



Christ Church Primary School



Together we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us



We hope you have had a lovely summer break and are ready for the start of term. Please find a few updates and reminders:

- Changes to the end of the school day
- Gates for different year groups
- Summer building works
- RAAC

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to begin another year at Christ Church and are looking forward to welcoming you and your children back to school on Tuesday 5th September or for our F2 pupils, Wednesday 6th.

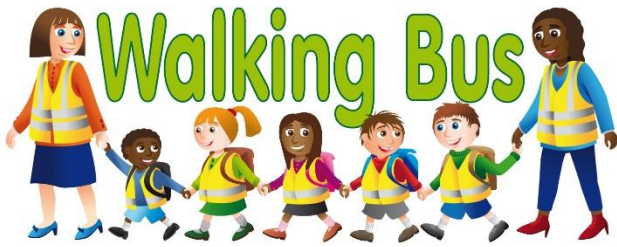
We hope you have all had a great summer holiday (despite the rainy weather!) and that your children are feeling positive about the year ahead. Remind them of the fun they will have seeing their friends again and how much their teachers are looking forward to seeing them.

You may remember that we advised families in the summer that **all pupils will now end their school day at 3.30pm**, in line with the Government's requirement for primary school hours. Morning routines will not change and we will continue with our ready to learn open classrooms from 8.45am with all children expected to be in school by 8.55am when registration begins.

We realise that changes may cause increased congestion in the afternoons, so have arranged for parents to be able to collect pupils from teachers in the following areas. This will also give families the opportunity to chat with teaching staff at the end of the school day.

<u>Year</u>	<u>In Between 8:45 – 8.55am via:</u>	<u>Out 3:30pm</u>
F1	Grey gate to the F1 gate at 9am	Grey gate to the F1 gate
F2	Grey gate to the F2 door	Grey gate to the EY wooden gate
Y1	Up the driveway and across back playground to the classroom door	Driveway – parents can wait on the playground by the classroom door
Y2	Green gate – children cross the path to waiting member of staff	Green gate – parents wait on the astro and teachers will bring children out
Y3	Up the Driveway and across back playground to the classroom door	Driveway - parents can wait on the playground by the classroom door
Y4	Up the Driveway and across back playground to the classroom door	Driveway – parents can wait on the playground by the classroom door
Y5	Green gate – children will enter via the main front doors and go up the corridor	Green gate - parents wait on the astro and teachers will bring children out
Y6	C13 – Green gate and straight in to the annex C14 – Grey gate and straight in to the annex	C13 dismissed from their class by Mrs Lakin by the green gate. C14 - dismissed from their class by Miss Cooper by the grey gate

****If you have more than one child at school, please wait where the youngest child is dismissed and we will bring your older children to you!***



We will be offering a '**walking bus**' from 11th September. This is where staff will put hi-vis jackets on children who have been booked onto the walking bus and will walk them to the Parish Centre where they will be handed to parents who can choose to wait there to reduce school traffic. Details of how to book the walking bus will be sent out during the week.

Summer Works

Our super premises team have been hard at work throughout the holidays; our Site Manager, Mr Rodway has refurbished the toilet cubicles in Years 1 and 2 so they are much more pleasant and easier to clean. He has also worked with contactors to replace suspended ceilings and lighting in Pre-school and Nurture.

The hall floor was bubbling and we have had the full floor removed. The drying out process from previous damp is still underway and we will not be using the hall for the first two to three weeks until the new floor is installed. This will mean some slight changes, but as we have such a large site, we are able to use different spaces so children can access their usual provision. It will mean some year groups have lunches in their classrooms until the hall is completed.

The Annex has been painted and refreshed by Mr Smith and it is looking a much brighter space to welcome our new year sixes.

We have used a government energy grant to replace existing school lighting with LED lights which provide a much better light source and are energy efficient. The large infant classes with suspended ceilings have not yet been done and are next on the list, as we will use the savings from the lights replaced throughout all other areas of the school to refurbish the suspended ceilings in the future.

Our premises team have worked hard to thoroughly clean every area of the school ready to welcome children to their learning environments. I am so grateful to all those staff who have been busily working through the holidays to look after our school – they do such a great job for us!

RAAC - Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. The Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in affected spaces are required to be vacated.

We appreciate the concern this will raise, and we will always prioritise the safety of your children and our staff.



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I am pleased to report that we do not have any confirmed RAAC in our buildings and have not been asked to close any areas. However, we want to take care and to be sure, and are currently working with CDAT and our building consultants to make sure RAAC has not been used in the construction of any part of our buildings.

The change in guidance is precautionary in nature, and only affects education premises where the presence of RAAC has been confirmed.

I hope that this offers reassurance and will keep you up to date with any further information.



Office is open!

Our office staff will be in staff meetings until 11.30am on Monday and will then be available to respond to any queries after this time. If you would like to speak with someone, please send an email or call us and we will get in touch as soon as possible.

We can't wait to see you all – we have a rota of senior staff manning each gate area mornings and afternoons so please give us a wave and come for a chat to start 2023 together!

Yours sincerely,

Amanda Donelan

Headteacher

