



# Christ Church School Newsletter

*Nurturing lifelong learners with God's guidance*

Love Courage Honesty Faith Forgiveness

## Autumn 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a joy to share in the children's celebrations of Christmas.

The reception classes' Christmas music reflections engaged children beautifully and many children found the confidence to contribute and share their thoughts and feelings about the Christmas story. Over time in Christ Church School, all children find their confidence and will eventually show us their unique sets of skills and talents. When they reach Year 6, I know that parents and carers look back and take pride in how far they have come.

The Year 2 Nativity musicals, with wonderful enthusiastic backing from Year 1, caused much excitement among the participating children. Some seemed to know all the lines and were preparing, of their own accord, to step in if friends were absent on the day. The children fully entered into the story. Their confidence, enjoyment and emerging personalities were great to see. The songs have echoed through the school in recent weeks and I am sure this has been true in many homes too. I hope these have provided some memories to treasure.

This week we had the pleasure of Year 3 leading the Christmas service and telling the Christmas story from the point of view of the stars that looked down on the unfolding events. Thank you to parents, carers and friends who joined us for this service.

Thank you to all the teachers and teaching staff who have worked so hard to make these occasions so special. Thank you to Mrs Lyne who teaches the whole school the songs that we sing each day in school and the selection that were sung during the service. One of the highlights of this service was the whole school, nearly 400 children, singing a variation of 'O come all ye faithful' unaccompanied. It is a privilege to be part of an occasion like this and to sense God's presence with us.

I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a peaceful start to the New Year.

### **Governors**

At the recent Purley Partnership Federation governing body meeting, there was a lot of discussion around the new Ofsted inspection framework that was introduced in September, and in particular the new aspect of "deep dives". These involve the inspection team paying very close attention to specific areas of the curriculum – some of which are decided the day before the Ofsted visit – and senior and subject leaders, class teachers, support staff, children and governors can all expect to be asked about what is going on in school from their point of view. Governors involvement in Ofsted has increased significantly over the years, because the governing body sets the strategic direction of the school and holds head teachers to account for how pupils are doing, so it is important that every member of the board understands how their work feeds into the inspection process.

This meeting was the last for Sue Jarratt, who is retiring after 22 years at Purley Nursery School, latterly as head of school. She was presented with a card and flowers as a token of

governors' appreciation for all her hard work over the years. Foundation governor David Colpus also said goodbye, stepping down after many years of dedication that started when his own children – the youngest of whom is now doing his A levels! – were at primary school. In his 12 years on the governing body including over 5 years as chair of governors, he has overseen the expansion of Christ Church School from one to two-form entry (and the accompanying building project) and the federation with Purley Nursery School.

### **Road safety**

A number of parents accompanying children have been seen crossing the Brighton Road going from the school to the church car park in a hazardous manner. This is a concern, particularly because of the example it sets to children. Please could you demonstrate safe road crossing to your children and teach them to cross at the pelican crossing. They remember more about what they see you do than what you say to them. Your good example will keep them safe now and in the future.

### **Lunch boxes**

Going forward, please note that we are not able to distribute lunch boxes or other forgotten items to the children after they have come into school. You can leave items at the office for your child to collect, but please be aware it is your child's responsibility to collect things from the office. We are not able to take them round to the children.

### **Reminder of charges for later collection**

Please be aware that there is a charge of £5 for late collection after 3.20pm and this increases by £5 for each further half hour. I note that there has been some delay in the charges being applied and we are taking steps to improve the notification of charges.

### **Cashless office**

From January, we will no longer be able to accept cash for payments in the office. We have no official policies or procedures for handling cash. Any payments for trips or school meals must be paid via Parent Pay from January. If you need help to log on to your Parent Pay account or have not yet activated an account please ask at the office for assistance.

