



Christ Church School, Hampstead

A village school in London inspiring *life in all its fullness*

Christchurch Hill, Hampstead, NW3 1JH
admin@cchurchnw3.camden.sch.uk

020 7435 1361
www.christchurchschool.co.uk

March 2021
Newsletter 7

Amazing learning at home
and preparing to return
to school!



Dear parents and carers,

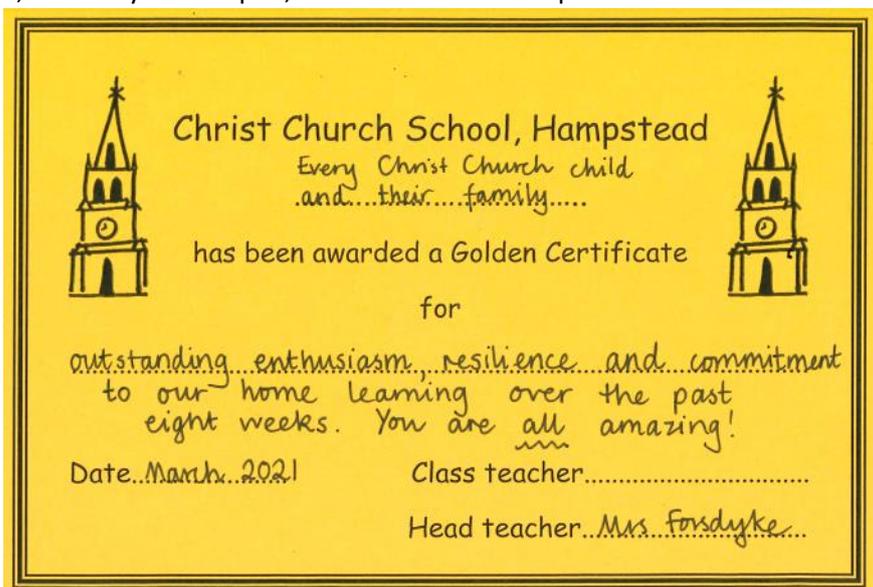
It is wonderful that we are now preparing to welcome all children back to school on 8th March – it will be super for children and staff to get back into classrooms and the playground and away from their screens.

We want to focus on supporting children to build back their friendships and games in the playground and their good learning habits in the classroom. Children are resilient and have constantly shown us over the last year how quickly they can adapt to changes and different ways of working, so I have no doubt they will quickly fit back into school and classroom life. However, we will be ready to support any children or families who find the return to school more tricky, so please let me or class teachers know if you have any concerns at all.

As one of their final home learning activities, teachers are going to ask children to review the time they have spent learning at home: the skills they have developed, how they have coped, what and who has helped them and what makes them feel most proud. The independence, resilience, ability to problem solve and, undoubtedly, the tech skills which many, many children of all ages have developed should be celebrated and continued as we return to school. Let's all try to take some positives from the last few months, too!

This newsletter celebrates lots of the fantastic learning which has taken place at home over the last half term – **thank you** to children, parents, family members and staff for their tremendous efforts during this period.

With best wishes and many thanks for your ongoing support,
Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher



Reminders for the return to school

In line with the latest government guidance, we are continuing with the same routines as before Christmas to help keep everyone safe at school whilst, at the same time, making sure school is as 'normal' as it possibly can be for the children.

These are the key reminders about our systems which were working well last term:

- Please **do not** send your child to school if they (or anyone in your household) has any COVID-19 symptoms. These are a high temperature, a new cough or a loss/change in sense of taste or smell. If your child has symptoms, please keep them at home, inform school and book a COVID test.
- We continue to keep children in class 'bubbles' with no mixing between classes or joint activities. The classes will continue to work with their consistent class adults, with any adults who work between classes keeping at a distance. Our staggered start, end, lunch and break times help to keep the classes as separate as possible.
- We continue with our regular handwashing, enhanced cleaning and ventilation and very limited visitors in school.
- In the event of a class closure because of a positive COVID test result, we would inform parents by email and then provide home learning for the period of self-isolation. We will also continue to provide home learning activities for any children who are self-isolating because of a contact outside school, though this will be more limited than current provision.
- **Punctuality is still important, please!** Although we are a little bit more relaxed about the start times at the moment to ensure distancing, please do still make an effort to be on time. Reception, Y2, Y3 and Y6 start learning at 8.40 and Y1, Y4 and Y5 at 8.50am.
- Please be patient and keep your distance from other parents/carers at drop off and pick up and please wear a face covering to protect others at these busier times. Please pass on this reminder to other carers who pick up or drop off your child.

