

Charlton Kings Infants' School

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Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to a new school year at CKIS. Welcome back to our Year 1 and 2 children and families and a warm welcome to our school for those children and their families who are joining us in Reception. We hope that you and your families have enjoyed a relaxing break and that you have had the chance to re-charge the batteries ready for another exciting school year. I continue to welcome the opportunity for us to meet regularly, either out on the playground in the mornings or after school and during planned events. In our strive to ensure that CKIS is an outstanding learning environment for all, I continue to welcome your views on what is going well and your thoughts on what we could do even better. We have a number of planned events during the next term when we can meet together, the first being at our MacMillan coffee morning on Wednesday 25th September 9.00-10.00 in the school hall. Please do ensure that you look at our **new** school website <https://www.ckis.org.uk/> regularly as all planned events are detailed on our school calendar. We will also continue to publish a regular newsletter which will be emailed to all and available on our website at the end of each term (six times a year).

Staff news:

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Wynn to Blue Class as Teaching Partner during Mrs Matthew's maternity leave. We are delighted to announce that Mrs Matthews safely delivered a baby boy named Freddie during the holidays. We also welcome Miss Carter who will be joining the Kindergarten team and Mrs Wilkinson-White who will be working across EYFS and Key Stage 1 to support teaching and learning. Mrs Coulthard has been a regular supply teacher here at CKIS for a number of years and we welcome her to the Y2 team during this year. As you will be aware, Mr Owens has begun his secondment at Kingsway Primary School, working in partnership with CKJS to support teaching and learning at the school during this next academic year. Here's how our school is set up for the new school year:



Team:	Lead Practitioner:	Key person and Teaching Partners:
Kindergarten	Mrs Howie	Mrs Tacey, Mrs Russell, Mrs Coombe, Mrs Manocha, Mrs Ertughrul, Miss Carter
	Class teacher:	Teaching Partners:
Reception	Mrs Price and Miss Weyman (Yellow class) Mrs Jones and Mrs Taylor (Red class) Miss Muskett (Blue class)	Mr Mason Mrs Ralph Mrs Wynn Mrs Wilkinson-White
Year 1	Mrs Parsons and Mrs Morgan (Orange class) Mrs Tyler and Mrs Fox (Purple class) Miss Smart (Green class)	Mrs Nevin Mrs Glendon Mrs Pritchard and Mrs Driscoll
Year 2	Mrs Koller and Mrs Turner (Indigo class) Mrs Hunt and Mrs Coulthard (Violet class) Miss Moss (Magenta class)	Mrs Jeffree Mrs Herbert and Mrs Angrave Mrs Simpkin and Mrs Miller Mrs Wilkinson-White
MDSAs	Supervisors:	MDSAs
	Mrs Ertughrul and Mrs Patil (indoors) Mrs Angrave (outdoors)	Mrs Evans + identified Teaching Partners
Administration	School Business Manager:	Administration team:
	Mrs Marquess	Mrs Storey – Receptionist/Admin M-W Mrs Sales – Receptionist/Admin Th-F Miss Scrivin – Finance Administrator
	Caretaker:	
	Mr Jeffree	

Key developments over the Summer holidays and planned developments this term:

The Summer holidays have been busy for many staff here at CKIS, particularly our School Business Manager and Caretaker! We have made significant developments to the outdoor area adjacent to the Reception classrooms with the removal of old and broken equipment and the laying of a new 'ecomulch' floored area. This allows us to have more flexibility regarding the use of the space and will also mean that these areas can be used to provide increased activity and learning opportunities at playtime for Y2 children and lunchtimes for all. We would like to thank the PFA for their support in funding part of this development.



We were also lucky to have a team of volunteers, led by Mr Samm (Isla and Ava's daddy) from Farncombe Estates who gave up a day of work to come and paint our reception area and offices in the Y2 building. They worked tirelessly all day and did a wonderful job. We would like to thank them for all their hard work and support. I am aware that a number of parents offered to come in to school to support painting and would like to thank them for their offer. Whilst we did not need you on this occasion, we will definitely be calling on your ongoing support in the future. With the ongoing reduction in school budgets, we are always grateful for any support such as this as it means that we can target a greater percentage of our budgets on teaching and learning.



Following the flood that we had in the Y2 block at the beginning of July, we have been busy during the holidays replacing the school server (which was destroyed) and replacing the beautiful parquet flooring in Violet class. Unfortunately, due to the length of drying time needed, we were not ready to open Violet class on the first day back to school. The new parquet flooring is being laid as I write and we are hoping to be 'back to normal' from Monday 9th September!! We do however have beautiful new carpet in the corridor leading to Violet and Indigo classes and in our offices.

