



# Christ Church School

April 2020

## Message from Mrs Emma Midgley, Headteacher

To all our lovely families, I hope that everyone is safe and well and managing to adjust to the new world we find ourselves in.

Thank you to all our parents and carers who have been incredibly supportive through this time. The feedback about the Home Learning tasks and our communication during this period has been extremely positive.

We know that, for all our children, this will feel like a very strange time. Many will feel sad to not be seeing their friends and teachers each day. There will also be many things they were looking forward to that will not be happening now.

Our message to them is to stay strong and embrace this time together as a family at home when you can and we will be back together as soon as we possibly can be.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you. Firstly to all our staff for 'keeping calm and carrying on.' They have many tasks to be carrying out, as well as being in school and their enthusiasm never fails.

Thank you to the children of Christ Church for being fantastic, as always—busy at home, smiling and enjoying life! Thank you to our parents and families for your patience and understanding in these difficult times.

Stay safe, stay healthy, stay home, and remember, it's not about counting the days, it's about making the days count!

## Staffing Update

Sadly, in July we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Dawson, our year 6 teacher, and Miss Hutson, our year 5 teacher. We are very sad about this news but also very happy for them both.

Well done Mrs Dawson for securing a position as Assistant Headteacher at another Halifax school. Mrs Dawson will leave Christ Church in July 2020. She started working at Christ Church as a support assistant and then stayed with us whilst training to become a teacher. We have seen her grow into a fantastic teacher and we will miss her greatly! However, we know she will be fantastic in her new role. We wish her all the best!

Miss Hutson is getting married in August and then plans to take some time off from teaching and follow her dreams to travel the world. Although this is very sad for Christ Church, this is a great opportunity for Miss Hutson and we wish her all the best of luck for her upcoming wedding and the experiences she will encounter whilst travelling.

Ms Curley will also be leaving us after Spring Bank holidays. Ms Curley joined us in Year 4 in October on a temporary contract. We have been very lucky that she agreed to extend this contract for a further 5 months, however, she will be moving on at the end of May. We would just like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Curley for the fantastic job she has done in Year 4, giving us some very much needed stability. We wish Ms Curley all the best for the future and may very well see her again soon.

We hope they find their way back to Christ Church one day and wish them the best of luck. It is a great loss for us, but I can reassure you, we are eagerly looking for 2 more incredible members of staff to join our team.

Mrs Johnson (HLTA) will not be returning to school once we re-open.

On a more exciting note, we have already appointed Miss Cornish to join our team. She was due to start at Christ Church at the beginning of May, however, this of course, has had to be postponed. As soon as school re-opens, Miss Cornish will join our KS2 team. Most of our children have already met Miss Cornish as she carried out part of her teacher training with us. We know that she is an extremely talented teacher who will fit in well at Christ Church.

## Primary Offer Day

The primary offer day for those who are to join reception class at Christ Church Pellon in September was Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new starters and, hopefully, we will be able to meet them all soon.

We will be contacting all those who have been offered a place with us at Christ Church Pellon via email.

For further information, please visit our school website where you will find a wealth of information about our school.



## Contact Information

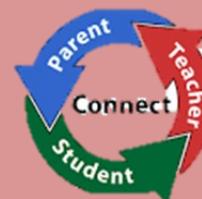
Can we remind parents/carers to inform the school straight away of any change of contact details via email at:

hello@christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk

For example:

Mobile phone numbers or email addresses.

It is vital, particularly at the moment, to enable us to keep in touch with you and also keep you up to date with any important information.



## Parent/Carers of Year 2 pupils

Your child has been entitled to a universal free school meal whether you were in receipt of benefits or not.

From September 2020 your child will no longer be entitled to universal free school meals.

However, if you are in receipt of the one of the qualifying benefits (see below) you may be entitled to free school meals. Free school meals have to be applied for and you are to do this by completing the relevant application form. This can be found on the Calderdale Council website:

<https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals>



If you meet the criteria, it is very important that **YOU** apply to be able to receive Free School Meals, otherwise lunches have to be paid for at a cost of £1.80 per day, £9.00 per week payable in advance of any meals taken on a Monday morning.

### The qualifying benefits are:

Income Support (IS)

Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Support under part VI 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 four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Universal Credit – if you apply on or after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get).

We are advising you of this early so that everything can be in order before your child commences in year 3.

If you require any further support in this, please contact school via email or by ringing the school.

Thank you.

At Christ Church (Pellon) Primary School the health, safety and well-being of all our children is our highest priority.

Whilst the school is closed, our duty and responsibility to safeguarding our pupils remains. Please do not feel offended if a member of school staff calls to check in with you and your child. We are here to support you, should you need anything.

Miss Coward – the school's Pastoral Support Officer has a mobile that we are using alongside the schools telephone number, this mobile number is 07379932826, so please save this in your phone so you know who is calling.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you require any pastoral support at this difficult time. We continue to support pupils and families even though the school is closed.

We are also available via the school telephone and the contact us section on our Parent App.

The school website is being regularly updated with information and advice to support you and your family at this difficult time so please take a look on the front page under the emotional support link.

However, if you have concerns about a child being at risk of harm, please contact the Calderdale MAST team on 01422 393336 (or the Emergency Duty Team out of working hours 01422 288000) or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.

If you have any concerns regarding a vulnerable adult, then please contact Gateway to Care on 01422 393000.

Alternatively, in an emergency dial 999.

**Whilst school is closed, we continue to offer child care places to those eligible. If your circumstances change and you require places, please contact via telephone or email and one of our team will be in touch.**

We thank you for your continued support.

**You can also contact your child's class teacher using their class email address. These are listed below:**

Reception@christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk

Year1@christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk

Year2@christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk

Year3@christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk

Year4@christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk

Year5@christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk

Year6@christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk



**A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus**



Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Amen.

School telephone number: **01422 350792**

**hello@christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk**

School Website: **www.christchurch-pellon.calderdale.sch.uk**