

Our Lady of Light Catholic Academy Trust

Christ the King R.C. Primary School



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Executive Headteacher: Mr M Ryan
School Business Manager: Miss P Allan

Morning Procedures for leaving children at school

To make life easier for parents and children, as from Monday, can I simply ask that you say your goodbyes to the children at the door to the class and the children will make their own way into their classroom. Children soon know where to hang their coats and bags, they don't need an adult to do this. They come in at the end of every playtime and lunchtime and do this quite easily.

What we need to be doing is encouraging confidence and independence. **For children, finding so many adults in classrooms can be very daunting.** I think it is much more pleasant for children to leave their parents at the door and then go into school. Some parents have already asked me if they could leave their children at the door as they needed to get to work etc.

For nursery children, it can be different at first, until routines are known to the children, and the environment becomes familiar; parents are welcome to help children find their peg etc. Obviously, the sooner they can do this themselves the better, as we are encouraging them to be independent. This is how children learn!

Uniform

A big thankyou to all of you, for the effort you put into making sure your children are well presented for school. Some of the children are immaculate and take obvious pride in their appearance, wearing their uniform with pride. Parents who support the school with uniform, hairstyles etc are teaching their children to respect rules and to encourage a sense of belonging. These are important values.

There are a few children with studs in their ears, probably as the children had their ears pierced over the holidays. A polite reminder: children should remove these before school for safety reasons. Thank you

Communication with parents

I know, as a parent myself, that good communication and having plenty of notice for school events etc is vitally important. Last minute notices can cause anxiety and worry. We will always try to give plenty of warning. Of course, schools are busy places and we won't always be perfect!

Text Messaging: Please make sure we have your up to date mobile number so we can let you know when newsletters are coming home through the school text messaging service.

Study Bags: Please check study bags regularly – newsletters can often be found at the bottom!

Talking: Please ask your child what's happening as they should be able to tell you about school.

Website: All newsletters and information will be on the school website. I will be looking carefully at the school website to make sure it gives you all the information you need. This should really be the easiest place to get information from.

Twitter: at St. Patrick's, one of the most popular means of communication for parents seem to be the school Twitter account. Parents get regular updates on school events, what's happening in each class, pictures of their children in school etc and the best thing is that it's completely free. We will be looking at developing its use here at Christ the King.

Most parents have mobiles etc so it seems to me that we need to use them in a positive way to keep you informed. We will be working on this over the year ahead.

Speaking with Teachers

There are always times when parents need to speak to the teacher to discuss something. If the teacher isn't available in the morning then simply pass any messages to the teaching assistants. Often, on a morning, teachers are preparing lessons so that the day is ready for all the children in the class. I am sure parents understand this. If they are called out for non-urgent matters, it can mean that the teaching and learning of the whole class is greatly disrupted and the children are waiting for the teacher to start their lessons. Teachers always have more time at the end of the school day to speak to you and they are more than happy to do so. Obviously, if it is very urgent and important, they will speak with you. I would have to say that all the parents I have met, so far, have been very reasonable, polite and understanding, which in turn clearly reflect in their children's behaviour. As I said before, we are their role models. Things will go wrong and at times we have to speak to children to put things right.

Thank you for your support.

M Ryan

