



ST CHRISTOPHER'S INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal's eNews

Term 3 Issue 1 | 25th April 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 3. Not the start that any of us wanted, and now that the MCO has been extended again to 12th May, our home learning programme will be key to ensuring that the children are supported in their learning.

Although only a week back, it has been wonderful to see the huge engagement on the home learning from the children, through the submission of their core work, as well as going online and participating in the conferences. Thank you, parents, for supporting this, which I understand can often be difficult. We will continue to address your concerns and provide additional support where needed. Below Adam and Sarah have written a message about the learning in their phases.

In order to help keep you informed, we will begin to send out individual emails, if students either haven't completed the work, or it isn't up to the expected standard for them. This is just to help you be aware and together we can help the children to develop the skills of independence, resilience and adaptability that are so needed in these times.

Book Day

On Thursday 23rd April we celebrated World Book and Copyright Day. Whilst we would have loved to have celebrated this with our costumes and activities in school, an online storytelling marathon was enough to sate our appetites for reading. With a total of 24 different reading times, 11 different storytellers and over 30 different stories shared; there was an average of 40 children in each session. A truly eclectic mix of stories were available to listen to and with Donaldson and Dahl making repeat occurrences, I am sure that there have been a few Gruffalos, Unicorns, Witches and Foxes in the children's dreams over the past few nights!

Whilst we hope it has enthused your children to pick up a book and do some more reading at home, we hope to be able to celebrate the day properly when we return to school. Thank you to the English team for their efforts to organise the day.

Message from Sarah Green - Head of Juniors

This week we have launched our new learning. This has been designed to introduce the students to new topics and develop them further as we would have done if we were in school. This has been very successful with most classes seeing a 90% return of all the assigned tasks on time. The teachers are reporting that the children are enthusiastic about this change, are handing in more detailed work and through feedback are adapting their work and making improvements. This is exactly what we wanted to see and is as close to our model of 'normal' school as we could get in these unusual times.

We would encourage those students who have finished their core learning assignments to move on to the core tasks on the learning boards. If they have additional time to fill, the extension and enrichment tasks are there to deepen their understanding of previous topics and to widen the curriculum.

Message from Adam Jones - Head of Early Years and Infants

It has been fantastic to see such a positive response to the new online learning in the Early Years and Infants. Our youngest learners in Nursery and Reception are still benefiting from parent support to come online and join in with



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the class conferences. Please continue to support your child where needed and encouraging them to be brave, and share their ideas.

For our older learners in Year 1 and Year 2, it has been great to see their independence coming through during the conferences. You can help your child by preparing them to talk about their work and reminding them that it is OK to make mistakes. As we all know, mistakes are how we learn and we do not expect all work to be handed in 100% correct.

Finally, next week you will receive a weekly core Phonics Board with 4 phonics activities to work through at your leisure. As with all core learning tasks, do what you can and try not to worry if your child has a day where they are 'not in the mood' - we all have those days.

Public Holidays

Over the next two weeks, there will be two Public Holidays. **Labour Day Friday 1st May** and **Wesak Day Thursday 7th May**. The school will be closed on those days and so no online conferencing will take place. However, the teachers will still post activities, which are optional for the children.

Stay Safe - Stay Positive - Stay Connected

Enjoy your weekend

Martin Towse