

CJS NEWS

Weekly news from Christchurch Junior School

Issue 7—Thursday 22 October 2020



THE BEST FOR ALL—THE BEST FROM ALL

Dear Parents / Carers

Well done—you made it! For the vast majority of our pupils, they had hardly stepped foot in a classroom for more than five months before returning in September. It has been wonderful having everyone back in school. From those first, tentative steps into our new systems and procedures, your children have grown in confidence and enjoyed learning with their peers again and re-igniting their friendships.

Please stay as safe as possible over the half-term holiday and then return your children to us, refreshed and energetic, for what will be a busy and exciting period in school. I believe most of us are well and truly shattered, so make sure you build in plenty of time to relax and enjoy spending time together.

Many thanks

S.R. Fuller

ATTENDANCE RACE

This week our whole school attendance is 97.0%.

The winners of the attendance race for last week are:

Year 3	3BB	97.4%	
Year 4	4SF	99.3%	
Year 5	5GW	100%	🌟🌟🌟
Year 6	6JW	100%	🌟🌟🌟

CHRISTCHURCH FOOD BANK HARVEST FESTIVAL COLLECTION

What an incredible effort our community has made in collecting food for Christchurch Food Bank! Here is our harvest. This collection does not need to end here; please choose to start a new habit, by adding an extra item to your weekly shop and dropping at the collection point in each local supermarket.



Our School Council are pictured with the donations. They have recently been democratically voted in by their classmates and will now begin to have a positive impact on our school. Congratulations to them all.

YEAR 3 VISIT TO THE ANCIENT TECHNOLOGY CENTRE IN CRANBORNE

A massive 'thank you' to our Year 3 staff and the parents who supported us in taking our Year 3 children on a trip to Cranborne that they will always remember. The children had a fabulous time developing their historical understanding of life from the Stone Age onwards. They daubed walls, weaved sticks and forged an iron knife! Brilliant fun was had by all and the children's behaviour was excellent.



HARRISONS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We can confirm that Harrisons Christmas Lunch will take place over two days:-

Wednesday 9 December 2020 Year 3 & 4 only

Thursday 10 December 2020 Year 5 & 6 only

Please ensure you book on the correct day for your child and you provide a packed lunch for the day your child's year group is not having their Christmas lunch.

If you are entitled to free school meals, there will be an option to book a packed lunch on the day your child is not due to have their Christmas lunch.

The rest of the week will follow the standard menu choices.

PARENTS' CONSULTATIONS

Parents' Consultations have now passed and we hope that you found the new system easy to use and that the consultation with your child's class teacher was helpful. 88% of parents booked appointments by 3pm on Monday 19 October and 401 parents attended. We thank you for trying the new system and persevering whilst we try and find new ways to connect with you.

It has good to have feedback from a range of parents and staff. Many people have commented positively about not needing to queue up and that the appointments did not overrun! Additionally, for parents, meeting from the comfort of home was ideal, alongside being able to simultaneously feed the children! While for some, six minutes with the teacher did not feel like long enough, I was eager to consider staff wellbeing: sitting in front of a screen for hours is not easy. Always remember though, the staff at CJS will give you the time you need and will catch up over the phone or through Class Dojo if there are items you wish to discuss.

CAR PARKING

A reminder to parents that our school car park is only for school transport vehicles, staff cars and blue badge holders (badges must be clearly displayed). Please respect this and find alternative parking arrangements, for the safety of our children. Please can we ask that at the end of the day children use the pavements rather than walking through the car park.

POPPY APPEAL

This week parents will have received a poster with information on how to donate to the Poppy Appeal and a colour in Poppy for children to display at home. From Monday 2 November, we will be selling poppies and related items in school, and each class will have their own box of merchandise. If your child would like to purchase a poppy, please allow them to bring in some money as a donation. All donations support the Royal British Legion to help provide life-long support to our Armed Forces Community.

LEGO CARDS

We know that many children will be collecting Lego cards, however, please can we ask that they are not brought to school and shared/swapped between children.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Your children have now accessed Google Classroom in school and are developing their understanding of the platform. This will support us in delivering online learning, which will be especially important if children need to learn at home at some point in the future. Your child can log into this system at home using their unique username and password. If you have another Google account, you may need to log out of this before your children can access theirs.

NON-UNIFORM DAY—BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

A reminder that on Thursday 5th November, we invite children to come to school in their casual clothes. Our theme is BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN and we want children to wear their brightest clothing! We will remind your children of the importance of Road Safety as the evenings and mornings are getting darker. This will cost £1 and all money will go towards our fitness equipment on the school field!

PARENT GOVERNORS

We are pleased to announce our new parent governor, Carina Gordon. Carina is a former Christchurch Junior School pupil and now has a child in Year 4 with us and one at Christchurch Infant School. She is currently studying at home and has a degree in Social Work & Working with Children. We look forward to welcoming Carina to the team.

We are still seeking one new parent governor. Please see the original emails for further details. Being a school governor is a rewarding experience, and we appreciate the effort these volunteers give to supporting and challenging CJS. While this position is open to all, we would certainly find it beneficial to have a new governor with a background in education, safeguarding and special educational needs/disabilities, as this knowledge would particularly complement the skills of our existing members.

FLU JABS

Flu jabs are planned to take place the first week of December. When we have information from the School Nursing Team, we will send this on to parents.

LOST JUMPERS & CARDIGANS

We have had reports of a lot of jumpers and cardigans going missing. Please can we ask that all parents check their child's uniform to ensure that they have not brought home the wrong item of clothing. Please do not forget to clearly name all items of school uniform. This will help with returning any school uniform that ends up in lost property.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES 2020—2021 (correct at time of going to print)

Friday 23 October	INSET day
Monday 25 October — Friday 30 October	Half Term
Thursday 5 November	Non-uniform day—Theme: Be bright, be seen