



# Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School

*We live our lives like Jesus*



Newsletter 6th September 2024

Welcome back! I hope you all had an enjoyable Summer building memories with family and friends. It has been wonderful seeing the lovely smiles and enthusiasm of the children as they return to school.

The children have come back to school looking super smart, with new uniform, fresh hair cuts and shiny shoes. Thank you for supporting children to look so smart at the start of this school year - children look ready to learn, are taking pride in themselves and it shows us they want to do their best.

The school is looking at its best; thank you to Mr Panalov and his site team for all their hard work completing the deep clean over the summer and all the staff for preparing their classrooms so effectively so they are positive and welcoming learning spaces for the children.

As we start the new school year we pray that the children can continue to make good progress with all their learning, developing in all areas and that we can all continue to grow and work together, remembering “We live our lives like Jesus.”

Each half term we will be introducing our Mission Values to the children helping them to reflect on the different ways we live out our Mission Statement. The values of respect and kindness will be the golden thread running throughout the year. Our Mission Values for this year are as follows:

Autumn 1—Aspirational and Positive

Autumn 2—Joyful and Generous

Spring 1—Resilient and Curious

Spring 2—Honest and Reflective

Summer 1—Faith in Action

Summer 2—Loving and Serving

## **Mass for the new school year:**

Wednesday 11th September at 1.35pm at Corpus Christi Church

- all families are welcome to join us



**Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School**

**Part of Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust**

Gladys Avenue. Portsmouth. PO2 9AX 02392661818

admin@corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk

www.corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk



## Welcome to the Corpus Christi Family

Along with a special welcome to our new YrR children and their families, we welcome all our new families and staff who have joined us at the start of this new year.

Miss N Fripp has joined us as the Inclusion Leader and will be the first point of contact for parents who have concerns about their child or their child has an additional needs. She can be contacted on [senco@corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:senco@corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk) or via the school office. Mrs Precious-Egere and Mrs Hassanna have joined our teaching team. Mrs Kirk will be our ELSA offering emotional support to the children and Ms Lyton, Ms Stephen, Ms Webb, Mrs Potter, Ms Andrewartha and Mrs Huntley have joined our team of classroom assistants.

Please remember we are all here to help, no question is too small so please do ask your child's class teacher, the office or myself if you have any questions or need support and advice.

### Meet 2 of our new staff:



Hello, my name is Miss Fripp, and I'm pleased to introduce myself as the new Inclusion Lead at Corpus Christi Primary School. I am an experienced teacher and am passionate about creating a learning environment where every child feels supported, nurtured and included. I'm

here to work closely with students, parents, and staff to ensure that every child's individual needs are met. Outside of school, I enjoy running, reading and travelling.

I'd love to meet you - please join me for an SEN Parent **Drop-in/Coffee Morning on Friday 25th October at 8.45am**. It will be a great opportunity to meet in-person and have a chat. Looking forward to seeing you there!

*My name is Mrs Kirk and I am the new ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) for the school. My role here at the school is to work with children to support them to manage their emotions, whether big or small, taking time out to listen to them and working with them to find coping mechanisms and resilience skills. I'm looking forward to meeting everyone as I begin my journey here.*



### Corpus Christi Mission Ambassador

Ivy, Year 4, baked, decorated and delivered a cake to Bucklands Soup Kitchen - the cake looks stunning and delicious and I'm sure much enjoyed by everyone.

We are impressed that Ivy put her time, talent and treasure into reaching out to others.

Well done Ivy.

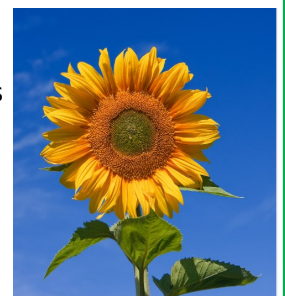
Please do send in examples of where your child/ren and family have gone above and beyond.



### Sunflowers

#### How tall is your sunflower?

The sunflower competition will finish today - please send photos and measurements to school. We are looking for the tallest sunflower, the widest sunflower and the most beautiful sunflowers.



## Behaviour Policy

*Instead, be kind to each other, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you. Ephesians 4: 32*

Over the next few weeks we will be reminding the children of our Positive Behaviour Policy, which can be found using this link <https://www.corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk/policies/>

Our policy aims to guide teachers, pupils and parents on our restorative and relationship focused approach to behaviour management. This will allow the pupils at Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School to enjoy a calm, safe and nurturing environment which will support every child both emotionally and educationally to give them the best possible chance of success. Everyone is expected to maintain the highest standards of personal conduct, to accept responsibility for their behaviour and encourage others to do the same. We have 3 simple rules that are consistently reinforced - Be Ready - Be Respectful - Be Safe which underpin our expectations and shape the conversations we will have when children don't quite meet our expectations.

We ask parents to support us with behaviour; when we contact you with a concern, please trust us - we will have looked into the situation and considered carefully what we hear. Likewise, if parents are concerned about an incident in school please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance and then to Miss Clark if you need to.

