

# CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Headteacher: Mrs M. Watts



**23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Newsletter – Pentecost 1**

### **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 feed, which can be found under @CTKAlfreton. Please also search for us on Instagram under the same handle. 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 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.

### **May Procession**

Today, we celebrated the month of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, with our May procession, during which we crowned Mary and processed around the field, saying the Hail Mary. Thank you to the Faith in Action team, Joe and Mrs Rayner for preparing our Celebration of the word so beautifully today. Thank you to parents and the children for bringing in so many beautiful flowers in honour of Our Lady.

### **Random Acts of Kindness**

Our Y6 children have been very busy this afternoon bunching up the flower donations and making cards in order to share these around Alfreton and spread love throughout our local community. This is part of the way at which we try to live out our CTK mission and to follow Mary's example to keep our hearts open to God and to the needs of others.

### **First Holy Communion preparation**

Our Y3 children have been working very hard to prepare to receive their Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. We are proud to be walking with them on this journey. A reminder that First Reconciliation will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 5pm at Christ the King Church in Alfreton. The First Holy Communion Mass will be on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 11am.

### **Skydive for Rainbows Hospice**

Many of you will be aware that on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, Mrs Bryan completed a skydive in memory of her niece, Rubie, and to raise money for Rainbows Hospice who have supported the whole family during this



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**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

very difficult time. We are so proud of Mrs Bryan and she approached the skydive as cool as a cucumber! Thank you for your amazing support of toast club, which raised £375, and for your generous sponsorship. Mrs Bryan raised an incredible £1370 for Rainbows!

#### Y6 SATs assessments

We were so proud of our Y6 children this term and the way they approached these assessments. They all worked very hard, many of them gave their own time in the mornings and after school to complete booster work, and they did themselves and the whole team proud. Their resilience and determination throughout the week were inspirational. We are also lucky because we know that these assessments are just a tiny snapshot of all that you are and we get to share in your many qualities and talents. It has been a privilege to watch you rise to this challenge so admirably.

#### Y4 and Y6 residential

Our Y4 and Y6 classes have both been on residential trips this term. They were a credit to the school and to their parents in the challenges they took on and the way they behaved throughout. School staff and other professionals on both trips commented on how amazing our children are. Thank you, children, for flying the flag so proudly for CTK!

#### Timings for the school day

A reminder that our school day begins at 8.45am, which is when the gates open to allow the children into their classrooms. We have a number of parents who are dropping off their children before 8.45am, sometimes before 8.30am and leaving them unsupervised on the path. **We kindly request that parents do not drop their children before 8.40am, as the children are not supervised until 8.45am, and therefore could easily leave the school sight without proper parental supervision.** If parents are needing to drop children earlier, please contact our Zest wraparound care club, details of which can be found on our school website or via the office.

#### Football rules

I have spoken to the children about the rules when they are playing football at breaktimes and dinnertimes, particularly now we are on the field. I thought it might be helpful to inform parents too so that you can support the children in their understanding of this. When playing football, the children must only play teams within their year group. There is to be no heading of the ball and absolutely no slide tackling, as this is dangerous and can cause significant injury. Children understand that if they are not playing safely, they will

be removed from playing football for a period of time. Thank you for your support in helping to ensure the children play safely.

### Frozen Fridays

Throughout the Pentecost 2 term, Frozen Friday will take place every Friday. Ice-creams are £1 and ice lollies are 50p. As the last day of term is Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July, we will have a “Frozen Fursday” on this week!

### Father’s Day Shop

This will be taking place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June. A huge thank you to Friends of CTK for organising and running this. More details will follow nearer the time.

### Uniform after half term

When we return on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, we would ask that the children can come to school wearing **full summer uniform for the remainder of the summer term**. Please see below for details. If the children are wearing the yellow polo shirt for the summer uniform, they must be wearing grey shorts. Summer dresses must be worn with white socks, not tights. Also, as part of our uniform policy review, children’s coats no longer need to be navy blue or black – any coat is permitted if it is suitable for school and the weather. All uniform should be marked clearly with your child’s name. Thank you for your cooperation.

Our school summer uniform is:

- Yellow and white checked summer dress with a navy blue cardigan and white socks
- OR
- Yellow polo shirt
- Navy blue jumper or cardigan
- Grey school shorts and black or grey socks
- Footwear and accessories as detailed above.

