



# Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School

*We live our lives like Jesus*



Newsletter 11th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Parent Governor Vacancy We need your time and talent**

I am writing to inform you of a vacancy for the role of parent governor on our governing board. The parent governor role is open to any parent or carer who has a child/ren registered at the school at the time of appointment. This is an important role as we move forward from our recent Ofsted and implement plans for the future and on-going improvement of the school.

### **The role of the local governing board**

The school's governing board is responsible for providing confident and strategic leadership, and creating robust accountability, oversight and assurance for the school's educational and financial performance. The board is passionate about education and committed to continuous school improvement to ensure the best possible outcomes for our pupils.

### **The role of a parent governor**

As a parent governor, you'll work with the board to make sure it effectively carries out the duties referred to above. You'll also play a vital role in bringing a **parental perspective** to the governing board, but you're not there to speak 'on behalf' of the parent body.

To be a parent governor you should have:

A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children

Good inter-personal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to learn and develop new skills

### **How to apply**

If you're interested in applying for the role, please complete the candidate form which can be found on our school website in the Governor section— <https://www.corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk/governors> or can be collected from the school office. The form should be returned to the Governance Professional Clerk J Parish at [jparish@corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:jparish@corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk) or in a sealed envelope marked for the attention of J Parish, Governance Professional Clerk at the School's office by Friday 24th October. If we receive more applications than there are vacancies, a secret ballot will be carried out. We will inform you closer to the time if we have to do this.

Further information about the role and the application form can be found on our school website <https://www.corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk/governors> .

If you have any queries about this process or would like to find out more about the role, please contact Miss Clark or Natasha Burnett, Chair of Governors.

Miss Clark

**Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School**  
**Part of Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust**



## Harvest 2024

### Standing in Solidarity with our Neighbour

#### Our Harvest Collection

Thank you for your donations to our Harvest Collection which will end on the 22nd October. All donations, both tinned and packet food or monetary donation, will be given to the Bucklands Soup Kitchen as we stand in solidarity with our local community. We have asked the children to do something to “earn” their donation; perhaps giving up a treat to use the money to donate.

We will be celebrating Mass at 2pm on Thursday 23rd October where we will share our donations with Buckland Soup Kitchen—all families are welcome to join us.

#### Polite reminder

*Over the last few weeks, there have been a number of incidents of inappropriate behaviour by a minority of parents at drop off and collection or during phone calls between home and school. This has included disrespectful and at times aggressive behaviour towards staff and inappropriate comments made about and towards other parents and children. These incidents have left people, including children, feeling upset, bullied and distressed. We all are responsible for acting as positive role models to the children in our community and it is important that everyone demonstrates our school rules of being respectful and being safe. It is really important that all children, staff and parents feel safe and recognise the school as a safe place. Having parents shouting about situations on the school site or simply by the way they act towards others through gossip, comments and looks, only brings disharmony and conflict and we have enough of that in the world already!*

***Firstly, can I thank the vast majority of parents who work with us, even during the most challenging times, with mutual respect and dignity. It means we can resolve conflict or issues more effectively whilst maintaining positive relationships which at the end of the day benefit the children.***

*Secondly, if you do have a concern, please do speak to us. Generally, parents should speak to the class teacher in the first instance, However, I am available for parents to speak to on most days - catching me at the gate is not always the best time to speak to me—so please do make an appointment if you can.*

*Thirdly, if we need to, we may ask a parent to collect their child/ren from the school office, in order to protect the community.*

*I am sorry that this may come across as harsh or negative, however, there are no acceptable reasons for anyone being abusive on the school site and we will not tolerate abuse or harassment of any kind towards any member of the school community.*

*Thank you for your support and trust*

*Miss Clark*

*Be Ready—Be Respectful—Be Safe*

## Talk Matters

### Your voice needs to be heard

This year, one of our key priorities is to develop Oracy - supporting children to learn to talk and learn through talk! By the time children start school, most are confident chatterboxes, but our work on Oracy aims to teach children to talk more effectively, in sentences and with a wide range of vocabulary. Oral communication is such an important life skill and effective communicators have so many more opportunities than those whose voices are not always heard. Our aim is that all children leave Corpus Christi as confident and articulate young people ready for the next stage of their education.

