



Christ Church School Newsletter

Nurturing lifelong learners with God's guidance

Love **Courage** **Honesty** **Faith** **Forgiveness**

Autumn 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a great end to the term we have had over the last few weeks. Amid all the uncertainty surrounding us, the children and staff have made great efforts to look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus in the coming week.

We have filled our hall, the heart of our school, with colourful stars to spread some joy and cheer this Christmas. We remember that star that shone brightly over the manger where Jesus was born. We remember how the wise men and shepherds were guided by it and we pray that Jesus will be in our hearts and continue to guide us through whatever lays ahead.

Through this psalm from the Bible we remember how important and special we all are,

"He counts the stars and calls them all by name" Psalm 147:4



Reverse Advent Calendar

Thank you for all the donations brought in for Purley Food Hub. The children have really enjoyed watching their food baskets grow and this has been a great way to reinforce the importance of giving this Christmas season. Thank you also to the Year 4 parents who suggested this great way of supporting those in need at this difficult time.



A Christmas Carol – Virtual Pantomime

Thank you to the FCCS for the wonderful pantomime that the children enjoyed virtually on Thursday afternoon. This was a lovely treat for bubbles to enjoy together.

World Kindness day & Anti-bullying week

We celebrated World Kindness day on Friday 13th November and awarded children kindness vouchers when acts of kindness were observed. Children could reflect on the impact of kind gestures and also think about all the different possible ways to show kindness.



Mrs Sutton also arranged for us to take part in Anti-bullying week. Many year groups carried out some brilliant activities such as creating kindness cards for a member of the class. Mrs Sutton reported that parents had contacted her to say they were taking part too! Well done everyone!

Stem Science day



On 9th December, Years 2 to 6 participated in an hour-long online STEM science session organised by Mrs Ofori. The session focused on ten water experiments, introducing the children to lots of new and interesting facts, including the appearance of water molecules and atoms in its three different states: ice, water and steam. It also included a demonstration on how to make a water clock, giving the children a chance to observe an amazing, giant water clock in Asia. Many children were fascinated to learn that they could generate water from their own bodies and that water can be used to power cars to help reduce air pollution.

Here are a few quotes from the children:

"I didn't know that icebergs are really big on the bottom." 2NM

"I liked to see the atoms and how they spread as I didn't know about atoms." 3F

"I liked the water steam powered car because I've never seen one before." 3O

"I enjoyed it when we had to act out the actions of the different molecules and used our hands to cover our mouths and create water." 4S

"I liked the steam engine experiment heating water to power a steam engine. I learnt about molecules. It was cool. Hydrogen cars don't need fuel. You can even drink the water!" 5B

"Steam engines have to have water to work." 6P

The event ended with a live Question and Answer session. One of the highlights from this was that some children in Year 6 had their questions answered. Luke - (I enjoyed most)
"That my question got answered."

The session helped to ignite children's curiosity about water as well as the science involved, raising a number of questions, which we hope they will continue to explore.

"What does water look like in space?" 2NM

"How much would we have to supersize an atom to be able to see it in real life?" 3F

"I would like to know how long it takes to become a scientist." 4S

"Why is water clear?" 6LA.

Staffing news

Baby news: Congratulations to Mrs Boyd who has welcomed baby Reuben.

We welcome our new Language Development teacher, Mrs Franchi, who starts in Reception and Year 1 in January.

We also welcome Mr Turnbull and Mrs Howes who join our staff team as Teaching assistants.

We bid farewell to Mrs Howell who has been working on Fridays in 3FH. She is taking up a post in the other school she works at. We thank her for all her hard work and wish her well in all she does. Ms Taylor will be joining the Year 3 team from January.

Mrs Hudson, Mr Lane, Mrs Chukwudinma and Mrs Porter have had a number of meetings this half term with Mrs Richardson who will take up her post as our new Executive Headteacher in January. We look forward to welcoming her to the Christ Church family.

Covid-19 reminders

Please ensure you adhere to this guidance to ensure that we can do everything to keep our school community as safe as possible during this time.

- Please ensure that if any member of your household displays symptoms of Covid-19 that you all self-isolate immediately and book a test. Symptoms include:-
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - A temperature of 37.8 or above
 - A new persistent cough
- Please inform the school office of your child's absence and the reasons for it
- If any member of your family receive a positive test, please contact the school to give them this information. This allows us to then seek advice regarding possible bubble closures
- The person who receives a positive test result must self-isolate for ten days after the symptoms appeared and the rest of the household must self-isolate for **10** days after the symptoms appeared
- If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms and has a positive test result during the holidays, please inform the school via email using these email addresses:
head@christchurch.croydon.sch.uk or office1@christchurch.croydon.sch.uk

Parking at the Church

We recognise the challenges of finding parking with our new staggered drop off, one way system and also our school now being in a No-Drive zone. We are so grateful to the church for allowing parking at drop off and pick up times. There have been a number of incidents recently during this period. Please ensure you adhere to the following car park expectations

- Please do not block the private parking bays which are in constant use between 9am and 5pm
- Ensure that you always park within a bay and do not stop in any other areas
- Some cars are travelling too fast within this space. Please be aware that some of our children walk through the car park on their way to school
- The magnolia tree in the middle of the car park should act the same way as a roundabout and cars should always travel around this in a clockwise direction

Please also note, there is alternative parking on Purley Park road. Using this road or other surrounding roads will help to avoid congestion during these peak times. Thank you for your support with this.

Wishing all our wonderful Christ Church families a very happy and safe Christmas. We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Term dates

Spring Term 2021

Open Wednesday 6th January
HALF TERM

Close Friday 12th February at normal time

Open Monday 22nd February

Close Wednesday 31st March at 1.30pm

Summer Term 2021

Open Tuesday 20th April
HALF TERM

Close Friday 28th May at normal time

Open Tuesday 8th June

Close Friday 23rd July at 1.30pm

Please note:

Bank Holidays:

Monday 3rd May 2021

Staff Training (subject to change):

5th January 2021

19th April 2021

7th June 2021