

CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Headteacher: Mrs M. Watts



20th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed the sunshine at the weekend. A reminder to please send children into school with sun hats, sun cream applied and a water bottle, so that they are protected from the sun throughout the day at school.

Congratulations to Miss Rouse!

We wanted to wish Miss Rouse and her husband-to-be every happiness as they will be getting married during our half term break. We are sure their wedding will be beautiful and we look forward to hearing all about it when we are back at school. Miss Rouse's married name will be Mrs Bradshaw. We know our Y1 children are especially excited for our bride-to-be!

Class photos

On Thursday of this week – 23rd May – the children will be having their class group photos in school. ***We ask all children to please wear full summer uniform for these photos – no PE kits, or trainers, please.*** Full summer uniform is either: a yellow checked summer dress, white socks, black school shoes and navy blue cardigan or jumper; or, grey shorts, yellow polo shirt, grey socks, black school shoes and navy blue cardigan or jumper. Our Y6 children may wear grey trousers with the polo shirt, but all other children should be in grey shorts, unless they are wearing a summer dress. If you have any problem procuring uniform, please contact school. Our nearly new uniform sale last week was a great success. Please do continue to send in any good quality second hand uniform that your children may have grown out of, if you can.

Catholic Life and Mission

Our children and school community have been very busy living out our school mission – we can and we will follow in Jesus' footsteps. There are lots of updates on our X (formerly known as Twitter) feed, which can be found under **@CTKAlfreton**. I also try to include regular updates on our school app. If you have not yet downloaded this, I would ask you to do so at your earliest convenience, as this is the main way we



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**St Ralph
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Catholic Multi Academy Trust

communicate with parents in order to reduce paper use. If you are unsure, please see the notice board in front of the school office, or ask via your class email addresses. Over the term, we have had many occasions of Celebration of the Word, led by our children and supported by staff and our chaplain, Joe. It is wonderful to gather together as a school community in this way and we continue to offer for parents to attend if they wish to, every Thursday morning at 9.15am. It has been lovely to see so many parents attending our Masses and Celebration of the Word – thank you for supporting our school in this way.

Ascension Thursday - Our children all prepared and participated beautifully in our Mass to celebrate this important feast day. It was lovely to hear the Nursery and Reception children sharing their thoughts and prayers, as well as all the other children who read, chose the hymns and helped to make our Mass a wonderful occasion. Thanks to Fr. Paul for celebrating this important day with us in school.

First Holy Communion – Several of our Y3 children received the Sacrament of the Eucharist in their First Holy Communion last Saturday 11th May. It was a privilege to be part of their special day and to celebrate this important occasion together with other children from our Parish. The children conducted themselves beautifully and it was clear to see their understanding of the importance of this next step on their faith journey. Thank you to Mrs Slater, Mrs Coope and Mrs Molumby for preparing our children throughout this year, and to all those who helped to make this day so special. We will have a Celebration of the Word followed by a party for the children in school to mark this occasion with the whole Y3 class – Miss Swift will send out details in due course.

May Procession – The children participated beautifully in our May Procession, in honour of Mary, the Mother of God. Thank you to our Y5 children for leading our Celebration of the Word and our procession as we witnessed to our faith around the school grounds. Thank you for the abundance of flowers that we received for Mary. Our Y6 children were able to distribute these to our local community as random acts of kindness, for which many people were extremely grateful – they really did brighten people's day!

KS2 assessments

A big well done to our Y6 children for all their hard work and resilience during their assessments last week. I know Mrs Rayner, Mrs Crabtree and all the staff were so impressed with how hard they worked and how they persevered and gave it their all. We are so proud of them!

Calling Foundation Governors

A virtual information session about being a foundation governor in one of our Catholic schools is taking place on Thursday 27 June from 7.00pm – 8.00pm. For further information, please contact: Julie Sweeney at the Diocesan Education Service (julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk).

Parent Governor election reminder

A reminder to please bring your votes to the school office for our parent governor election by the end of the day on **Friday 24th May**. Information about this was sent out via class emails, so if you have not received it, please do contact school. Paper copies and envelopes are available at the office. Votes are anonymous, but we will take your name to ensure each parent only votes once.

