



**Information
Booklet For
Parents
and Carers in
Year One.**

Mission Statement

Christ the King Catholic Primary School a voluntary academy exists to provide and promote excellence in learning and achievement within a Christ-centred environment.

“To live, to love to serve in the light of Christ the King”

What we do to support your child in school

- We will make sure that your child is safe and secure in school. Our aim is also to provide a curriculum in which they learn and can enjoy learning. We want children in Year One to enjoy and look forward to coming to school.
- We will listen to your child read in school during daily Guided Reading sessions and on an individual basis.
- We will ensure that our lessons are planned so that they are suited to your child's ability.
- If there are any things within class that your child is having difficulties with, we will communicate with you either at the classroom door in the morning, at the end of the day or by contacting you by telephone or by letter.
- We will ensure that your child is placing letters, homework and spellings in their book bags/bags so that they come home.
- We will note down any behavioural difficulties and exemplary behaviour your child shows and keep a record. We will also communicate this with you. Your child will receive certificates when they have been awarded 100, 200 and 300 and 400 reward points. If they show exceptionally good work/ behaviour they may also be awarded a Headteacher's certificate. The children may be awarded with stickers and mini certificates for great work/behaviour in class on a day to day basis from their class teacher.
- We will endeavour to make sure that your child is out on time at the end of school every day. This will require your child to concentrate on getting ready to go home and organising themselves to get everything ready for home time. We do start packing up before the bell every day in order to give your child time to get ready to go home.

What you can do to support your children in Year One.

- Ensure that the children are getting plenty of sleep each night. They should be getting between 10 – 12 hours of sleep every night.
- Children have breakfast before school starts every morning.
- Children are at school on time every day (doors open at 8.50am) and are in school every day unless they are too ill to attend. You must telephone school first thing in the morning if your child is unable to attend school that day. Please also ensure that you inform us if there are any changes to who is collecting your child at the end of the day. This can be in a letter, through verbal communication at the start of the day or through a phone call to the school office.
- Support your child to bring in all that they need for school each day and ensure that they are dressed in the school uniform including black school shoes. No trainers please other than for P.E. We also ask that if your child has long hair that it is tied back for school with a small clip or ribbon or hair band in the school colours. Please ensure that there are no large hair accessories as the children do have a tendency to fiddle with these during lessons which can distract them from their learning.
- Check that your child is completing the homework that has been set by the teachers and handing it in on time. Please also check that it is presented neatly.
- Listen to your child read aloud to you **every day** even if this is just for 5 – 10 minutes.
- Practise key number facts with your child (eg number bonds, times tables.) Ideally the children should know these off by heart. This is the key to working fluently and confidently with numbers.
- Please support your children to learn their weekly spellings.
- Check your child's book bag/school bag every night to see if there are any letters that you need to read and in some instances, reply to and respond to these promptly.
- Encourage your child to be independent in being responsible for their belongings and for preparing the things they need for each day of the week.
- Please come and see us if there are any problems or things you need to tell us. We would rather know about them sooner rather than later if they are causing difficulties and struggles.

Reading

Children are expected to **read every day at home**. They have a reading record book which we sign and date when we hear them read in class. We would also like to ask you to date and sign in this book when you have heard them read aloud to you and make any appropriate comments. Reading a variety of texts such as newspapers, information books, poetry books etc... at home also gives the children more access/exposure to different genres.

We understand that all parents and carers have very busy lives but 5 to 10 minutes of quality reading time every day is very beneficial.

For a successful reading session:

- Sit next to your child as they read so that you can spot any errors they make and support them to correct these.
- Sit in a quiet environment so that there are no distractions e.g. TV, games consoles etc.
- Allow your child to sound out the letters and blend them for words that they are finding difficult, rather than tell them the word straight away.
- Talk to your child about what they are reading and ask him/her questions about the book. (There are some examples of questions to ask your child below.)
- Sign and date the reading record book or the homework diary when you have heard your child read. If you want to write down what your child was successful with and what they need more support with you can make a note of this too. Any comments recorded in their homework diary/reading record book will be responded to by the following day if required. Comments are very much appreciated.

Questions to ask your child whilst reading with them

Knowledge:

Where is the story set?
When did the story take place?
Who are the main characters?
What does the main character look like?
Where does the main character live?
How does the story begin?

Comprehension:

What is happening?
What happened at the end of the story?
Who is telling the story?
Which parts of the story did you like best?
Which parts of the story describe the setting?
What is the problem faced by the character?

Application:

Can you think of another story with a similar theme?
Can you think of another story that deals with the same issues?
Can you think of another story where the character acted in a similar way?
Have you had an experience like this?
If you were writing your own story what ideas might you use from this story?

Analysis:

What makes you think.....? What gives you this impression?
How do you feel about....? Can you explain why?
What do these words mean? Why do you think the author chose these words?
What words has the author used to give you a picture of what the character is like?

Critical Thinking

What do you think about....?
What evidence do you have to back up your opinion?
What would the main character think about.....?
If you were the main character, how would you have reacted to.....? Why?

Evaluation

What makes a successful story?
Could the story have been improved? How?
Do you think the ending was effective? How?
Was the character..... believable? Why?
Who do you think would enjoy reading this story? Why?

Homework

The children will receive spellings every week to learn. Please always check that the spellings are accurate before your child starts to learn them. We will endeavour to check the spellings your child writes down before they are sent home if they are not typed out.

Please test your child on their spellings at home when they have learnt them and go back over spellings your child has learnt in previous weeks to check that they still remember how to spell these words. This helps your child to learn and remember them rather than just learning them for that week and then forgetting them.

At the end of the half term or every few weeks we may revise previously learnt spellings and test your child on these to check that they have remembered the spellings that they have been given to learn.

Children will receive their spellings every **Friday** and they will be tested the following **Friday**. We may also have mental maths tests from time to time. Such tests are extremely important as they feed into much of the curriculum. The sooner they learn these multiplication facts and common spellings, the easier their other class work becomes.

Learning Logs tasks will also be set each Friday and will largely be linked to class topic work. We ask that they are returned by the following Wednesday. All activities will be explained and if there are any problems please feel free to see/ discuss with me, Mrs. Flanagan or Miss. Byabagambi. Extensions can be given if necessary.

P.E. Kits

Year One

Wednesday / Thursday – P.E. kits

Indoor Kit – black shorts, Red, Green, Blue or Yellow **plain** tee-shirt dependent on the team that your child is in, socks and pumps.

Outdoor Kit – Plain Black or Navy Tracksuit bottoms with their P.E. tee-shirt and **trainers**.

Last year, a lot of lost property had accumulated by the end of the year. Please clearly label all items of clothing that your child has at school with their full name and class. This includes trainers and shoes as well please. Labelling your child's clothes helps to prevent these items from getting lost.

Water bottles

We encourage your children to bring a water bottle into school so that they can have a drink at break times and if they require one during the day e.g. after P.E. It is vitally important that the children keep hydrated during the day – having a water bottle with them all the time reminds them to take a drink regularly.

We do ask that it is water not juice that is provided inside the bottle and that the water bottle is clearly labelled with your child's name.