



Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We wish you a happy and healthy 2023! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break with your family and friends.

We are very pleased to welcome back all of our children for the Lent Term. As always, we have a busy and exciting term ahead for the children.

This week, we have spent some time revisiting the behaviour expectations and the children have completed an activity in class about positive lunchtime behaviour and play.

This term, we will be looking at the behaviour expectations at lunchtimes and playtimes and how we can further improve the experience for our children. This will include conducting a survey with our children, maximising engagement so there is something for everyone and increasing activity for *all* pupils. Watch this space!

Our Catholic Mission

We started our term with an assembly on The Epiphany. The children listened to the magnificent story of when the three wise men from the East arrived in Bethlehem to visit baby Jesus. We discussed what their special gifts reveal to us about who Jesus is. In a beautiful time of prayer, we helped the children visit baby Jesus in their hearts and to think about what gifts they can offer Jesus this term.

Diocesan Spiritual Theme: Discipleship

Bishop Patrick introduced three key themes for schools and parishes to live out: **Encountering Christ, Discipleship and Missionary Discipleship**. As a school, we will be trying to deepen our understanding of *Discipleship* this term. This will begin with an assembly planned and delivered by our school chaplains.

Parish Links

Over the holiday we learned of the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; may he rest in peace. Many of the tributes to him have focused on two elements of his character and life's work: his gentleness, kindness and humility; and, his significant contribution to the theological character of the Catholic church. He will, I am sure, be long remembered for both.



Class Mass

Our next Class Mass will be on *Monday 9th January* at 2.00pm on the Junior Site. It will be led by our Year 5 pupils and Year 1 will be joining them. All friends and family are welcome!



January reading and writing challenges for the Junior Pupils

The January English challenges have been posted!

Your reading challenge is to read a book by an author you haven't read before. If you would like any recommendations, you can ask your teacher or Miss Mason. There are sheets outside the library for you to summarise and review the book on.

Your January writing challenge is to write a poem about short winter days and long winter nights, inspired by *Bed in Summer* by Robert Louis Stevenson. You could use the first couple of lines in your own poem! There are copies of the poem and writing sheets for you to use outside the hall.

Reception Parents - Come and join is for our Story Session on Monday 16th January

On Monday 16th January we have a visitor from Leicester Library coming in to share a story with our children. All children after the session will receive a free copy of the book being read to them. **Parents and Carers, you are very welcome to come and join us for this story session** and have the opportunity to see your child in their classroom environment. The sessions will run as follows:

Mrs Gibson and Mrs Francis class- 9:00- 9:25

Miss Rawlings class - 9:30 - 9:55

Mrs Griffin's class - 10:00-10:25

We hope to see you there. Thank you in advance for your support.

CTK Experience - Extra Curriculum Clubs Programme

We have a variety of extra curricular clubs on offer this term. The schedule was shared with parents across Class Dojo before Christmas. They provide our children with the opportunity to develop their God-given talents, learn new skills and develop their confidence.

In response to recent parental feedback we have made some adjustments to the CTK Club Programme for this term:

- We are increasing the number of pupil places in each club to give more children the opportunity to attend a club
- Parents will be able to book their child on to **one club per term** initially, unless spaces remain unfilled. This will ensure more pupils are given the opportunity to attend a club each term.
- Many clubs are free or £2:50 per session
- It will continue to operate on a first come, first served basis through booking and paying on Arbor.
- Generally clubs run for pupils in Years 1-6 but we will endeavour to trial a club for the Foundation pupils in the Pentecost Term.

We hope the children enjoy these experiences and look forward to your feedback.



House Captains

Today we had our House Assemblies and the children have nominated new House Captains for this term. Thank you to all our Year 2 and Year 6 children who put themselves forward for this important responsibility and congratulations to our new elected House Captains.



| | Year 2 | Year 6 |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| St Francis | Zane + Amelia | Ra'nell + Joanna |
| St John Bosco | Charlotte S + Issey | Ann Mary + Shay |
| St Bernadette | Roman + Gabriela | Victinor + Sophia R |
| St Anne | Skye + Romeo | Chinani + Nico |

Stars of the Week

Infant Site:

| | |
|---------|------------------------|
| R-ER | Nia, Roel |
| R-RG | Jovanna, John |
| R-AG/SF | Mikhael, Ethan, Kamali |
| 1SR | Owen |
| 1SL | Camden |
| 1RW | Joel |
| 2EO | Kacper |
| 2NT | Isabella |
| 2SF | Charlotte |

Junior Site:

| | |
|--------|----------|
| 3GH | Harry |
| 3AP | Gabby |
| 3TP | Aden |
| 4HB | Nathan |
| 4LM/LW | Abram |
| 4GO | Ramayah |
| 5SN | Sunshine |
| 5VD | Taffy |
| 5HS | Borys |
| 6EG | Callie |
| 6DM | Ola |
| 6LS | Kayden U |





Attendance and Punctuality

Our attendance for this academic year so far is **95.5%**. Well done, everyone! Our school target is to have attendance above 97% and we will continue to monitor it closely this term.