Olympic Sports day

We are excited to share that all the children will be participating in a day where they will be able to experience some Olympic sports in celebration of the Paris Olympics this year. Sports will include fencing, volleyball, lacrosse and hockey. This will take place in the first week back after half term – Thursday 6th June. On this day, we ask that all children come to school either in their PE kit, or in sports clothes that are one of the colours of the Olympic rings – red, blue, yellow, black or green.

Friends of Christ the King

Thank you to Friends of Christ the King for organising the Frozen Fridays. These will continue to be every Friday and cost 50p for an ice lolly, or £1 for an ice cream. Some of the money already raised this year has gone towards the purchase of new playground equipment for the children, so thank you very much to Friends and to parents for your support.

Parking

Another polite reminder to please remember to park considerately, not stopping or parking on the yellow zigzags and to take care when dropping off and collecting your children. This includes ensuring that the pavement remains clear for pedestrians. It is really important that we all work together to keep the roads around school safe and to ensure that local residents are still able to access their properties. Thank you for your support with this

Attendance

We continue to monitor the children's attendance closely and to take the steps outlined in our policy, when necessary. If your child's attendance has dipped below the benchmark of 95%, you will receive a letter to notify you of this. We are always happy to discuss any concerns you may have regarding attendance and to offer support if needed. Please do endeavour to ensure your child is attending school every day, unless they are unwell or there are other authorised circumstances. Holidays will not be authorised and we would urge you, wherever possible, to try and take holidays during the school holiday.

Jubilee Year – help needed – reminder!

As you are aware, next year marks Christ the King school's diamond jubilee. Our school opened in 1964 and we are going to be celebrating this momentous occasion throughout the school year from September 2024. This will begin with a special Jubilee Mass, the details of which will be shared nearer the time. As a school, we would really like to create a rich history to collate in a book and display, that will serve as a wonderful reminder of our school's journey so far and will help the children to understand how they are all a part of that journey. We would be keen to hear from family members who are past pupils or who have any photos or memories that they would be happy to share with us. One of the things we are proudest of is that CTK really is a family and we have so many people who make up that family throughout the years. If you have any ideas or can offer any time to support this project, or memorabilia relating to your time at CTK, we would love to hear from you. This project will take place throughout the Pentecost term, so please do get in touch either by popping into school, or by emailing enquiries@cka.srscmat.co.uk and marking the subject as CTK diamond jubilee. We cannot wait to hear from you!

Transition days

We will be organising transition days for our children during the Pentecost 2 term, so please do keep an eye out for these important dates. These days enable the children to meet their new class teachers and teaching assistants, and we have found them to be really successful in supporting the children to make a smooth transition into their new class.

Key dates for Pentecost term:

Monday 20th May – Wednesday 22nd May – Y5 Bikeability Level 2

Thursday 23rd May – Class group photos

Friday 24th May – Last day of term Pentecost 1

Monday 3rd June – INSET day – school closed to children
Tuesday 4th June – Pentecost 2 term begins
Thursday 7th June – Olympic Sports day for all children
Friday 14th June – Sports Day – weather permitting – details to follow
Thursday 27th – Friday 28th June – Y3 residential
Friday 28th June – Y2 sleepover (TBC)
Thursday 4th – Friday 5th July – Y4 residential
Monday 8th July – KS2 production
Wednesday 10th July – KS2 production
Friday 12th July – Children’s summer fayre in school
Monday 15th July – Ozzy Obstacle in school – KS1
Tuesday 16th – Wednesday 17th July – Y6 London trip
Thursday 18th July – Tough Runner in school – KS2
Monday 22nd July – Leavers Mass and KS2 disco
Tuesday 23rd July – Last day of term Pentecost 2

There will be further updates on the app regarding these and other events that are happening, so please do keep checking, alongside class emails.

Wishing you all a wonderful half term – fingers crossed for more sunshine!

Kind regards,



Mrs Watts

Headteacher