### Zoom in, Zoom out Chat

We wanted to take a moment to highlight the vital role of communication in your children's development and education. Talking—whether at home, in the classroom, or during extracurricular activities—plays a crucial part in fostering their social, emotional, and cognitive growth. At Corpus Christi we look to explore many different ways of encouraging talk and communication. One of the ways we would like to encourage this is by giving children a talking task to do at home. Each week in our newsletter there will be a picture of something zoomed in very closely and we will give you tips on how to discuss it with your child. Please take the time to discuss it at home and the item will be revealed the following week!



### Discussion Tip!

Try discussing the item with your child using full sentence to explain your thinking:

I wonder if this could be a \_\_\_\_ because I can see \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think about the picture?

## **Drop off and Collection**

### **Gates open from 8.35-8.45am and 3.15-3.25pm**

Please can I remind parents that children in Years R-4 and those in Year 5 and 6 must be brought to and collected from school by an adult. Children in Years 5 and 6 with permission from a parent can walk to and from home and school without an adult. However, they cannot bring younger brothers and sisters to school. Parents do need to wait with their child until the gate is open; we've spotted a number of children in years R-4 who are being left without adult supervision.

Due to the number of children who are being collected late (i.e after 3.25pm) we will be establishing a late policy, including fines for parents whose children are collected later from school on more than 3 occasions in the year.

You should have received our **Late Collection Policy** via email yesterday, this will come into place after October half term, from Monday 4th November. Paper copies can be requested from the Office. Please ensure emergency contacts and home details are up to date which can also be completed at the Office. Thank you.

## **Year R Welcome Liturgy**

We are inviting you to join your child /children to our welcome liturgy on Wednesday 23rd October at 2:30pm in the church. It would be a great opportunity for staff, children and parents of our new children to gather together to celebrate the word of God.

## **Hair**

Please can we remind parents of our expectations for hair and hair styles in school. It is really important that hair, longer than shoulder length is tied back, especially if fringes are covering eyes.

Children may wear small ribbons or bands but large bows, coloured beads and hair bands should be kept for the weekends and holidays and not for school. We have a number of children with braids containing beads—please can these be removed asap—I frequently see beads hitting other children when a child moves their head!

Hair should be of a natural colour hue and therefore we do not allow brightly dyed hair in school. We also do not allow extreme hair cuts and would expect hair cuts to be of a blended style without a significant distinction between the length of hair on the top and sides.

## **Uniform reminders.... Socks and Shoes**

**Polite reminder**—girls may wear knee length, ankle socks or tights. Over the knee socks are not part of our uniform policy and girls will be asked to change them or roll them down so they are below the knee.

Shoes must be black and sensible for school.

## GOOD SHEPHERD

BUMBLEBEES — AMANDA  
 LADYBIRDS — ADEMIDE  
 OWLS — IVY  
 HEDGEHOGS — MIKHA  
 BADGERS — CAITLIN  
 DOLPHINS — AMARISE  
 ORCAS — RAFE  
 STARFISH — SAVANNAH  
 KINGFISHERS — TIFFANY  
 KESTRELS — ANNABELLE  
 STARLINGS — YASMIN



BUMBLEBEES — ARYAN  
 LADYBIRDS — JOSHUA  
 OWLS — JENNIFER  
 HEDGEHOGS — SERA  
 BADGERS — MERCY  
 DOLPHINS — SAMUEL.G  
 ORCAS — EMILIA  
 STARFISH — GABRIELA  
 KINGFISHERS — DAVIS  
 KESTRELS — VIOLET  
 STARLINGS — FRANKIE

## GOLDEN BOOK

Isabelle (Kingfishers) - For an interesting explanation in History  
 Christabel (Kingfishers) - Thoughtful RE  
 Isla (Starlings) - Amazing History Homework  
 Hannah (Hedgehogs) - Super Science  
 Skyla (Hedgehogs) - Trying her best  
 Ivie (Badgers) - Thoughtful RE

