Welcome

A warm welcome to children who are new to Christ Church CofE Primary Academy and also to our existing pupils. We have had a very positive start to the new school year and are looking forward to this continuing.

I would like to welcome Mrs Wilkes, our new Vice Principal and Miss Blowers, our new Year 1 teacher who have joined our staff. Miss Edwards, year 3 teacher, has also returned following her maternity leave.

You will shortly receive a letter from your child’s class teacher sharing information about what will be happening during the autumn term. If you have any questions about this or you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to your child’s class teacher via the DoJo system or in person at the end of the school day.

Attendance

We saw a huge improvement in attendance during the previous academic year. As a school we achieved our 96% target and reduced significantly the number of children whose attendance is below 90%. Not every class achieved the 96% so we are hoping that all classes can achieve that magic number this academic year. Last year’s attendance can be seen below.
School Uniform
Nearly all pupils have been extremely smart wearing the correct school uniform. Can I take this opportunity to remind you of a few school uniform rules:

- Earrings are not allowed and should be removed. Plasters should only be used if the earrings have not been in place for six weeks and they cannot be removed.
- Long hair needs to be tied back.
- Black sensible shoes should be worn not trainers.
- Nail varnish and tattoos are not allowed.

If your child arrives to school complying fully with the uniform policy shown above, they will receive a Dojo. If your child comes to school inappropriately dressed, we will contact you so that you can bring the correct uniform to school.

To reduce the number of mislaid jumpers, cardigans, coats and other uniform and PE items please make sure that all of your children’s clothes, including shoes, are clearly labelled with your child’s name. This will help us to reunite children quickly and easily with their uniform and PE kit.

Money
We ask pupils to bring in money each week for a number of reasons. All money needs to be sent in on a weekly basis either in a sealed envelope and handed to your child’s class teacher or handed to Mrs Colclough at the school office.

- Children in Y1 and Y2 may choose not to purchase a drink of milk. This is fine; it is not compulsory. Children choosing not to drink milk can have water. Milk is 50p per week for those who wish to purchase it.
- During morning break we sell toast 15p per slice. As a healthy school, we do not allow children to bring in crisps, chocolate or sweets to eat during morning break-time.
- School meals must be paid for either at the beginning of the week or on the day that it is required. A meal will not be provided if it has not been paid for. School meals are free for all children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 (Universal Infant Free School Meals). For those not eligible of Free School Meals the cost of a school meal is £2.69 per day (£13.45 per week).

Weekly Praise Assembly
Our weekly Praise assembly will continue to take place in school each Friday morning. To provide the opportunity for parents to attend the assembly if their child has received an award we are going to continue sending out invitations if your child is to receive an award. Invitations will be handed out on Friday with children receiving the award the following week. Our first Praise assembly will take place on Friday 13th September.

School Improvements
More improvements to our school premises have been made during the summer holidays. Heaters have been fitted in the nursery cloakroom area to make this a much warmer and more welcoming area. A new ceiling has been fitted in a small area of the nursery classroom and Mr Street has been busy painting a few areas around school. These include the Sunshine Room and Nursery toilets.
**After School Clubs**
We will once again be offering a number of after school clubs for most year groups to attend. Letters will be sent out as soon as these have been agreed. If you or your child would like a particular club to take place, please let either your child’s class teacher or the school office know and we will see if it is something we could organise.

**Parking on William Street - Keeping our Children Safe**
Parking on William Street caused a problem for a number of families this morning. The number of cars parked outside the school on William Street was at a dangerous level. The parked cars made it very difficult for our walking families when entering school as well as making it difficult for other drivers to see any pedestrians. We need everybody’s help please to reduce the number of parked vehicles outside of the school before and after school to ensure our children can get to school safely.

**Start of the School Day**
All children should be entering school each morning either through their own classroom door or the main children’s entrance. The main school entrance should only be used if children are arriving after 8.50am and the other doors have been locked. Please help to keep our children safe by using the appropriate door.

It is good that so many of our children are cycling or scooting to school but could you please remind your children that they should not be cycling or scooting on the school playground to keep everybody safe.

**Reading**
We hope that your child was able to participate in the summer library reading challenge and enjoyed the books that they read. This year we are also setting our own in school challenges to encourage the children to read their reading scheme book at home every night as well as reading other books they will find interesting. Miss Brayford will be sending more information home next week. We have invested a lot of money in new reading material so hope that the children will enjoy reading the new books and return them to school is an excellent condition so that other children can enjoy them.

**End of the School Day**
If there is to be a change of person collecting your child could you please let the school know. We do have consent forms that need completing if your child is in year 5 or 6 and you are happy for them to walk home alone. Please speak to Mrs Birks, Mrs Bennett or Miss Brayford for more information and a consent form. If we have not received a form, we will need to contact you before letting your child leave.

**Dojos**
We will continue to use the DoJo system in school to reward positive behaviour and communicate with you your child’s successes. If you were signed into Class DoJo last year your login should still be in use. If your child is new to the school or you didn’t use the system last year and want to get connected, please speak to your child’s class teacher, the school office or Mrs Wilkes so that we can get you connected. We use class dojo for sharing important information so it is an excellent way of keeping up to date with what is happening in your child’s class and across the school.
Parental Survey
Thank you to all parents who completed the end of year survey. All returned surveys have been analysed with the results displayed below.
As a result of the survey we have revamped our approach to homework and will endeavour to ensure that it is sent home each week. We will also continue to try and ensure DoJo is used consistently across all year groups.
A number of parents did express concern at the inappropriate language used by some members of the community on the playground in front of children. Our children and families should not be exposed to such language so can we all be mindful of what we say on the playground so that children and families are not offended.

Diary Dates
- **Monday 9th September**: Welcome to our New Nursery Children
- **Friday 27th September**: Harvest Service at Christ Church, 9.30am (NO PRAISE WORSHIP)
- **Friday 25th October**: SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL PUPIL, teacher training
- **Monday 28th – Friday 1st November**: SCHOOL CLOSED, half term
- **Monday 4th November**: Back to School
- **Monday 25th November**: Patronal Service, Christ the King at Christ Church, 9.00am
- **Wednesday 4th December**: Fenton Light’s Switch-on, more details for follow
- **Saturday 7th December**: Christ Market at Christ Church, 12pm – 2pm (not school)
- **Tuesday 17th December**: Carol Service at Christ Church, 6.30pm (not school)
- **Friday 20th December**: Christmas Service at Christ Church, 9.30am
- **Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January**: SCHOOL CLOSED
- **Monday 6th January 2020**: Back to school