



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope you are all well and had an enjoyable and restful summer break. A particular welcome to all of our new children who have joined the CTK community. We look forward to working with you and your families.

The children have made an enthusiastic start to the school year and seem to have grown a few inches over the summer too! We have a very exciting year ahead and I'm really looking forward to us working together so that your children can continue to flourish and reach their potential.

Catholic Mission

We have introduced the Theme of our year in our welcome assemblies this week: **'The time to Shine'** which is inspired by one of our favourite pieces of scripture in Matthew's Gospel, "*Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good deeds*" Mt 5:16. We explored what this means for us at CTK and how we can let the light of Jesus shine through us. We reviewed our learning on virtues from last year and this year we are going to be working hard to practice our virtues so that our lights will shine brightly in all that we do.

Ask your children if they can remember what a virtue is and give you some examples of virtues we practise everyday at CTK!

Parish Links

I have been liaising with Father John and Fr George to discuss the liturgical support they can offer Christ the King. We will share these dates with parents on the weekly newsletter as soon as we have some confirmed.

First Holy Communion 2023

Children in Year 3 or above, who live in the Parish of Blessed Sacrament and St. Peter's, are now eligible to apply to make their First Holy Communion. Application forms are available by email from the Parish Office: stpetersleicester@gmail.com

The deadline for returning application forms is Friday 30th September at 12-noon.

An initial meeting for parents will take place at Blessed Sacrament Church on Sunday 2nd October at 4pm, to explain how the preparations will proceed.

Saturday 10th June 2023, the weekend we celebrate Corpus Christi, has been provisionally booked for First Holy Communion.

Bishop Patrick' theme for the term: Encounter

At the start of each school year, Bishop Patrick McKinney invites us to find opportunities to encounter Christ in all that we do and to grow closer to Him through these connections. Fr Cahill will be joining us in school on Monday 5th September to talk to the children about what it means to encounter Jesus and how we can nurture this in our lives.



New staff at CTK

There have been a couple of changes to the teaching team. We welcome three new teachers to CTK this academic year: Miss Hall to Year 3, Miss Busby to Year 4 and Mrs Stone to Year 6.

Congratulations to Mrs Koenig, Mrs Wooldridge and Mrs Stone who got married over the summer break. We wish them all the best in their marriages and pray that God blesses them and their husbands.

Please see the teaching structure below:

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Carter					
	Head of School: Mrs Marshall (Mon-Wed)		Head of School: Mrs Glassford		
	CTK Infants		CTK Juniors		
Year Group	Teacher	TA	Year Group	Teacher	TA
R	Mrs Griffin	Mrs Croft	3 Lower KS2 Phase Leader	Mrs Pickwell	Mrs Cranston
R	Mrs Francis/ Mrs Gibson	Mrs Harris	3	Mrs Pulsford	Mrs Beattie
R	Miss Rawlings	Mrs Howson/Mrs Tonge	3	Miss Hall	Mrs Stratton
1	Miss Ross	Mrs Fitzgerald	4	Miss Busby	Mrs Dalzell
1	Miss Laycock	Mrs Thornton	4	Mrs Morris/ Mrs Wooldridge	Mrs Crayford
1	Mrs Hainsworth	Mrs Wood	4	Miss Orrill	Mrs Merrigan
2	Mrs Featherstone	Mrs Banks	5	Miss Nokes	Mrs Toon
2	Mrs Taylor	Mrs Pearson	5	Miss Scott	Miss Hadfield
2	Miss O'Brien and Ms Knight	Mrs Wheatley	5	Mrs Darby	Mrs Amoroso
Reading Recovery Teacher Assistant Headteacher (Infant Site)	Mrs Koenig		6	Miss Mason	Mrs Chomentowska
			6	Mrs Stone	Mrs Hargrave
PE Coach	Mr Tite		6	Miss Gilding	Miss Sayer
SEND Leader	Mrs Wheeldon (Tues –Thurs)				
Assistant Headteacher + RE Lead	Miss Dodd				
Learning Mentor	Mrs Hansrani				
Operations Manager	Mrs Dunbar				

We also have many other wonderful support staff that contribute to the teaching and learning across the school, including Mrs Dunbar and the office team and Mr Sargent and Mr Powley and the premises team. The full CTK team structure can be viewed on our school website.



