, they still managed to organise a pyjama day and raise some money for the mayor's charities. The school have been sent a certificate to display in the entrance area.

*To Christ Church Primary School, in recognition and sincere appreciation of participating in the Junior Ambassador Programme 2019 – 2020 and supporting your young people to raise the grand sum of £326.40 for the Mayor's Charity Fund*

Thank you Shona, Joshua, Sofia and William and all who contributed towards this initiative.

## **Croydon Schools Sport Partnership Recognition Award**

In the latest Croydon Schools Sports Partnership Newsletter, Christ Church School was recognised for participation in sporting events as follows:

*Christ Church C of E Primary School is recognised for their commitment to attending competitions and festivals in the Autumn and Spring Term. They always attend with a smile, thanking event organisers and including all their team members in events.*

## **Swimming Lessons**

Normally we are able to offer swimming lessons to children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Swimming is a very important life skill and we hope to resume swimming lessons when it is safe to do so. However we are very concerned to hear that Purley Pool may not re-open.

This will have an impact on how much swimming we are able to offer, as travelling some distance to a pool will cut into the amount of curriculum time that can be given to swimming lessons. Please consider signing the [petition to save Purley Pool](#)

## **Car parking at the church**

Parents are permitted to park in the Christ Church car park for drop off between 8.30am – 9.00am and pick up between 2.50pm - 3.20pm.

The numbered parking bays on the left are for permit holders only.

Please do not leave your car in the car park at any other time, unless you are using the Church halls or attending a service.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

### **Road safety**

Please model to your child how to cross the road safely. Children will tend to copy what they see you do rather than what you say. Help to keep your children safe now and in the future by modelling safe road crossing at all times.

### **School coats/jackets**

Please remember if you are buying a new coat for your child over the holiday that coats should be plain dark blue, plain black, plain grey or Christ Church red. There are a few children wearing Khaki, dark red and patterned coats. Please replace these as soon as possible. Thank you.

### **Apple watches and fitbits**

Children should not be wearing Apple watches or fitbits to school. They are distractions in class and also have to be removed for PE so there is a risk that they get lost.

### **Harvest donations**

From Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October children are encouraged to bring one or more of the following items: tinned meat, fish or soup, pasta sauces, rice, cereals, biscuits and toiletries. Donations will be collected in classrooms until Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October and given to local homelessness charity Nightwatch.

### **Staffing changes**

Mrs Yull – After 11 years of working at Christ Church and an even longer time connected with the school, Mrs Yull has left to give more time to her Physiotherapy work. We are very grateful for all she has done for the children of Christ Church School.

Mrs Meunier, who teaches French to Year 5 and 6, had her last day with us this week. Our thanks go to Mrs Meunier for her contribution to French teaching at Christ Church and helping to offer such high quality French teaching to Christ Church Children.

Ms Sachet joins the staff team and will take on the teaching of French to Year 5 and 6 after half term.

*Mary Pike*

Executive Head Teacher

### **Diary Dates**

Thu	Oct	22	Parent/Carer evening 5.00pm-8.00pm via phone call (all except 4G)
Fri	Oct	23	School closes for half term

### **Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Oct – Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov: Half Term**

Tue	Nov	03	School opens for Autumn 2
Mon	Nov	09	TEMPEST Individual Photos
Tue	Nov	10	TEMPEST Individual Photos

**Term Dates:  
2020/21**

**Autumn Term 2020**

Open Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September  
HALF TERM

Open Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

Close Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at normal time

Close Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm

**Spring Term 2021**

Open Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January  
HALF TERM

Open Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Close Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February at normal time

Close Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 1.30pm

**Summer Term 2021**

Open Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April  
HALF TERM

Open Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June

Close Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May at normal time

Close Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 1.30pm

**Please note:**

Bank Holidays:

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021

Staff Training (subject to change): 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

7<sup>th</sup> June 2021