



Message from Mrs Richardson (Executive Headteacher)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Already I am at the end of my first term as Executive Headteacher at Christ Church School. Whilst it has been a rather unusual term, and certainly not the one I would have predicted, I am already beginning to feel part of the Christ Church family.

Most pupils and staff returned to school on the 8th March, it has been a pleasure getting to meet them and their families, and I look forward to getting to know everyone more as we progress through the summer term. However, I feel it would be remiss of me not to also mention the staff and pupils who were required to continue with remote learning, even after the 8th March. This was a difficult scenario for them and I thank them for their hard work during this time, and look forward to everyone being back in school in the Summer.

We currently still have some staff and families who are unwell, I am sure you will join me with your prayers and thoughts for their speedy recovery.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the pupils and staff for their hard work on returning to face to face learning. The children have settled in well and have tried exceptionally hard with the assessments the teachers have been implementing. As a school we certainly feel we know where each child is now working and staff are ready to plan and support their progress in the coming term.

I wish you all a restful, safe and enjoyable Easter break and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 20th April 2021. Please remember Monday 19th April 2021 is an INSET day, school is not open to pupils on this date.

Mrs Jo Richardson



Curriculum News

It has been so lovely to have all the pupils back in school. As well as assessing where everyone is, school life and delivering the curriculum goes on.

EYFS

In EYFS the pupils have been very busy learning about Easter since everyone returned to face to face learning.

Key Stage 1

The children in Year 1 have been developing their knowledge of desert regions, whilst in Y2, the children have been exploring London and creating their own vehicles.

Key Stage 2

The children in Year 3 have been extending their learning about Brazil this term, whilst in Year 4 the pupils have been continuing to investigate Explorers. In Year 5 pupils have been developing their knowledge of the Stone Age and in Year 6 pupils have been learning about Space.

Our Collective Worships this term have been about the Prophets and passing on messages. Our most recent Collective Worships have been focused on Easter.

If you are on Brighton Road, please go to Christ Church and have a look at our Easter window displays.

World Book Day

This year Mrs Newman planned a remote World Book Day. It was wonderful seeing all of your bakes.

A big thank you to Mrs Elfred and Mrs Newman for putting together our online library and Story Cook Book.

Red Nose Day

It was lovely to see so many Superheroes in school on Friday 13th March. We had lots of Batmen and Wonder Women, but also lots of cleaners, firefighters and vaccination nurses. There were also some homeschooling parents and pupils in the mix too. I had a little giggle at the remote teachers, who were in very smart suit tops and pjama bottoms!

Such creative, but very appropriate Superheroes.

As a school we raised £450 for Comic Relief - thank you all for your kind generosity.



Parents Evening

Our parents' evenings took place on Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th March 2021.

Although these were later than initially planned, it was important for us to have the opportunity to speak with parents following the pupils return to face to face learning and after our assessments.

These were very well received. Thank you again to all staff and parents for your time. Working together collaboratively is vitally important.

Food Vouchers

Parents in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals should have already received their food vouchers for the Easter holidays.

If your financial circumstances have changed recently and you feel you may now qualify for these, please contact the office who will be able to direct you to the appropriate application forms.

Please remember if you qualify for Pupil Premium, your first jumper is free from the school. Liaise with Mrs Joy on office1@christchurch.croydon.sch.uk

Diary Dates

Thursday 1 st March to Friday 16 th April 2021	Easter Holidays
Monday 19 th April 2021	INSET Day School is not open to any pupils
Tuesday 20 th April 2021	Summer 1 begins
Monday 3 rd May 2021	Bank Holiday
Friday 28 th May 2021	Last day of Summer 1
Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June 2021	Half Term
Monday 7 th June 2021	INSET Day School is not open to any pupils
Tuesday 8 th June 2021	Summer 2 begins
Friday 23 rd July 2021	Last day of the Summer term and academic year 1:30 finish

News

During the National Lockdown earlier this year Shirley High School invited pupils who applied to the school for September 2021 to complete various challenges and activities if they chose to.

The principal, Tyrone Myton, says; "We were extremely impressed by the quality of the work and pleasantly surprised by the number of applicants. We are delighted to inform you that Hanna Pawlak was the winner of the Art challenge and received a sketch pad and selection of Art materials."

Congratulations to Hanna.



The Young Quills Historical Fiction competition is held annually, both to recognise good historical fiction writing and to encourage youngsters to develop a love of history and a feel for the period they are studying. It is unique because it is the readers - children - who decide the shortlist. The first Young Quills competition was won by Jacqueline Wilson for *Hetty Feather* in 2010.

