



CHRIST THE SAVIOUR C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Friday, 8th January 2021

Dear Parents,

It seems hard to believe we are at the end of the first week of term as events are changing so quickly and our home and school routines have had to adapt to the new expectations once again. Thank you for all the positive comments you have shared with our hard working staff this week as it has certainly been a challenge to juggle the dual role of providing both on site learning for pupils at school and remote learning for those at home.

Critical Workers

The change to the Government Guidelines for Critical Workers has meant that the numbers of pupils on site has increased dramatically and we now have well over 200 pupils at school each day. In order to maintain a safe working environment for our pupils and staff the latest Government guidance states that Critical Workers *should keep their children at home if they can*. If your child does not need to attend school each day then please inform the school in advance through a planned absence. Key worker children are unable to move chromebooks between home and school and will not be allocated a google meet on the days they are at home (we understand parents may therefore prefer to keep their children at school full time).

Uniform

Children attending school may wear their school uniform or PE kits.

Google Classroom and Remote Learning

When teaching pupils remotely, the current Government expectation is for schools to set work for 3 hours for KS1 pupils and for 4 hours for KS2 pupils. We have tried to provide a remote learning provision which gives families flexibility in choosing when it is best within family routines for learning to be complete. We do not require pupils to be online for significant periods of the day and the time of day when they need to be online is not fixed; pupils are only required to be online at a certain time for a short period of time for their Google meet call. Staff are managing the expectations of a wide range of families and we hope that the content of our remote learning provides you with an opportunity to do the work that is suitable for your child. If your child is unable to complete all the tasks please don't worry - their class teacher will help you to manage the workload and will let you know which aspects of the work to prioritise.

We have set a date for the completion of tasks as parents of pupils who experienced remote learning last term found this helpful, however if your child completes a task later and you receive an automated response saying it has been 'handed in late'. Please don't worry about this notification, the work will still be seen by the teacher and recorded as completed. We know some parents will be supporting their children to complete tasks later in the day.

Provision of Devices

We have distributed over 120 devices to Year 6 pupils, FSM and PPG families this week to support access to our online learning provision. We know that access to devices is a challenge for many families, particularly when families are sharing a device and we are doing all we can to register for additional devices through the Government as well as charities.

If you are a family who have spare devices at home and you are willing to donate these to the school our PTA will be collecting devices at our Foodbank next week (13th January) and will help coordinate the distribution of these devices to other families in our school. If you are willing to donate a device please use the following link with helpful information on how to erase your hard drive:

http://www.help2go.com/Tutorials/Computer_Basics/Completely_Erase_a_Hard_Drive_with_DBAN.html

If you are unable to wipe the hard drive we will be able to do this for you.

FSM eligibility

We will continue to offer food parcels to pupils entitled to Free School Meals (and Grove pupils who are eligible for Universal Free School Meals). We encourage all families who are on a low income to check their eligibility for Free School Meals as this will enable you to access additional support from the school. If you have any questions about FSM eligibility or you would like the school to process a check for you please contact Demi Grant-Sinclair on grant-sinclair@cts-school.org or via the school office.

Foodbank

We are acutely aware of how much food children need when they are at home all day. Our PTA have stepped in again to support our school community and offer a Foodbank to all families known to the school. Our next Foodbank will take place on Wednesday, 13th January in the Church Hall from 11am - 1pm - everyone is most welcome!

I wish you every blessing on your families as we journey together through this next phase of school and thank you for your continued support as we do so.

Best wishes,
Mrs Tramoni