

CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



Headteacher: Mrs M. Watts

23rd September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome you all back to Christ the King for another new school year. Once again, the school has come alive with the children's smiles, laughter and conversations, and it is wonderful to have that familiar sense of energy and excitement around the building. There are lots of new children starting with us this year and we have been so impressed with how they have taken everything in their stride and are settling in beautifully to life at CTK. A warm welcome to all our new families. I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer, with plenty of opportunities to spend time with family and friends, even if it does seem like a distant memory now!

Please see below for a few key messages at the start of an already busy term:

- You are all warmly invited to our **Welcome Mass**, which we will be celebrating with Fr. Paul in school on **Wednesday 30th September at 2pm**. Our new CEO, Mrs L. Walton, will be joining us and we look forward to sharing what makes CTK so special with you all as we reflect on our school values.
- The children have been looking smart in their [school uniform](#), which can either be summer or winter at this point, while the weather is so changeable. **After October half term, children need to all be wearing full winter uniform.** Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform as this is an important part of our identity as a school family. Children can currently wear either:
 - o **Summer uniform:** grey shorts, yellow polo shirt, navy blue jumper or cardigan, grey or black socks, black shoes / yellow and white checked summer dress, navy blue jumper or cardigan, white socks, black shoes.
 - o **Winter uniform:** grey trousers, yellow button-down shirt and tie, navy blue jumper or cardigan, grey or black socks, black shoes / [navy blue skirt or pinafore](#), yellow button-down shirt and tie, navy blue jumper or cardigan, navy blue tights or navy-blue socks, black shoes.

Please ensure your child's name is in all items of uniform.

We have a nearly new / pre-loved uniform shop in school that we just ask for a small contribution for in exchange for any items you need.

If you wish to order uniform new, including ties and book bags, please speak to Ms Barker in the school office, who can advise you.

Coats can be any colour but need to be suitable for the weather as we try to go outside in all weathers.

Your child may come into school wearing their PE kit on their PE day. PE kit consists of navy blue or black shorts, yellow polo shirt, navy blue or black tracksuit bottoms or leggings over the shorts if it is cold, navy blue jumper or cardigan, black socks, trainers.

Children do not need to bring big bags into school, unless this has been agreed as a necessary reasonable adjustment. They do not require any equipment as this is all provided by us, and we do not have room in our cloakrooms for every child to bring a big backpack. Thank you for your support.



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**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

- A reminder that **the school day begins at 8.45am**. The children begin their learning straight away in the morning, so arriving at school on time is very important. These first few minutes of the day give a vital opportunity for children to complete and reflect on their learning from the previous day / lesson, and to complete interventions, challenges and boosters. Registers close at 9.00am, after which time your child will be marked late. If the gates at the bottom of the path are closed, this means it is after 9.00am and you will need to bring your child in through the office and sign them in. Any leave of absence requests must also be requested via the form available in the school office and school should be notified of these requests as soon as possible before the absence, ideally at least 12 school days before the absence, as per our [Attendance Policy](#). Holidays in term-time will not be authorised and will result in a fine.
- **Parent's evenings** will take place this term and we are keen that every child has a parent meeting. These meetings will be a chance to hear how your child has settled into their new class, key baseline data including strengths and next steps, and there will be a chance to discuss attendance needs with me if you are facing any challenges regarding this.
 - o For **Years Nursery, Reception, 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6**, these will take place on two of the following three days (details to be confirmed next week) – **Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October between 3 – 6pm.**
 - o For **Year 4**, Miss Smith will offer parent's evenings the week before on **Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th October between 2.30 – 4.30pm.** This is because Miss Smith plans to begin her maternity leave on Friday 16th October. Once we have appointed her maternity cover, we will inform Year 4 parents of who the new teacher will be.
- We have vacancies on our Local Governing Body for **foundation governors**. Please enquire in the office for details on how to apply, if you are a practising Catholic and would like the opportunity to support our school in this way.
- **A reminder to please always park considerately and also to park further away and walk down to our school wherever possible.** No-one should be parking on the yellow zig zag lines outside school, or blocking local resident driveways, or on corners or places where it is unsafe to park. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our children safe and our neighbours happy.
- **Class curriculum maps, knowledge organisers, homework and our extra-curricular offer** letters will be sent out shortly and uploaded onto our school website.
- Please remember that we try to be paperless as much as possible and **our main method of communication is via Arbor and our class email addresses.** Please ensure you have returned the letter asking you to update your contact details for the class email lists. If you are not receiving class emails and / or Arbor updates, please contact the school office for support.
- We are excited to share that, further to Friends of CTK's fundraising efforts as part of Playground Fix for 26, and all of your wonderful support of our various fundraising events, our **EYFS outside learning space will be getting a makeover** very soon. This will enhance the learning and provision in EYFS and Year 1 and will also enable our Nursery and school to continue to grow. Thank you to Friends for all their support over the years and thank you to all of you for your generosity. It really does make a difference to our children.
- Mr Bob Parker at Adventure Unlocked will continue to provide **outdoor learning experiences** and **residential support** to all classes this year. You should have received a consent form for this. If you

have not yet returned it, please do send it in at your earliest convenience to ensure your child can take part in these important personal development sessions at school.

- On **Wednesday 7th October at 2.30pm**, our Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children will launch our Harvest appeal, where we ask families to send in items to give to our local foodbank to support local families. On this day, the children are invited to come into school wearing bright non-uniform to “brighten up the Harvest” in exchange for a voluntary contribution of £1 with all proceeds going to CAFOD. **Parents are most welcome to join us for our Harvest** Celebration of the Word, led by the children. Some of our Year 4 children have requested to make and sell bracelets to further raise money for CAFOD – more details will follow.
- On **Friday 16th October**, along with our wonderful PTA volunteers – Friends of Christ the King – we are going to hold an **Autumn disco** for our school community. **This will be a ticketed event with a bar, DJ and tuck shop and all our families are warmly invited from 7-9pm.** Please look out for a further letter about this. We continue to raise money to improve our outdoor spaces with Playground Fix 26 and beyond!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Watts".

Mrs M. Watts