This year three of our Year 6 pupils have had their reviews published on the Historical Association website, Sofia, Kinana and Shona. Extra well done to them for managing this while we were in lock-down

<https://www.history.org.uk/primary/module/8761/young-quills-reviews-2020>

If your child (aged 7+) would like to participate in this year's Young Quills competition by borrowing one of the brand new Historical Fiction books, reading it and writing a review, they need to come to Mrs Edser's Reading Club on Thursday lunch time - Year 6 at 1pm, Year 5 at 1.10 and Year 4 at 1.20.

Purley Nursery Charity Bin

Purley Nursery School are working in partnership with 'Rockinghorse' a charity which raises money for life-saving equipment, specialist projects and enhanced services for sick babies, children and young people throughout Sussex.

Our new clothes bin collects donations of: clothes, shoes, blankets, handbags, belts, towels, CDs, DVD's, video games, books and bric-a-brac. All donations raise money for life-saving equipment, specialist projects and enhanced services for sick babies, children and young people throughout Sussex. Purley Nursery School receives a small concession every time we fill up our bin which we will use to purchase school resources and enhance our rich provision. Have a look in your homes over the holidays for any unwanted items that could be donated to fill our bin!

Car Parking

We are very fortunate that Christ Church allows parents to park in the church car park before drop off and pick up each day. Please can parents be considerate of other car park users. We have had parents that have been blocking in other cars and sometimes driving the wrong way around the central blossom tree. This is a roundabout and should be used correctly. Please only park in marked parking spaces and do not park in front of the church or the clearly marked parking permit spaces as these are spaces that are paid for by local businesses and staff.

It has also been brought to my attention that some parents are driving too fast; please remember that some children and families walk through the car park to get to school and this could lead to a very unfortunate accident. So far the church has been very accommodating but if there is not an improvement in car park etiquette the church may review the parental access to the car park.



Friends of Christ Church School

The Friends of Christ Church School (FCCS) is currently undergoing some changes. Mark Channon, who has been leading the Friends for many years has stepped down from the role of Chair Person and Jo Best is taking over the reigns. Christ Church School are extremely grateful for all of the amazing events he has led over the past 10 years. Supported by Parents and Staff, Mark has raised a significant amount of money to ensure that the pupils in our school have facilities to enhance their learning.

Some of the items they have purchased in the past are I-pads and Chrome books, a huge selection of library books, the adventure playground, friendship benches, yearly pantos and the new trim trail to name but a few.

Now Friends of Christ Church School need you! We are looking to form a new team of people to help continue with our fundraising campaign. In the summer term Jo and Mark will be organising some Zoom meetings to discuss FCCS and will be discussing how you can help. Whatever your skill base, there will be a supportive role for you.

Thank you to everyone who has already purchased a Christ Church School tea-towel. These should now all have been distributed. We do have some left, priced at £4 each. If you require a tea-towel, please contact the school.

We are also hoping to set up our second hand school uniform shop online after Easter, further details to follow soon.

Message from Jude Barber, Lead Pastor, Christ Church Happy Easter!

This is my favourite time of year! I love to see the delicate tree blossoms and surprising new shoots spring up in unexpected places! I don't know if it is just me, but they seem extra beautiful this year! It is so wonderful to have the hope of the new shoots that emerge from lifeless ground.

This Easter, we have beautiful artwork on display in the church windows produced by all the wonderful pupils at school. These show stories of Jesus' last week, from him entering Jerusalem with joyful songs to people calling out 'Crucify him!' as he is taken to die on a cross; from the sad news of his death to the joyful news that he is risen! The exhibition finishes with the story of Jesus walking alongside his friends, even when they didn't recognise him.

This Easter, we'd love for you to spend time looking at these beautiful images and invite you to reflect on the 'Ups and downs' of the last year; the sadness and the joy; to be filled the the hope that comes from knowing that Jesus is journeying with us, that he knows our struggles and brings his joy into all situations! Happy Easter to you all!



Finally, a few reminders.

After Easter we will still be following our Risk Assessments to support our pupils, families and staff. Please ensure you wear a face covering when waiting outside school and when walking through school. Please ensure you practice social distancing when queuing at collection and drop off. Finally, please try to keep to the pick up and drop off times:

	Drop off	Pick up
Reception, Years 3 and 4	8:40	3:00
Year 1 and 5	8:50	3:10
Years 2 and 6	9:00	3:20

If your child has symptoms of Covid-19 and subsequently tests positive within 48 hours of last being at school, please email office1@christchurch.croydon.sch.uk so we can notify contacts.