Communication

Communication between home and school is important as we all want the very best for your children. Thank you for your patience and understanding over the last week while we are moving over to the new communication and booking system - Arbor. This will replace ParentPay. Please can all parents make sure they have set up their account on Arbor as this will be the primary method for you to register, book and pay for any events in school, for example, clubs, trips, dinners, parents' evening, breakfast club and afterschool club. *Please do not book any events on ParentPay.* We will ensure all parents are refunded any outstanding credit on their ParentPay accounts shortly. Please speak to the school office if you are having any problems with setting up your Arbor account.

If you would like to speak to a member of staff, you can call or email the school office and a call-back will be arranged. Other communication between parents and CTK will include:

- A weekly newsletter containing dates and information regarding school events. This will be shared on Class Dojo and published on the school website.
- Regular updates and reminders for parents will be sent across Class Dojo and Arbor
- Texts will be sent to parents for more urgent messages or to inform you of your child's special achievements in school.
- You can also use your child's Reading Record book for day-to-day written communication. Please remind your child to show their book to the class teacher if you have put a note in it.
- Class Teachers will be available at the **end** of the day. If you have concerns or need to pass on some information, they will be more than happy to speak to you.
- You can make an appointment to speak to a class teacher, either by phone or in person, by contacting the school office.
- You can email the school office and any messages will be forwarded to the class teacher.
- You can look on our school website which will be regularly updated with information.
- You can also follow us on Twitter [@CTKLeicester](#) and on [Facebook](#)

Attendance and Punctuality

We all know that good attendance at school is vital for children to make progress. Please can you ensure that children are in school every day on time unless they are ill. I am aware that the vast majority of parents ensure that their children attend school regularly but, as it is the beginning of a new academic year, I would like to remind everyone of the importance of good attendance and punctuality.

The school's target is 97%. If your child's attendance falls below this, you will receive a text message from the school to inform you and we will be monitoring it closely as a school.

If your child is absent from school, please remember that you must phone the school daily to report the absence.

I will be sharing our updated Attendance and Punctuality policy next week.



Whole School Home Learning Policy

We are currently reviewing our Home Learning Policy and we will be sharing this with you shortly. Homework will begin next week. Every pupil will have a home learning book which they will be asked to cover and personalise in the next week or two. Home learning will be given out every Friday and must be returned to school the following Wednesday. The main purpose of homework will be to provide the children with an opportunity to practice their learning at home. We hope it will foster good habits of organisation, independent learning and self discipline.

Year 6 Bikeability

Year 6 Bikeability starts next week. The children have received a slip detailing the days on which they are cycling and need to bring their bike and helmet if they have one. Bikes and helmets will be provided for those pupils who do not have them.

Please ensure your children come to school wearing appropriate footwear on the days they are cycling; they should also bring a waterproof coat in case of rain.

Children can walk their bikes into the Year 6 yard in the morning as usual and there will be a member of staff to show them where to put their bikes.

Swimming

6DM begin swimming lessons on Wednesday 7th September for 10 weeks. Pupils will be walking to and from the swimming baths so please ensure your child has appropriate clothing to wear, particularly for the walk back after they have been in the water. We suggest all pupils bring a hat to wear on the walk back to school to keep themselves warm.

Curriculum Information Session on Relationships, Sex and Health Education for Year 5 and 6 Parents

Please join Miss Dodd in the **Junior Library on Monday 12th September at 2.30pm** to learn more about the content of the statutory RSHE curriculum your children will be receiving this year if they are now in Year 5 or Year 6. The session will outline what programme we use, how it fits with the Catholic context of our school and how you can support your child at home.

Emergency Contact Details

If you have moved house, changed your mobile telephone number or email address recently, please can you ensure that you have updated these details in school. This can be done via Arbor. Please ask the school office if you need any support. ***This is very important for the safety of your children.***



PE Days

All children (infant and junior) should come to school wearing their full PE kit on their PE days.

PE lessons will begin next week for the junior children. Please see below for details of which days your child will be doing PE during Advent 1.

Class	PE Days	Class	PE Days
3TP	Monday + Tuesday	5VD	Tuesday + Friday
3GH	Monday + Tuesday	5SN	Tuesday + Friday
3AP	Monday + Thursday	5HS	Tuesday + Friday
4LM/LW	Wednesday + Thursday	6EG	Thursday + Friday
4GO	Wednesday + Thursday	6DM	Wednesday (swimming for 10 weeks) + Thursday
4HB	Monday + Wednesday	6LS	Thursday + Friday

PE lessons will also begin next week for the infant children. Please see Class Dojo for details of which days your child will be doing PE.

Dates for the Advent Term

We will send significant dates for the Advent term when they have been confirmed across Class Dojo and Arbor.

Thought of the Week

'Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love.'
Mother Teresa

God bless,

Annie Carter and the CTK Team