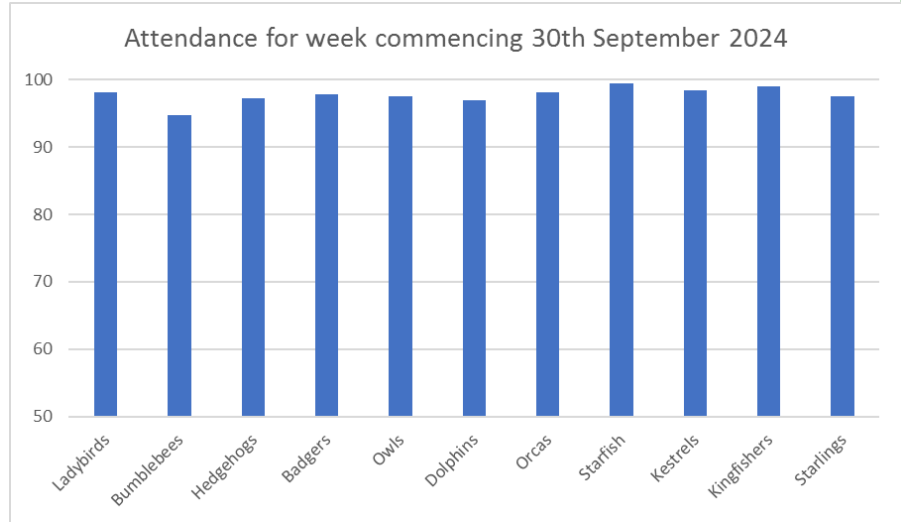
## PE Days – Autumn Term

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dolphins yr3.4 (Mrs Kelly)	Orcas yr3.4 (Mr Clark)	Bumblebees yrR (Mrs Miles)	Kestrels yr5.6 (Mrs Precious)	Owls yr1.2 (Ms Martinez)
Starfish yr3.4 (Mrs Hassana)		Ladybirds yrR (Miss Longyear)	Starlings yr5.6 (Mrs Gosney)	Hedgehogs yr1.2 (Mrs Thiba)
		Owls yr1.2 (Ms Martinez)	Kingfishers yr5.6 (Miss Dawson)	Badgers yr1.2 (Miss Elsom)
		Hedgehogs yr2 (Mrs Thiba)	Dolphins yr3.4 (Mrs Kelly)	Kestrels yr5.6 (Mrs Precious)
		Badgers yr1.2 (Miss Elsom)	Starfish yr3.4 (Mrs Hassana)	Starlings yr5.6 (Mrs Gosney)
			Orcas yr3.4 (Mr Clark)	Kingfishers yr5.6 (Miss Dawson)

## Attendance

Well done to Starfish & Kingfishers class for almost 100% attendance last week.

Amazing attendance for all classes again!



## Attendance Expectations

### What YOU must do:

Try to telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence or alert us via the Studybugs app.

Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.

If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.

Have a backup plan for your child's usual means of transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

### What WE will do:

Check your child's attendance every day.

Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.

Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.

If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.



In case you don't know already, we use an efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs. You can use it to tell us if your child's ill and unable to attend school. If your child has been off of school for a few days and we have only

had contact via the Studybugs app we may still contact you for further information.

## Dates for your Diary

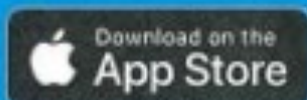
Thursday 17th October	School Nurse appointments ( <i>booking required</i> ) KS2 Author Visit
Monday 21st October	Year 5 Bikeability begins ( <i>booking required</i> )
Wednesday 23rd October	Year R Welcome Liturgy @ 2.30pm
Thursday 24th October	Harvest Mass @ 2pm
Friday 25th October	8.45-9.30am Drop-In/Coffee Morning hosted by Ms Fripp and Mrs Kirk
Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November	HALF TERM - school closed for all children
Wednesday 13th November - Friday 15th November	Yr 4 Stubbington Residential
Thursday 14th November	School Nurse appointments ( <i>booking required</i> )
Monday 25th November	INSET Day - school closed for all children
Wednesday 4th December	Christmas Fiesta 3.15pm - 4.45pm
Tuesday 10th December	YrR Nativity @ TBC
Thursday 12th December	School Nurse appointments ( <i>booking required</i> ) Yr3-6 Christmas Jumper & Christmas Lunch Day Yr1-2 Nativity @ 2pm-3pm
Friday 13th December	YrR-2 Christmas Jumper & Christmas Lunch Day
Wednesday 17th December	Grandparents Tea Party @ 1.45pm
Friday 20th December	Yr3-6 Carol Service at 2.15pm
Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - school closed for all children
Tuesday 11th February - Friday 14th February	Yr 6 Runways End Residential
Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February	HALF TERM - school closed for all children
Monday 24th February	INSET Day - school closed for all children
Monday 7th April - Monday 21st April	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - school closed for all children
Monday 5th May	BANK HOLIDAY - school closed for all children
Friday 23rd May	INSET Day - school closed for all children
Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May	HALF TERM - school closed for all children
Friday 4th July	INSET Day - school closed for all children
Wednesday 23rd July - Tuesday 2nd September	SUMMER HOLIDAYS - school closed for all children

