



CHRIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2018



Dear Parents,

Welcome back, I hope you had a fantastic half-term and that you and your children are ready for the second part of the term.

Since the last newsletter we have had a couple of good news stories!

First, Mrs Molineux gave birth to Olivia on Friday 9th February, at 2.39pm weighing in at 9lb 15oz. Then on Saturday I received a phone-call from Miss Taylor to say Gracie had decided to arrive a few weeks early, weighing in at 4lb 10 oz. both are very well! So huge congratulations to Mrs Molineux, Miss Taylor and their families!

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Harris on becoming a married man and would like to wish Mr and Mrs Harris all the very best for the future!

Another piece of good news related to Mr Harris came my way during half term. Year 5 have been working with the local authority to produce a Personal, Social, Health Education tool for other Primary aged pupils. Mr Harris attended the launch of the tool and provided a speech. The feedback from other professionals was amazing and reflected on his dedication and enthusiasm for working with children! As a result, a number of professionals and agencies have asked whether they can come and visit our school to discuss how we support and nurture children.

This is a pat on the back for us all and the work we do!

Inappropriate Games

Having spent a fair bit of time in classes and on the playground over the past few weeks, I became aware of the number of children (in particular, boys) who are playing or discussing 'zombies'. On the face of it, I wasn't too concerned until I heard the language and observed the actual games pupils were playing, so I decided to ask where they got their ideas from. I was shocked and horrified to hear pupils as young as 5 describing computer games they play that contain graphic violence and bad language. Games such as: Call of Duty, Grand-Theft Auto and Nightmare 2! These games are wholly unsuitable for ANY primary aged pupil to be playing as they have been given 18 certificates. When pupils inform us that they play such games it becomes a significant safeguarding concern to staff.

So I would like to ask parents to monitor closely the games your children are playing and also the videos they access on You Tube! In addition to this, please check the apps they use especially ones like 'musical.ly' where videos are shared.

In order to support parents and heighten awareness of the dangers of the internet we will be holding a Parents Against Child Exploitation (PACE) session in school. Staff and governors received this session which is aimed at parents of children of all ages (as you can see above, all pupils are at risk) providing advice and support for families where children are exploited. This is not just a Secondary School problem!! The session made me think twice about which apps I allow my daughter to access, she is 10! More information including dates and times to follow.

Open Mornings

Parents, grandparents, uncles and aunties are warmly invited to 'Open Morning' next week. Teachers will put up a timetable of available slots for you to sign up for. Some classes have student teachers in at the moment, so the availability may not be as wide as others. However, there will be further open mornings during Summer Term. Come and see how your child learns!

Parking

Whilst at Bryntysilio, I received an email from a very upset parent with regards to parking on the access road leading to the school at 3.15pm.

Yet again, not for the first time, I ask parents to show common sense and also think about others. Neither the access road or the footpath that runs alongside it are 'car parks' and should not be used as such. I have passed my concerns to Walsall Council and have asked that yellow zig-zags are painted onto the road, thus stopping ANY parking! 'A-Stars' will also be working with pupils in order to support safe journeys to school!

The water works on Harden Road look set to continue for longer than expected, so please think carefully about where you will park, remember our neighbours have the right to access their own property.

P4C Family Question:

What colour would a zebra be if it lost its stripes?

Diary Dates

Thursday 1st March:	World Book Day
Friday 2nd March:	Y3 a + b Worship World Book Day Craft Afternoon
Monday 5th March:	Open Mornings all week
Wednesday 7th March:	Mother's Day Lunch (EYFS/KS1)
Friday 9th March:	Orange Class Worship
Wednesday 14th March:	Mother's Day Lunch: (KS2)
Friday 16th March:	Year 4 Worship
Friday 23rd March:	Reward Worship Jungle Book Show in school Messy Church 4.00pm-5.00pm
Tuesday 27th March:	Reward Trip
Wednesday 28th March:	Easter Service @ Christ Church Blakenall Computing Day
Thursday 29th March:	Easter Bonnet Parade-Nursery Easter Egg Hunt Break Up: 1.30 pm
Monday 16th April:	INSET Day
Tuesday 17th April:	School re-opens for pupils

A polite reminder: Breakfast Club runs from 8.00 am each morning. Special arrangements can be made for a slightly earlier entry but need to be verified via Mr Davies.

Pupils will not be allowed entry until Breakfast Club Staff are in School.