



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 we are 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: **'Rejoice in Hope'** which comes from one of St Paul's letters to the Romans. *"Let your hope keep you joyful, be patient in your troubles, and pray at all times"* Romans 12:12. We explored the true meaning of Christian Hope: knowing that we will be with God in Heaven if we love God and love our neighbour. As ever, the children we given a Mission: Whenever you feel troubled or worried say: "Jesus, my hope is in You."

We also reviewed our learning on virtues from last year and this year we will continue to practice them. Ask your children if they can remember what a virtue is and give you some examples of the virtues we practise every day at CTK!



Parish Links

We have been liaising with Father John and Fr Hans 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.



New staff at CTK

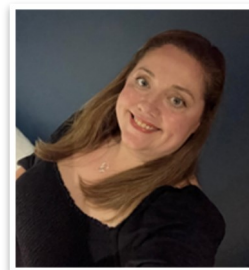
We have been blessed with some wonderful new staff who have joined the CTK Team this year. We know you will make them feel most welcome.



Miss Lawes
Year 5 Teacher



Mrs Gallagher
Year 4 Teacher



Mrs Boyd
Year 6 Teacher



Mr Dunn
Year 5 Teacher



Miss McFerran
School Chaplain

We are also pleased to announce that Mrs Williams is expecting baby. Congratulations, to Mrs Williams! She will begin her maternity leave mid-September.

Congratulations also to Miss Gilding (now Mrs Allard) who got married across the summer holiday. We wish Mr and Mrs Allard all the best for a long and happy future together.

Please see the full teaching structure on the next page.



Teaching structure for 2024-2025

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Carter					
	Head of School: Mrs Marshall (Mon– Wed) and Mrs Valente (Mon/Thurs/Fri)		Head of School: Mrs Glassford		
	CTK Infants		CTK Juniors		
Year Group	Teacher	TA	Year Group	Teacher	TA
R	Mr Mason	Miss Crofts	3	Mrs Russell	Mrs Beattie
R	Mrs Gibson	Mrs Harris	3	Miss Busby	Mrs Crayfourd
R EYFS Lead	Miss Laycock	Mrs Tonge/Mrs Bourne	3	Miss Hall	Mrs Merrigan
1	Mrs Francis/Mrs Griffin	Mrs Pearson	4Assistant Headteacher	Mrs Pickwell	Mrs Cranston
1	Miss Rawlings	Mrs Wood	4	Mr Dunn	Mrs Stratton
1	Mrs Bayliss/Mrs Wooldridge	Mrs Fitzgerald	4	Miss Orrill	Mrs Dalzell
2	Miss Nokes	Mrs Thornton	5	Miss Jones	Mrs Toon
2	Mrs Taylor	Mrs Banks	5	Mrs Featherstone	Miss Sayer
2 Assistant Headteacher	Mrs Koenig/Mrs Hainsworth	Mrs Wheatley	5	Miss Lawes/Mrs Gallagher	Mrs Hadfield
			6	Mrs Boyd	Mrs Amoroso
			6	Mrs Stone	Mrs Hargrave
PE Coach	Mr Tite		6	Mrs Allard	Mrs Chomentowska
Family Inclusion	SEND Lead: Mrs Wheeldon (Tues –Thurs) Learning Mentor: Kirsty Hansrani,				
	Curriculum and Pupil Premium Lead: Roisin Knight				
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.



Whole School Home Learning Policy

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. 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 via the pedestrian gate (nearest to Brampton Avenue) in the morning and there will be a member of staff to show them where to put their bikes.

Swimming

5SJ begin swimming lessons on Wednesday 5th 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.

Arbor

Please can all parents make sure they are signed up to Arbor, as this will be the primary method of communication and will enable you to register, book and pay for any events in school. This will include clubs, trips, dinners, parents' evening, breakfast club and the after-school club. Please speak to the school office if you are having any problems with setting up your Arbor account.

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.***



Safeguarding

We are always looking for ways to improve the children's safety. In order to ensure that children are collected safely at the end of the school day, a letter was sent home to all parents this week regarding collection. Please can you return these to school as soon as possible. We will **only** dismiss children to the named persons on the collection sheet. You must notify the school office if there are any changes to these arrangements **before 2.30pm** to avoid any delays at the end of the school day.

If you are happy for your child to walk to meet you or to walk home independently, you will need to give your written permission. Thank you for your support.

Online Safety Update

We will continue to make this a weekly update for parents to support you in ensuring your child's safety online. This week our update is about using and reviewing parental controls. Please click [here](#) for 10 Top tips for Parents and Carers about Parent Controls.

P.E

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
3GH	Mon + Tues	5SJ	Wed + Thurs (swimming)
3KR	Mon + Tues	5AL	Mon + Wed
3HB	Mon + Weds	5SF	Wed + Fri
4GO	Tues + Fri	6LS	Thurs (double PE)
4HD	Tues + Weds	6EA	Thurs + Fri
4TP	Tues + Thurs	6SB	Thurs + Fri

PE lessons will begin week beginning 9th September for the infant children. Please look out on Arbor for details of which days your child will be doing PE.



Attendance and Punctuality

As we start a new school year, I would like to confirm the changes nationally with regards to unauthorised pupil absence. A summary of the changes are:

- Penalty notice fines are increasing to £160 per parent per child (reduced to £80 per parent per child if paid within 21 days in the first instance);
- There will be no reductions in payments for second offences within in a three year period. Third offences within three years, will proceed to a magistrates court. Magistrate's fines can be up to £2,500 per parent per child;
- Penalty Notice fines will apply if a pupil has been absent for 5 or more consecutive days, or for fewer days if this has happened before.
- Penalty notices will be considered if a pupil has been absent for 10 sessions (a session is a half day) in a 10-week period.

It is important to note that the government has taken the decision to introduce these higher penalties due to the importance of education and the impact on a child's life chances when they regularly miss school. For clarity, taking holidays in term time, visiting relatives abroad, attending weddings and a variety of other such activities are classed as unauthorised absence. If the school suspects that a child's absence is not authorised (i.e. due to illness, a medical procedure or other pre-authorised reason), we will be required to look into this.

Attendance at CTK is significantly above the national average, however we will continue to prioritise the highest levels of attendance across our school this year with your support.

On the last Friday of every half term, we will email the attendance and punctuality for every pupil via Arbor. This will enable all parents to have a snapshot of their child's attendance and punctuality compared to the school's average. We hope this will further improve attendance rates at CTK this year.

Thought of the Week

'The Lord made us for the joy of Heaven. Our life is not a meaningless journey, but a project of love. Life is a pilgrimage that leads us, day by day, to the encounter with Him and to the endless joy that He has prepared for us'

Pope Francis

God bless,

Annie Carter and the CTK Team