We are also excited to announce the launch of our new website – www.ckis.org.uk On here you will be able find out about what is happening at the school and keep up to date with what the children will be up to. We hope you will find it a useful resource.

Vision, values and school Learning Characteristics: 'RESPECT'

As a school, we are proud of each and every one of our school community and the role that they have to play in making this the special place that it is. As such, we have high expectations of everyone, our children, staff and community. We have clear rules and expectations regarding how we should behave and act towards others and out environment. Our school values continue to be:

- C**hildren and community at the centre
- K**indness and consideration for all
- I**nspirational learning that challenges and excites
- S**triving to reach our true potential

This year we are introducing 'RESPECT' throughout the school through characters that the children will come to learn and associate with. The characters will highlight the learning behaviours we are all encouraging and looking for throughout our day to day activities and learning opportunities in school:

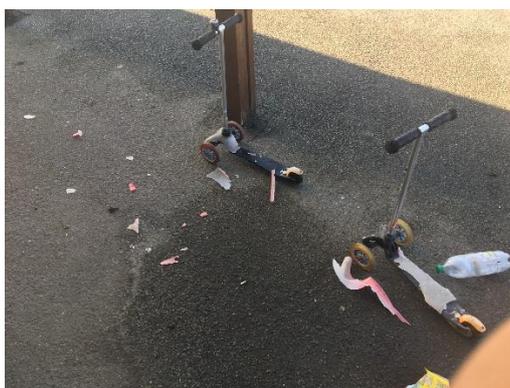
- R** Resilience
- E** Empathy
- S** Self-awareness

P Passion
E Excellence
C Communication
T Team work

This term our school value is Community and 'belonging'. We will also be focusing on developing children's resilience and self-awareness (developing skills such as self-confidence, self-discipline, honesty and adaptability). We will acknowledge those children who have demonstrated this value and learning behaviours during our weekly Friday assembly by adding their names to our Golden book and sharing their achievements with the whole school. We will also update our school website to ensure that you are aware of these achievements.

School environment

Unfortunately, we have had a number of incidents of vandalism during the school holidays which has resulted in minor damage to our exterior resources. Can I please remind everyone to remove bikes and scooters from the school premises at the end of the day as we had a small number left here during the holidays on the fencing. Unfortunately, these were 'played with' by those who were trespassing on our property and were broken as a direct result. We are currently looking into funding to install both new perimeter fencing, a new front gate and CCTV. Hopefully this will deter further unwanted guests from trespassing on the school property. Please could I ask that any neighbours keep an eye out for unwanted guests during the evenings, weekends and holiday periods and report any incidents to the police by calling 101.



Attendance:

- Thank you for ensuring that your child arrives to school on time and lines-up promptly at 8.50am with their friends and teacher. This ensures that your child is settled and ready for their key early morning learning activities.
- Please can I remind you to inform the school office on the first morning of any absence. If we haven't heard anything from you by 10.30 am, as is our practice, we will contact you.
- Regular attendance at school is vital to support your child's emotional well-being and learning. Please can I therefore remind you that requests for absence from school will only be granted in **exceptional circumstances**. It will not be granted for odd days attached to weekends or for special birthday treats. Any requests for absence should therefore be made in writing to myself outlining the exceptional circumstances surrounding the request.

Free school meals:

As all children within the school are entitled to universal free school meals (UFSM), we are aware that some children may be missing out on additional funding despite

their eligibility for free school meals. Families who are in receipt of one or more of the following are entitled to free school meals, and by registering, unlock vital funding that the school can use to support their child:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Applying for Free School Meals – Parents/carers can register for free school meals by completing a short online form using the web address:

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Kids Club – additional provision available:

We are delighted that our Kids Club (Breakfast and After School) provision continues to grow. We continue to be very busy, but if you would like to book ad-hoc days, we may be able to meet your request if given enough notice (as much as possible please). If you would like more information about Kids Club provision and costs, please look on our website or email; ckkc@ckis.org.uk.

