



# CHRIST THE SAVIOUR C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Grove, London W5 5DX | New Broadway, London W5 2XA  
www.ctsprimary.org.uk | admin@cts-school.org | 020 8249 6800 | Headteacher: Mrs K. Tramoni

Wednesday, 17th June 2020

Dear Parents,

We have been eagerly awaiting information from the Government about how we might get more classes back to school, as our hope (like the Government's) was to bring all children back before the Summer. Last Tuesday, the Secretary of State made a statement to the House of Commons and confirmed that primary schools will not be welcoming all children back for a full month although he confirmed that he would like to see schools, with capacity, bring back more children before summer if they are able to safely do so. However, significantly, the cap in class sizes remains at **15 pupils per class** and schools have been advised not to use additional staff (ie agency staff) to cover classes.

We are desperate to bring more pupils back to school and it has been upsetting for both staff and pupils to have such a significant disruption to our usual routines. Unfortunately, we do not have spare teachers or learning space to cater for any increase in pupil numbers unless there is a change to the restriction on class size. We currently cater for twenty seven bubbles of pupils. Four bubbles of reception pupils (on a weekly rotation), eight bubbles of year one pupils, seven bubbles of year six pupils and eight bubbles for key worker and vulnerable pupils. We have reached capacity of provision within our current staffing numbers and unless we are permitted to increase the class sizes beyond 15 we are unable to bring more pupils back to school. This saddens us very much indeed.

We know that many parents will be extremely concerned about the length of time their child has been away from school. We are now making extensive plans for September. We are waiting for more Government guidance about the protective measures that schools will be expected to have in place in September and are planning different scenarios based on what these may be. We are planning ways to swiftly assess pupils' mental health and wellbeing and identify any pupil who may need additional support so they are ready to learn; we are also looking at how we can carry out low stakes assessments to identify where pupils are in their learning and look at what adjustments may be needed to the school curriculum to catch up with lost learning. We are making significant staffing decisions to ensure that students have an intensive catch up programme prioritising reading, writing and key mathematics skills.

Our Year 6 staff are currently liaising with 24 different high schools to support the transition to secondary school for our Year 6 pupils and each high school will be in touch with parents directly to let you know what arrangements they have made to welcome pupils to their school.

We know that it hasn't been the end of term we had been expecting for Year 6 but we have been really pleased with the positive feedback from the Year 6 pupils who have returned to school. They are really enjoying the smaller class sizes, getting to know different CtS staff, engaging in more pupil led learning and of course more frequent playtimes! As I have said before, we may not be able to celebrate the end of their time at CtS in our usual way but we have a few ideas we hope the children will enjoy (for those both at school and at home) and we will be happy to organise a reunion once the social distancing rules are long gone!

We are also very mindful of the support our Year 2 pupils will need as they move to the Broadway Site. Ordinarily they would have some welcome days this term but we shall make adjustments to our timetable in the Autumn Term to ensure our Year 2 pupils are nurtured and supported to aid this key transition.

Our home learning this week has looked at the Christian value of Endurance. Our Christ the Saviour pupils have been inspirational in demonstrating truly courageous levels of endurance throughout this very difficult and unsettling time and they are a real credit to the school. We have seen children persevering with their home learning, confidently returning to new routines and learning environments, supportively dropping their siblings back at school and remaining upbeat and positive. We thank God for them and give thanks for everything they bring to brighten our days.

With best wishes,

Mrs Tramoni