



## Christchurch Infant School

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Headteacher: Mr D Baxter



SUMMER 1 NEWSLETTER

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well done to all of you who could scoot, cycle or walk to school recently and claim your badges. Despite the cooler weather we have recently experienced, it is great that many children have been enjoying more fresh air and exercise on the way to and from school.

We have recently seen further easing of Covid restrictions and as part of this we have been considering what this means for our school and the changes that we will make. As part of our risk assessment, for the rest of this academic year, we will continue to maintain important cleanliness routines and have staggered drop off and pick up times.



After half term, Year 1 and 2 will be able to play together and therefore the larger play equipment will be available to use.

There are other things that have also worked really well, and we will be letting you know at the end of the year how our "new normal" will look in September.

### Curriculum News

#### EYFS

Mad about Minibeasts!



Children in Early Years have had a super half term learning all about minibeasts. Each class received a special delivery of caterpillars; the children loved watching them eat, grow and transform into butterflies over the weeks. The children have used 'talk for writing' language and actions to perform stories such as 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'Superworm' and have also been creating their own minibeast riddles to try and guess each other's chosen minibeast. Outside, they have been going on lots of minibeast hunts and exploring the school's Science Garden to spot the minibeasts.



## Year 1



This half term Year 1 have been learning about plants, flowers and trees in their topic 'Jasper's Garden'. The topic started with a WOW day where a cheeky cat named Jasper left the children a mystery packet of seeds and asked them to plant them for him. In Science we have learnt about wild flowers, garden flowers, trees and what flowers need to grow, as well as keeping a bean diary and monitoring the growth of our beans. In Art we have been looking at

Vincent Van Gogh's sunflower painting and created our own version as well as having a visit from Abi at 'Wave Arts' who helped us make our own flower collages. What a busy half term!



## Year 2



Wow, what an exciting half term year 2 have had! It started with a visit to the Space Dome planetarium which was set up in the hall. This was great fun and very informative. Then, after learning all about the space race and the moon landing we re-enacted this amazing day with the children in role as



astronauts, scientists, reporters, family members and even a president. The children have really learnt a lot about Space this half term and have written a fact sheet, a newspaper report, space poetry and a super space story as well as comparing the life and careers of Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake. Finally, they all took part in a Space Day which involved themed maths, science, PE, and tasting space food.



Please see our class Blogs for more photos and details about the learning experiences in your child's class.

## Free Writing Friday Update



Last Friday a mystery door appeared in the Science garden. Where had it come from? Nobody knew! Each class went out to inspect the door carefully for clues as to where it might lead to. This led on to a Free Writing Friday session, where the children chose to write in a variety of different genres including: fantasy stories, poems and even songs about the mystery door. There were some fantastic ideas, take a look at our school blog for more information! 😊



## OTHER NEWS...



On Friday 30th April all children were invited to take part in our Captain Tom 100 maths challenge to raise money for The Captain Tom Foundation. Each year group were given a different maths challenge based around the number 100. Thank you to the children who took part. We hope you had lots of fun raising money for this worthy cause.

Captain Tom's simple message of hope – “Tomorrow will be a good day” – inspired millions around the world and brought comfort and joy to so many during the pandemic. The Captain Tom Foundation is raising money to support causes including combating loneliness, championing education and equality, and continuing support for the NHS.

<https://www.christchurchinf.dorset.sch.uk/mathematics>

## Academic Year 2021 – 2022

During the Easter holidays parents were notified of their children's school places for Reception and Year 3 for September 2021. The current Year 2 children will attend an assembly on 15<sup>th</sup> June with the Year 3 Leader at Christchurch Junior School.

The official transition day for all children moving to Year 3 is 29<sup>th</sup> June. On this day children in current EYFS and Year 1 classes will also be spending time with new teachers. As per our Class Structure Policy, class teachers have discussed pupils in each class, reporting their observations for class mixing. Before transfer day, new class lists will be communicated to parents and children as part of the end of year arrangements.

For more information about the rationale behind class mixing from Year 1 to 2, please see the policy on our website: <https://www.christchurchinf.dorset.sch.uk/school-policies>

## Sports Days

**We intend to run our Sports Days on the following dates:**

Monday PM July 12<sup>th</sup> (EYFS),  
Tuesday PM July 13<sup>th</sup> (Year 2),  
Wednesday PM July 14<sup>th</sup> (Year 1)



Whilst we would like to encourage parents to attend these events, we have been advised by the BCP Local Education Authority that parental involvement at these events is to be confirmed nearer the time due to use of private land (CJS field) and the careful reduction in social distancing. As soon as we know more we will of course update you.

## Open Evening

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July we will be hosting our Open Evening. This is an opportunity for parents to visit classes to see the work produced over the school year. It is also a chance for parents to meet the 'new teacher' prior to the start of the next academic year. Whilst we are hopeful this can take place, please be aware that we are at the mercy of the Department for Education should any rules change regarding the gathering of adults.

## PTFA

Here are the planned PTFA events and dates for this summer:

- Your School Lottery - first draw **Saturday 29th May**
- Design a garden competition - over half term. Deadline for entries **Monday 7th June.**
- Bags2School - donations to be dropped off at CJS **Friday 18th June pick up and Monday 21st June drop off.** Being collected 21st June 9am.
- Ice lollies - hopefully we can sell on Fridays after **21st June.**
- Mufti day - **Friday 25th June.** Colours theme.
- Summer raffle - draw on **Friday 16th July.** Tickets on sale for 1-2 weeks prior.

<https://www.facebook.com/CISPTFA>



Dates for your diary (cut out and keep)

Christchurch Infant School INSET dates:

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021**

**INSET Dates for 2021 – 2022**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022**

Kindest regards, Mr Baxter