

Newsletter No 13: Term 5

May 2020

Dear Parent / Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and coping at this time. 7 weeks and a bit of Lockdown I am sure is taking its toll. I hope that the 'Fishponds Lockdown Video' brought some joy and laughter to your homes! We had a lot of fun making the video as you can probably tell! If you have still not had the pleasure of seeing it please visit the school website to click and play.

<https://www.fishpondschurchacademy.bristol.sch.uk/>

You will have heard that there has been talk that schools **MAY** open back up to certain year groups in June if the national reinfection rate allows it. I am currently awaiting further guidance from the DFE (Department for Education) about how to manage this safely if this is required. (We literally find out any proposed changes in the news like you!)

We will of course take into consideration all the necessary guidance but will only reopen where it is deemed safe to do so. There is a lot to consider, as you can imagine, staffing, social distancing, cleaning etc. the list goes on! We will be working closely with the Trust (DBAT) to support any decision to open. I will of course communicate and outline our approach once we have completed the necessary thinking on it. You will be receiving a letter from The Trust, DBAT along with this newsletter.

Collective Worship

Thank you to the 86 children, staff and families who logged on to Zoom Collective Worship this week. It was lovely to see so many of you! There will be another Collective Worship session **Monday 18th May @ 10am** for everyone who wants to join up. This will focus on Week 5's question of the week which will be looking at ' Pentecost' outlining what this is and what it means for Christians. Reverend Lizzie will be joining us for this one, so we look forward to welcoming her to tell us all about Pentecost. Please note our Collective Worship sessions are for everyone in our school community regardless of faith, so come along if you can!

Free School Meals / Food Parcels

For those families in receipt of the benefit of Free School Meals (not universal free school meals!) you will normally receive a £15 supermarket voucher to spend on food per week per child. As you know half term is coming up and as you are probably already aware, this benefit does not normally cover the holiday period. To help cover this gap in benefit, the school has partnered with Rev.Lizzie, the local church and wider Fishponds' community to pull together a number of food parcels. We are hoping to make parcels for each family in receipt of FSM benefit. We will be in contact with each family in receipt of FSM to offer access to a food parcel and we have volunteers willing to deliver them to your house if needed.

If you would like to contribute a food parcel to help out then please contact school via the school office and we will answer any questions you have.

Thankyou to those families' who have offered their support to this already! Great to see our community pulling together to care for one another. This is truly our school community living out our school values and vision!

Need Help? Struggling financially or lacking food? Need someone to talk to?

Please don't suffer in silence – we are here to support you! Give us a ring.

Give us a call at school (Mrs Coker or Miss Goodman will be there to help) or phone Mrs Cahill direct on the school mobile 07595615388



Church of England Academy

Principal: Mrs Debbie Coker

Chair of Local Board: Mrs Trish Dodds



Value of the Term : Trust (for Term 5)

Week 5: Pentecost. What does Pentecost mean to Christians? (led by Rev Lizzie)

We will be endeavouring to run a weekly collective worship session as a whole school community each Monday over Zoom at 10am. These will focus on the question of the week. Come and join us! Follow the details of how to log on under Collective Worship section of the newsletter.

Value of the Term : Courage (for Term 6)

Meet Norman The Newt!

Mr Brown has been very busy on site recently and found this little visitor hiding in one of our drains!

We've named him Norman and he now been rehomed in the Nursery garden. It made us wonder what kinds of things you have been spotting in your own gardens or when you have taken exercise. It is really inspiring to see that nature keeps going despite the changes we are facing as humans during Lockdown.