Communication:

In order to reduce paperwork and as an 'Eco school', we continue to use our text, email and school app service as our key form of communication with you. Please can I remind you to ensure that the contact details that we hold for you are up to date so that we are able to maintain our effective communication with you. If you experience any difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Celebrations and family assemblies:

We have decided to reduce the number of class assemblies during the year as we have a number of additional opportunities planned throughout the year to celebrate and perform. Class assemblies will continue to be on a Thursday with Y1 and Y2 class assemblies in terms 3 & 4, and YR in terms 5 & 6. We will have the following opportunities during the year for you to watch your children perform and share their learning with you:

	Sept - Dec	Jan - March	April- July
Year R	Parent workshops Harvest Festival YR Nativity performances Festive Friday event - open classroom	Parent workshops Easter event – open classroom	Parent workshops Class Assemblies End of year celebration – open classroom event
Year 1	Parent workshops KS1 Carol Service Festive Friday event - open classroom	Parent workshops Easter event – open classroom Class Assemblies	Parent workshops End of year celebration - open classroom event
Year 2	Parent workshops KS1 Carol Service	Parent workshops Easter event – open	Parent workshops End of year

	Festive Friday event - open classroom	classroom Class Assemblies	celebration - open classroom event End of year production
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We have continued to receive positive feedback regarding our open classrooms which we are renaming this year as parent workshops. We will continue to run workshops for parents and carers three times a year, these will be opportunities to come and work with your child in class and gain information from teachers regarding teaching and learning based on a focus area of the curriculum. YR parents will have the opportunity to attend specific workshops on 'Phonics' (linked to Reading and Writing) and 'Maths' during the week beginning 16th September. For Y1 and Y2 parents, the first 'parent workshop' event will be held on Wednesday 9th October 2.30pm or Thursday 10th October 9am and parents will be able to book on to either session online nearer the time. We will also continue to offer opportunities for you to come into school just before the end of the day and/or after the school day for an open classroom event so that your child can share their learning with you regularly during the year (Festive Friday – 13th December, Easter event and end of year celebration – Dates to be confirmed).

Last year we held a wonderful whole school 'Harvest Festival' at St Mary's church. This is a lovely opportunity for the whole school to be together and celebrate the joys of Autumn. In order to ensure that our children have space to be together and celebrate, we are therefore only able to invite one year group of parents to attend this event. As Y1 and Y2 parents will be invited to attend the Christmas celebrations in December at St Mary's church, we invite Reception parents to attend the Harvest Festival celebrations.

Uniform:

It is wonderful to see the children so smartly dressed in their school uniform. Please do remember to put name labels on all items of clothing (and shoes!!) to avoid our lost property box collapsing under pressure! Our PFA also sell second hand uniform for a small donation, so please continue to look out for this under the shelter at the front of the school. Please can I remind you that all children should wear a coat to school every day as the weather can change during the day! Can I also remind you that long hair (boys and girls) should be tied back for health and safety reasons. Hair bands and adornments should be plain and wherever possible, in school colours (no 'Jo jo' bows or brightly coloured hair bands please). No jewellery should be worn in school, other than stud earrings (which should either be covered or removed for PE sessions).

Key dates for this term:

16 September	12-1pm -YR Phonics workshop
17 September	12-1pm – YR Phonics workshop
18 September	12-1pm – YR Maths workshop
19 September	12-1pm – Maths workshop
20 September	YR start full-time
23 September	Y2 clubs start
23 September	8.00pm - PFA meeting
25 September	9.00am PFA/Macmillan coffee morning for new parents
25 September	3.00pm PFA cake sale after school
3 October	9.00am Prospective parents' meeting

5 October	PFA Dad's night (time tbc)
7 October	Academy Portraits – school photographs 6.30pm Prospective parents' evening
8 October	Academy Portraits – school photographs
9 October	2.30pm – Y1 & Y2 Open classroom - phonics parent workshop
10 October	9.00am – Y1 & Y2 Open classroom - phonics parent workshop
15 October	9.30am Harvest festival at St Mary's Church - YR parents to attend
19 October	PFA Mum's night (time tbc)
25 October	Term 1 ends
4 November	INSET – staff only in school
5 November	INSET – staff only in school
6 November	Term 2 starts
11 November	PFA Cake Sales (Y1 to provide cakes)
11 November	8.00pm - PFA meeting
12 November	3.00-4.30pm Y1 Party
19 November	Parents evening (time tbc)
20 November	Parents evening (time tbc)
2 December	Last week of Y2 clubs
13 December	2.00 -4.00pm - Xmas Fayre 3.00pm - Open Classroom 'Festive Friday'
17 December	1.30pm EYFS Nativity in school
18 December	9.30pm EYFS Nativity in school 1.30pm EYFS Nativity in school
19 December	2.00pm – Y1 & Y2 Nativity at St Mary's Church
20 December	9.30pm Y1 & Y2 Nativity at St Mary's Church
20 December	Term 2 ends

We look forward to an exciting and successful school year ahead.

Best wishes



Mrs Katie James
Head teacher