Here is the current attendance for each class:

| Class | Attendance | Class | Attendance |
|---------|------------|--------|------------|
| R-RG | 95.3% | 3GH | 97.6% |
| R-ER | 94.9% | 3AP | 96% |
| R-SF/AG | 93.1% | 3TP | 94.7% |
| 1RH | 94.1% | 4GO | 96.2% |
| 1SR | 93.7% | 4HB | 94.4% |
| 1SL | 95% | 4LM/LC | 95.5% |
| 2EO | 96.3% | 5HS | 95.3% |
| 2SF | 97.3% | 5SN | 95.5% |
| 2NT | 94.4% | 5VD | 96.3% |
| | | 6DM | 97.1% |
| | | 6LS | 96.5% |
| | | 6EG | 95.5% |

Thank you for all your support in getting the children to school on time ready for the day ahead. The children's learning begins as soon as they arrive at school.

Some of our children who have been arriving late to class are coming in unsettled when they enter the classroom. It is important for your child to be on time and prepared for the day ahead.

School starts at **8:25am** on the Juniors and **8:45am** on the Infants site.

Gates open at 8:15am Juniors and 8:35am Infants. Any children arriving after 8:30am (Juniors) and 8:50am (Infants) will need to come through the main office and sign in. This will be recorded as a 'late' mark.

Please DO NOT book holidays in term time as this has a detrimental effect on your child's education. Children miss out on essential work, they find it hard to catch up and it can also affect their friendships. School policy is that family holidays will not be authorised and parents could be fined by the Local Authority. School is closed for 13 weeks during the year when family holidays can be taken.



Sporting Opportunities

At the end of last term, our school Sports Leaders and Mr T invited our Key Stage 2 children to take part in a 'virtual' sports competition during lunchtimes on the Junior Site. Although this competition took place in school, there were many other local schools that took part in the competition at their own school.

Our Sports Leaders ran, officiated, and organised each year group superbly. Over 100 children have taken part from our school overall - a fantastic commitment! We then uploaded and sent over our overall scores to the Leicester City School Sports Network to see how we did in comparison to every other school.

We are delighted to announce that our Year 4 team finished in 1st place overall! And our Year 5 pupils finished in a respectable 4th place and Year 6 pupils finishing 3rd!

Another huge well done to all the children that took part and congratulations to our Sports Leaders for running such a successful competition.

Year 6 trip to Beacon Hill

Next Tuesday morning, the Year 6 pupils are going on a trip to Beacon Hill to put their newly learnt cartography skills to the test. They will be taking a walk around the park, following maps and adding to them with Ordnance Survey symbols. They will also be making estimates of the land elevation on and around the hill in order to create a relief map of the park when we return to school.

Children should wear their school uniform. As this is just a morning trip, we will be back for lunch so there are no lunch alterations required.

Christmas Reading Race Tracks!

Please remember to bring in your Christmas Reading Racetracks. Every child who returns a completed racetrack next week will be awarded 10 house points or Dojo points and be entered into a prize draw for the chance to win £15 worth of books!

Winter Uniform

A polite reminder - children should continue to wear their winter uniform this term. This includes a white shirt and tie not a polo shirt and tie. The children have been taking great pride in their appearance and dressing to impress! We expect the very best from our children with regards to school uniform and appearance, and strongly believe that our high standards promote positive behaviour. Thank you for your support.



REMINDER..Primary School Applications.

If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2022 then don't forget to apply before the closing date which is **midnight Sunday 15th January 2023.** If you are applying to Christ the King, you have to apply directly to the school **and** complete the Local authority form online. The school form should be returned directly to the school by the closing date of Sunday 15th January 2023. You can view our admission policy on the website: [Christ The King Catholic Voluntary Academy - Admissions and Appeals \(ctkleicester.co.uk\)](http://ctkleicester.co.uk)

Thought for the week

'Let unifying love be your measure; abiding love your challenge; self-giving love your mission!'

Pope Benedict XVI

God bless,

Annie Carter and the CTK Team



The term ahead.....

Lent Term 1 2023

Theme for Lent term: Discipleship

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Monday 9th January | Weights and measures for Foundation Stage and Year 6 pupils |
| Monday 9th January | Year 1 and Year 5 Joint Class Mass @2pm on the Junior Site - Parents Welcome |
| Monday 16th January | Year 1 and Year 5 Fire Safety Talk led by Fire Service |
| Monday 16th January | Leicester Library visiting Reception Classes - Parents Welcome |
| Monday 16th January | Year 4, 5 and 6 Diversity and Inclusion Workshop for pupils from Leicester Police |
| Wednesday 18th January | Years 5 & 6 Stranger Danger Talk from Leicester Police |
| Friday 20th January | 1SR (Miss Ross' Class) Poetry Recital Assembly @ 9:00am Infant Site. Parents Welcome |
| Friday 27th January | 1SL (Miss Laycock's Class) Poetry Recital Assembly @ 9:00am Infant Site. Parents Welcome |
| Friday 3rd February | 1RH (Mrs Hainsworth Class) Poetry Recital Assembly @ 9:00am Infant Site. Parents Welcome |
| Tuesday 31st January | Feast of St Thomas Aquinas (patron of our Trust) |
| Friday 3rd February | Live-stream Trust celebration event: Monitoring Reports sent home ahead of Parents' Evening |
| Monday 6th February | E-Safety Week begins |
| Tuesday 14th February | Parents' Evening Infants: 3.30pm –7.00pm Juniors: 3.10pm—7.00pm |
| Wednesday 15th February | Parents' Evening Infants: 3.30pm-5.30pm Juniors: 3.10pm—5.30m |
| Friday 17th February | School closes for half term |