## School Uniform

As mentioned earlier, the children have returned to school looking smart. We have plenty of pre-loved uniform which has been washed and ready to be worn. Parents can take a look on Friday at the end of the day or ask at any time and we will aim to help.

We have noticed a number of children wearing polo type shirts rather than cotton shirts - we do expect children to wear a white shirt with a collar as in the picture with a tie and will be speaking to parents where a child is wearing a polo shirt.

PE kit is green t-shirt and black shorts/tracksuit.



## Scooters and Bikes

Scooters cannot be stored on the school site. If they are ridden to or from school, we will be asking parents to take them home. This is due to the number of scooters that were being brought to school where, removing them at the end of the day, was proving hazardous and dangerous. We also ask that pre-school children do not ride a scooter or balance bike to collect their older brother or sister.

Children in Yr5 and 6 may ride a bike to school and leave it here during the day once they have passed their cycle safety course. Children must wear a helmet if they are going to cycle to school.

No electric bikes or scooters can be brought into school.

## **Attendance and requests for time off during term time**

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many parents who ensure their children are in school on time every day, ready to learn and would only request time away from school for very exceptional circumstances.

At the beginning of another school year I would like to remind you about the legislation regarding parents requesting time out of school for their children. The legislation makes it clear that head teachers may **not** grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. It is extremely unlikely time out of school for a family holiday will be considered exceptional circumstances, even if the holiday is bought as a gift. It will be the same for requests for time out to spend time with visiting relatives or for birthday celebrations.

As a school we fully understand and support the government's drive to ensure pupils miss as little school time as possible. Parents who take their children out without permission may be liable to a financial penalty notice. I regularly monitor attendance and I write to the parents of any child who falls under 90% (which is the equivalent of a morning off each week). The government views anyone under such a figure as a persistent absentee and I have to follow it up.

I appreciate that common illnesses cannot be avoided and obviously if your child is too unwell to be in school they may need to miss school. When I monitor attendance, I do look at patterns of absences e.g. always on a Friday, at the beginning and end of the term etc. and will follow this up with families.

Please do check the dates for school holidays. These, along with our INSET days, are on our website and can also be found on the Portsmouth Council website too.

## **Penalty Notice Fines**

Please see below the latest guidance from the DfE. We think it important to share with families these changes to the fining.

### **How much could I be fined if my child misses school?**

In the majority of cases, schools and local authorities will try and provide support to help you improve your child's attendance first, but if this isn't effective or the absence is for unauthorised term time holiday, parents may face paying a fine. Currently, it's the responsibility of the local authority to decide when to issue fines to parents, meaning the process varies from council to council. However, under the new national framework, all schools will be required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons.

From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days. This rate is in line with inflation and is the first increase since 2012. In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160. Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered. If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500.

## School Lunches

All children in Year R , 1 and 2 are provided with a hot lunch every day.

School Lunch prices have increases to £2.68. for children in Years 3,4, 5 and 6 other than those entitled to the pupil premium grant.



## Nut Free School

Just a reminder that we remain a nut-free school due to serious allergies. Children in Years R, 1 and 2 are offered a piece of fruit each day. If KS2 children are bringing a break-time snacks these should be a healthier choices – fresh fruit and vegetables, bread sticks, raisins.... no crisps or chocolate please.

## Art Aprons

Our Art aprons are looking a little worse for wear! If anyone has any old T-shirts (Adult or age 11+) that would be suitable to use as aprons during the art lessons, please could they be donated to the school.

## Dog Free School

Dogs should not be brought onto the school site. This includes dogs which are carried or on a lead. Only assistant dogs are allowed on the school site. Please do not bring your dog, no matter how lovely they are, on the school site.



## Hot drinks

When parents/carers or adults are on the school site, with hot drinks, these must be in a sealed covered cup to prevent scolding. This means that the lid must be secured either through being screw topped or sealable. Costa and Starbucks cups can be flimsy and we ask that these types of cups containing hot liquids are not brought onto the school site.



## Mobile Free School

At pick up and drop off, please can we ask that mobile devices are put away and parents are not on calls. At the end of the day, children will want to tell you about their day and do need your support and attention. It is also supporting our safeguarding policies. Thank you.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2024/25:


Applications will start on Sunday 8th of September and the closing date is on Thursday 19th of September 2024. The first parents' evening will be on Thursday 26th of September 2024 at Corpus Christi Hall and the enrolment mass is on Sunday 13th of October 2024. You can get the application form at the back of the church or at the school office.

## 2024-2025

Wednesday 11th September	1.35pm Mass for the Beginning of the School Year
Tuesday 1st October	2.30pm MHST Workshop
Friday 25th October	8.45/9am 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
Monday 25th November	INSET Day - school closed for all children
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

**This year we will not be having a weekly Celebration Assembly on Friday but parents are warmly welcomed to join us for Mass and Liturgies.**

## PE Days – Autumn Term

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