Dates

March

Thursday 4th - World Book Day – home learning activities focused on reading and books

Monday 8th – return to school for all classes

Week beginning 22nd March – Parents evenings: times and details to be confirmed nearer the time

April

Thursday 1st
– Reception, Y2, Y3 and Y6 - collected for the end of term at 11.45am
– Y1, Y4 and Y5 (plus siblings from the other classes) – collected for the end of term at 11.55am

Monday 19th – Summer term starts

Message from the Friends Association: We are looking for a new team to lead “The Friends of Christ Church School”

In April, it will be two years that we have been running the Friends, so it’s time for a new team to take over! This is a really exciting opportunity to get involved in the school community, gain or build on experience with fundraising, community building, organising events and communications. The current team will remain at the school, so we are happy to provide advice and support if needed. Whilst we can’t run live events at the moment, it won’t be long before we can enjoy fairs, discos and cake sales again!

Do send us a message on Classlist, or email friendsofcschool@gmail.com if you want to find out more! With all our best wishes, Isabel, Charlotte, Alex and Daniel

Thank you very much to the current Friends team for all their hard work, energy and support of the school – please think about supporting the Friends Association if you can.

PSHE week – keeping healthy and safe

Every class took part in a wide range of activities for our PSHE week before half term. It was wonderful to see everyone’s support for our whole school zoom ‘Wake and Shake’ sessions and for our Christ Church cook along – those stuffed peppers were delicious! Children learnt all about a range of safety and healthy living topics including input from St John Ambulance, the Canal and River trust and the Dogs Trust and everyone learnt about the importance of sleep. A special thank you to the two parents who are doctors who found time in their very busy lives to film videos for classes to learn about hygiene, vaccines, viruses and medicines.



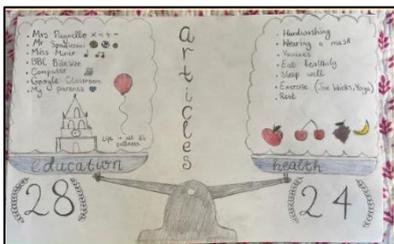
Online safety and digital citizenship day



There was lots of great learning on our online safety day, too, including creating treasure chests of behaviours that we value on and off line, as well finding out about strategies to use to discover if online information is trustworthy.



Balancing children’s rights



Children in KS2 recently thought about how their right to an education (Article 28 in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child) and their right to health (Article 24) have had to be balanced in recent months. They thought carefully about their rights and how sometimes the duty bearers (government, schools, etc) around them have to make difficult decisions.



Rights Respecting Schools – Article of the month

To remind parents and pupils that we are a UNICEF Rights Respecting School we are including a different article from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in each month’s newsletter.

Article 23 A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families. **(All children recently learnt about Article 23 as part of home learning.)**

Information and reminders

Parent workshops and well-being support

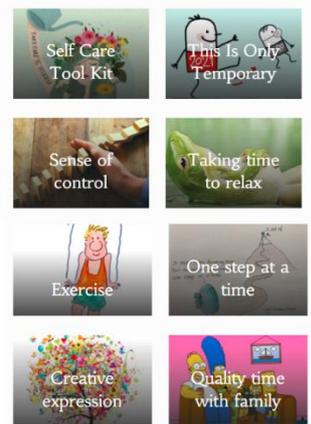
Thank you to parents who attended our well-being or online safety workshops last half term. We received plenty of positive feedback about them and the slides and notes from many of our parent workshops are available on our website.

<https://christchurchschool.co.uk/parents/parent-workshops/>

Attached with this newsletter is information about the next set of parent well-being workshops run by Camden’s mental health support team.

We are also regularly adding to our simple well-being tips on the website – they are well worth a look!

<https://christchurchschool.co.uk/wellbeing-tips/>



Eligibility for Free School Meals – have your circumstances changed?

Families whose children are eligible for free school meals have continued to receive support while schools are closed, in the form of weekly e-vouchers for food shopping. New applications for free school meals can also still be made. If your circumstances have changed, for example if you are now claiming benefits of some kind, please contact the school office by email and Mrs Connock will be able to explain how to apply.