Indoor PE Kit:

- Yellow polo shirt
- Navy blue or black PE Shorts
- Pumps

Outdoor PE Kit

- Yellow polo shirt
- Navy blue or black jogging bottoms
- Trainers
- A navy blue jumper or cardigan

Children will be required to attend school in their PE kit on their allocated PE day.

### Attendance update – reminder

As we continue to refine and develop our attendance policy and practice, I wanted to say thank you to parents for your continuing support in ensuring that your children are attending school every day possible. From the Pentecost term onwards, in line with the DfE and DCC policy, **please note that school will require at least 12 school days' notice of a holiday or other leave of absence request.** If you are requesting a leave of absence either for a holiday or for other reasons, we require you to please complete a leave of absence form, available in the school office. Further to submitting this request, you will then be notified whether your request will be authorised or not and will be advised as to whether any unauthorised absences will be submitted to the Local Authority, who may then decide to issue a fine. We are also continuing to monitor attendance closely, including lateness. The impact of poor attendance and lateness on children's education is significant, particularly when children miss the same lessons each morning. This has a detrimental impact on their learning over time. Where concerns about attendance or lateness arise, or if a holiday is suspected, action will be taken in line with our policy. We will continue to issue letters to parents if attendance drops below 95% in order that further support can be offered and to ensure parents are aware of their child's attendance percentage. Please do continue to ensure you notify school of any absences, as failure to do so could result in actions being taken, such as home visits, to ascertain the whereabouts of the children as per our safeguarding policy. We continue to aim for children's attendance to be at least 95% or above. We are keen to work closely with our families to support attendance, so if you have any questions, concerns or difficulties relating to your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact school to see what support is available.

### Attendance rewards - reminder

We continue to recognise and reward good attendance in school on a whole class and an individual basis. Each week the class with the best attendance for that week gets a shout out in assembly on Friday and an extra playtime as a reward. We also have an "in it to win it" raffle each week, where all the children who have got 100% attendance for that week are entered into a draw and the winner receives a book as a reward. Thank you to Friends of CTK for providing the prizes for this.

### Curriculum information

Finally, the curriculum during our Pentecost term continues to build the children's knowledge in preparation for their move to their next year group or key stage. Some recent conversations with parents have seemed to suggest that the curriculum at this stage of the year may not be as important, however, I wanted to clarify that we are continually learning and building knowledge throughout the summer term. Moreover, important transition activities and occasions to support and develop the children's confidence as they move

to their new classes are ongoing throughout this term. Our curriculum golden thread in Pentecost 1 and 2 is Freedom and, as part of this, the children learn about and discuss protected characteristics, as well as learning from the examples set by others throughout history where people have campaigned for freedoms and human rights. Thank you for continuing to support us in ensuring your child attends school every day possible and continues to build on their fantastic work during our previous terms.

Key dates for Pentecost term:

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** – INSET day – school closed to children

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – First day of term – Pentecost 2

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June** – First Reconciliation for First Holy Communion children – 5pm at CTK Church

**w.c. Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – Year 4 Statutory Multiplication Tables Check

**w.c. Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – Year 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 assessments (optional SATs Y2, NFER everyone else)

**w.c. Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 1 Statutory Phonics Screening Check

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June** – Reception information and open evening for children starting Reception September 25

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June** – 1.30pm – Sports Day (weather permitting!) – parents and carers welcome!

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June** – 2pm – Pentecost Mass in school – all welcome!

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June** – 11am – First Holy Communion Mass – Christ the King RC Church, Alfreton

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June** – Y3 residential

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July** – 2 x performances of KS2 production – timings TBC

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July** – 2 x performances of KS2 production – timings TBC

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July** – In school Summer Fayre

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July** – Ozzy Obstacle on the field – EYFS and KS1

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July** – Tough Runner on the field – KS2

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July** – 6pm – Leavers' Mass in school followed by KS2 disco – timings TBC

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> 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. In addition, we have the general email address [enquiries@cka.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cka.srscmat.co.uk) and the SEND email address [sendco@cka.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:sendco@cka.srscmat.co.uk) for general questions or further enquiries relating to SEND needs.

Kind regards,



Mrs Watts - Headteacher