**Parents are warmly welcomed to join us for Mass and Liturgies.**

# CALLING ALL PARENTS!

Never miss important notifications, latest news and diary dates. Stay updated by downloading TheSchoolApp

## Go to your app store and search for... TheSchoolApp



Powered By  PrimarySite



# Zoom Sleep Course for parents

*"Sleep is as important for survival as food and water;  
yet most people know very little about this vitally important process.  
80% of children with a special educational need or disability struggle to sleep."*



Join Nickie Sutton, experienced sleep practitioner and trainer, for sessions to learn more about sleep and how you can help children sleep better.

These sessions are specially written for parents of children with additional needs and disabilities and are interactive so that your specific questions and needs are answered.

## Course

**Session 1. How and Why we Sleep.** What our brains need us to do to sleep well.

**Session 2. SEND and Sleep.** How sensory processing differences, autism, anxiety, ADHD and other conditions make sleep so much harder, and how you can help.

Both sessions are 90 minutes long with time at the end for questions.

You will need to commit to attend both sessions;  
as the strategies discussed in session 2 relate back to what is covered in session 1.

## NEXT COURSE



Mondays 28th & 30th September 2024, 10am 12pm

Tuesdays, 5th & 12th November 2024 7pm 8pm



## RESERVE YOUR PLACE

[www.portsmouthparentvoice.org/sleepcourse](http://www.portsmouthparentvoice.org/sleepcourse)



Further information please email: [ppvadmin@hportsmouth.org.uk](mailto:ppvadmin@hportsmouth.org.uk)

Nickie Sutton has been a sleep practitioner for 6 years and developed the successful and effective sleep courses for Space4Autism in Cheshire which have been running for over 8 years. Prior to this Nickie was a nurse for 34 years, most recently working as a Specialist Community Public Health School Nurse, and ADHD Nurse Specialist. Her background means that she is scrupulous about offering evidence based advice that is grounded in science. She is currently one of small team of experienced sleep practitioners working on the National Sleep Helpline and in 2022 was commissioned by the Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (NH8) to run a new Cheshire East sleep service for neurodiverse children and young people.





Portsmouth  
CITY COUNCIL



Portsmouth Leisure Card

With the half term holidays approaching, why not see if you or your family are entitled to a Portsmouth Leisure Card. which offers residents to discounts of **up to 50%** at Portsmouth City Council facilities as well as some other services and attractions.

The Leisure Card is **free** and is available to residents who receive **means-tested benefits** living within the **PO1 to PO6** areas of the city (*and some properties in PO7 qualify where these pay council tax to Portsmouth City Council*)

You can enjoy BH Live sports centres, swimming pools, golf, museums, city arts, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, Southsea Skatepark, the Andrew Simpson Centre as well as discount on beach hut rental and allotments. *Please note that discounts do vary, and a complete listing will be sent to you when you receive your Leisure Card.*

The Leisure Card is valid for 12 months and you can reapply when the card expires, if still eligible.

- **How to apply** :Visit the Portsmouth City Council website, search for Leisure Card and apply online [www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk) or you can also apply via your local library, community centre or housing office. (*Please bring along proof of benefits to be checked*)

If you have any questions, then please do call **02392 688797** or email  
**CulturalServices@portsmouthcc.gov.uk**

#### Eligible benefits.

- Universal credit
- Income support
- Income-based jobseeker's allowance (JSA)
- Income-related employment and support allowance (ESA)
- Working tax credit
- Housing benefit
- Council Tax Support (excludes statutory 25% single persons discount)
- Pension credit (guarantee credit element only)
- Foster carers with foster children (use the online application link and upload a signed letter from your supervising social worker as evidence)
- Children in Supported Accommodation – (children aged 16-18 cared for by PCC - validated by their social worker or sponsors letter)
- Asylum Seekers – Please note you will be asked to reference your Home Office number supplied by Portsmouth City of Sanctuary

