



CTK WEEKLY

DIARY ANNOUNCEMENT

The school will close for children, at the end of this academic year, on **Friday 17th July**. This will allow staff to prepare for next year and for deep cleaning to take place. Since March 23rd, staff have worked through their holidays and the school has opened for children on designated inset days. The three days (20th, 21st & 22nd July) are now being devoted to school preparation and staff well-being.

HEAD'S UPDATE

Change is hardest at the beginning, messiest in the middle and best at the end.

Change!

If there is anything that has affected our way of life over the last few months it is the change in our everyday activity. Things we took for granted suddenly hold a higher status in our lives - this started very strangely with toilet paper(!) and then morphed into the importance of the key workers in society. We found ourselves clapping outside our house in appreciation and a 100 year old man raised over £24m for charity. Before all this happened, I would argue that we actually live in a world that is changing faster than any other time in history and this dramatically influences the way we live, work and communicate.

Our ability to cope in today's society is becoming evermore reliant on our ability to accept change and adapt accordingly. Look at the way businesses are having to adapt to Brexit as well as the current Pandemic. People are no longer staying in one job for 20 years but rather changing jobs more regularly. Our children may well be getting jobs in 10-15 years time that haven't even been thought of yet!

What we hope is that there are people in positions of leadership that know what they are doing. People who are significantly better placed with much greater knowledge, that know things will be better if we change. Inevitably there will be challenges to those changes but this is good, these people need to be questioned to ensure the change is for the better. I can tell you that all the changes taking place at CTK have been questioned multiple times by Governors, staff and myself. Everyone wants what is best for the school and wants it to carry on its upward journey. I am asking you to have faith in the leaders and the changes that are being implemented:

Leadership

Over the past year, I have been working hard assisting the Governors, the Local Authority, the Diocese and St Osmund's to provide the school with a positive and exciting future after I leave. There has been no 'knee-jerk' reaction to the future collaboration with St Osmund's. It has been well thought through and the leadership of the school will be in experienced and safe hands with Mr Sanderson, Mr Eccles and Mrs Sterck.

Staffing

There are many staff changes - three more announced today in this newsletter and there will be more next week. It is really hard to see present staff leave because we all build up an emotional attachment to them, having worked with them all year and got to know them well. The school is not new to staff change and in September you will be asked to forge new relationships and put your trust in the leadership of the school that good quality staff have been employed. Hungry, enthusiastic staff will be ready for a fresh opportunity and will want to make their mark at CTK.

Class Structure

We have some classes of around 20 children this year. School budgets rely on around 30 children in each class. It is inevitable that the current class structure isn't financially sustainable for long and so the Chair of Governors, Mike Thompson, and myself would like to present to you a new structure for September over a Zoom meeting at 6pm on **Thursday 2nd July**. Details of how to join this will be sent out next week.

As the current head, who has grown incredibly fond of our school, I am calling on your understanding, patience and loyalty while the school goes through this time of positive change.



As the school goes through a change into a more sustainable future, I have to inform you that we are saying goodbye to some existing staff this year, who are moving on to new and exciting career opportunities elsewhere.



Mrs Luther

Mrs Luther will be leaving us at the end of this academic year after spending a year being totally committed to her class, embracing all the challenges of a new school, pupils and curriculum diligently and considered a valued member of the staff team. Her relationship with the pupils and parents has blossomed over the year with a parent commenting to me just recently that she had worked wonders with her daughter. On behalf of the staff, pupils and parents, I would like to wish her every success in her next school role.



Mrs Botwright

Mrs Botwright leaves a big hole that will be hard to fill and has steered the school through some very challenging financial situations to leave the school in as positive a position as it could possibly be. She has been an integral part of the Senior Leadership Team focusing not just on the routine financial management of the school, but also supporting its strategic direction. It has been a pleasure to work closely with her and I wish her every success as the new School Business Manager of a secondary school.



Miss Wright

Miss Wright is training to be a teacher. In September she will continue her teacher training journey in another primary school. I am sure her adaptability, energy and focus will serve her well – especially drawing on the experience of all the roles she has carried out at CTK. She has been an integral part of the team at CTK and had a great influence on the children whether it be at Breakfast Club or in the classroom. I wish her every success and fingers crossed for this time next year when I hope she will have secured her first teaching post.