If you still use cash as your main means of paying for goods and services, Parent Pay offers the option of paying by PayPoint. If you wish to pay using cash please ask the office to supply a bar code letter and take your cash to a PayPoint. There are PayPoints at:

- One Stop Stores, 450 Brighton Road, South Croydon, Surrey, CR2 6AP
- Shell Foxley services station 14-16 Godstone Rd, Purley CR8 2DB

### **Attendance**

I am sure that most parents and carers are aware of the duty of the school to promote and ensure good attendance. Schools are required to take this matter seriously, as good patterns of attendance are essential for children's well-being and development.

Failure to ensure a child's regular attendance at school is a criminal offence and if, with support from the school your child's attendance fails to improve, the council will consider one of two courses of action:

1. Penalty fine of £60 (if paid within 21 days), rising to £120 (if paid after 21 days but before 28 days have elapsed). Failing to pay the fine will result in prosecution and being summoned to appear at the Magistrates Court.

2. Start a criminal investigation which could lead to you being prosecuted in the Magistrates' Court.

A Penalty Notice can be issued if:

- a child has poor attendance (eight sessions (half days) or more of unauthorised absence in the last six weeks)
- 10 sessions/5 days or more of absence due to an unauthorised leave of absence during term time
- A child who has been excluded from school is seen in a public place in the first five days of an exclusion.

It is the responsibility of each parent to ensure regular school attendance and failure to do so will result in each parent being charged with the offence. If convicted, both parents will be punished by the courts, resulting in a fine of up to £2,500 for each parent and / or up to three months custodial sentence.

If a child lives with a family friend or relative for a period of time who has day to day care of the child, each responsible adult is considered as a 'Parent' under the Education Act and can equally be charged with the same offence and prosecuted.

### **Parent/carer evenings in the spring term**

In response to requests from parents and carers we are aiming to set up the appointment bookings well in advance of the spring term consultations. For all classes except Year 6 the meetings will be held on Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup> from 5.00pm – 7.30pm and on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> from 3.30pm to 6.30pm. Year 6 will have meetings on Wednesday at the same time as the rest of the school but the second evening will be Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February from 3.30pm to 6.30pm. All being well, the forms should be available for booking appointments on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Coats and boots**

If your child wears boots to school, please make sure that you send their school shoes to wear in school during the day.

Coats should be *plain* dark blue (or with school logo from Hewitts), *plain* black, *plain* grey or Christ Church red. If you are buying a red coat please make sure that this is the correct shade of red and matches the school jumper.

## Diary Dates

Fri	Dec	20	<b>School closes 1.30pm</b>
Tue	Jan	07	School opens for pupils Spring 1 term
Mon	Jan	13	FCCS meeting 7.30pm
Fri	Jan	17	Class 2I assembly 9.05am
Fri	Jan	24	Class 4P assembly 9.05am
Fri	Feb	07	Class 3F assembly 9.05am
Fri	Feb	07	FCCS quiz night 7.30pm
Tue	Feb	11	Parent/Carer evening 3.30-6.30pm (Year 6)
Wed	Feb	12	Parent/Carer evening 5-7.30pm
Thu	Feb	13	Parent/Carer evening 3.30-6.30pm (all except Year 6)
Fri	Feb	14	Class 1B assembly 9.05am
Fri	Feb	14	School closes at 3.10pm for half term
Mon	Feb	24	School opens for Spring 2 term
Fri	Feb	28	Class 6N assembly 9.05am
Fri	Mar	06	Class 3O assembly 9.05am
Fri	Mar	13	Class 2L assembly 9.05am
Fri	Mar	20	Class 1E assembly 9.05am
Fri	Mar	27	Class 4S assembly 9.05am
Wed	Apr	01	Easter service – Year 5 leading

## Term Dates: 2019/20

### Autumn Term 2019

Open Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September HALF TERM	Close Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October at normal time
Open Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	Close Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm

### Spring Term 2020

Open Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January HALF TERM	Close Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February at normal time
Open Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Close Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April at 1.30pm

### Summer Term 2020

Open Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April HALF TERM	Close Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May at normal time
Open Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Close Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July at 1.30pm

### Please note:

Bank Holidays: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Staff Training (subject to change):  
6<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
20<sup>th</sup> April 2020  
1<sup>st</sup> June 2020