

May 2022 Newsletter



9th May 2022

Dear Families,

This term is one of our many favourite times of the school year. To see the children arriving in their summer uniforms and making use of the field is a real treat and a sign that summer is officially on its way. We have recently taken delivery of lots of new playground toys which I know the children are enjoying.

With the change in season we often see an increase in lost property so please ensure your child's uniform is named including shoes (yes they do lose their shoes!) Please also purchase a sunhat (red baseball cap style preferably) and apply sunscreen before coming to school. School water bottles are available at the school office to purchase.

Safeguarding

The result of our recent safeguarding audit was extremely positive, the audit showed that St Christophers demonstrates a rigorous culture of safeguarding. This was an intense audit looking at every area within the school and we are delighted (but not surprised) by the result. With that in mind, please ensure that at drop off and collection you keep your child close with you, they are often tempted to play on the equipment or run off with their friends but this is not permitted and we ask for your support in helping us keep them safe. Please ensure;

- No dogs on school grounds
- Your child stays with you
- Bikes/Scooters are not ridden until out of the school gates
- Play equipment/ climbing frames including the astro/goals are not used
- You leave swiftly after collection to enable us to secure the site.



Online Safety

How much do you really know about the sites and apps your children use? It can be extremely confusing and with the constant changing world of social media it can be difficult to keep up! The website <https://www.purevpn.com/blog/dangerous-social-media-apps> provides information on the popular sites that children should not use. They have an age restriction of 18 but are often downloaded by much younger. If you have any concerns regarding social media and online safety please feel free to contact our family worker, Mrs. Lay or speak with your child's teacher.

Packed Lunches & Snacks - Please be reminded that all food brought into school should be healthy and meet our healthy lunchbox policy guidelines

Transition Dates

Our Year 6 moving on to secondary will have received their transition dates directly from their chosen schools, however here is a reminder on the most local schools;

Queensbury Academy	5 th & 6 th July
Manshead CofE Academy	5 th & 6 th July
Chalk Hills Academy	6 th & 7 th July

We will update you on our transition dates within school and meet the teacher dates soon.

Breakfast & Afterschool Club



Due to increasing success we are relaunching our Breakfast and Afterschool club in September 22 and we have several vacancies that are up to 16 hours per week and more if required. The roles are advertised on <https://www.mynewterm.com> or you can pop in and see us for an application form. The role includes discount for staff children and can open up to other opportunities within the school including further qualifications. This is the chance to become part of a thriving school and receive the benefits of working for Bedfordshire Schools Trust <https://www.bestacademies.org.uk>.

Free School Meals

If your child is in Reception/KS1 then you are entitled to Universal Infant Free School meals. If your child is in the Nursery/KS2, you may still be entitled to Free School Meals so please contact us or your local authority to find out if you are eligible.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- 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 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Uniform

Summer uniform can now be worn (red and white gingham dress or grey shorts with white school polo shirt).

To help with this the uniform expectations are listed below:

Expected uniform for children at St Christophers Academy
Red school logo jumper or cardigan The school fleece is only to be worn for PE/Games
White school logo polo top
Grey school dress or school skirt/tunic/culottes/trousers (no leggings or legging style trousers)
Black school shoes for outside Boots are not permitted
School red logo sun cap (summer term)
Plain red or grey tights Reception-Year 4 Plain grey or black school tights year 5 and 6
White, grey or black school socks
School Backpack FS2 - Y4 (no other backpack to be worn) or red school logo book bag.

PE Kit

PE uniform	Games uniform
White school logo t-shirt Red striped PE shorts School logo red fleece hoodie Plimsolls	White school logo t-shirt Red striped PE shorts Plain grey or black jogging bottoms School logo red fleece hoodie or school logo red jumper/cardigan Trainers

The PE/Games kit should remain in school for the duration of the half term.

Hair designs must be appropriate for a school setting. Hair ornaments should be simple and in school colours. We do not permit extreme hair styles such as 'Mohican' styled, dyed, or shaved with patterns or lines in. No oversized hair accessories such as Jo-Jo Bows or other variations of these are permitted.

Jewellery, other than a wristwatch and plain stud earrings (no glass cut or diamante), is not allowed. All jewellery, including earrings, must be removed or taped for Physical Education lessons. Hoop earrings and large studs can be very dangerous and are unsuitable for school, as are necklaces, rings and bracelets. No jewellery other than that of religious significance and should be worn on the inside of the academy uniform.

School Governors

We are always looking to recruit more school governors. There are so many fantastic reasons to become a school governor. As well being an incredibly rewarding experience, you can make a huge difference to the children in our school. You get to be involved in school decisions and how funds are spent as well as gaining an insight to the running of a school. For more information please contact Mrs. Lay who is the clerk to the Governing Body. Klay@Bestacademies.org.uk

Lateness

Being late for school **reduces learning time**. If your child is 5 minutes late every day they will miss three days of learning each year. If your child is 15 minutes late every day they will miss 2 weeks of learning each year. This may not seem like much but it does have a negative impact. Not only do they miss out on learning, it unsettles them and gives them a poor start to the day. If there are any problems with getting your child to school please contact Mrs Lay who will be happy to advise and provide support.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

MINUTES LATE PER DAY	EQUIVALENT OF MISSING	HOW MANY LESSONS THIS IS MISSED
5 MINUTES	3.4 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	17 LESSONS
10 MINUTES	6.9 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	35 LESSONS
15 MINUTES	10.3 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	51 LESSONS
20 MINUTES	13.8 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	69 LESSONS
30 MINUTES	20.7 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	104 LESSONS



Feedback form

As always we appreciate your feedback and suggestions. Please complete the form below and return it to the school office

Name:

Contact Details:

Childs Name:

My suggestions are as follows;

Dates for your diary.....

WC 9th May SATs week

Wednesday 18th May- Vision Screening for Reception classes

Thursday 19th May- Year 2 trip to Woburn Safari Park

WC Monday 23rd May- History week

Monday 23rd May- Y1 Blows Downs visit

Thursday 26th May – Year 6 Surprise Day (Non-uniform yr 6 only)

Friday 27th May- Dress like a Royal- PTA Fundraiser event

PTA Meeting at school 6.30 – open to anyone that would like to attend.

WC- 30th May Half Term

Monday 6th June- Y1 Phonics Screening starts

Friday 10th June- Non-uniform for Marley's Art Foundation

Monday 13th June- Greek Workshop

Tuesday 14th June- Y5 Space Centre visit

Tuesday 21st June- Sports day

Wednesday 22nd June- Sports EYFS (preschool and reception children) and School Book Fair arrives

Friday 24th June- School Disco- School fundraiser (details to be confirmed)

Tuesday 28th June- Sports day reserve

Wednesday 29th June- EYFS Sports day reserve & Rock Steady Concert

Tuesday- 12th July- Parent Consultation Evening Nursery-Y6

Thursday 14th July- Parent Consultation Evening YR-Y6

Friday 1st July- PTA Fun afternoon on the field (Helpers needed for event to proceed)

Friday 1st July- Reception classes assembly+ Prize Giving

Thursday 7th July- EYFS Graduation

Friday 8th July- Reports out

Monday 11th July- Year 1 Class Assembly and Prize Giving

Tuesday 12th July- Y2 Class Assembly and Prize Giving

Tuesday 12th July- Parent Consultation Evening for Nursery- Y6

Thursday 14th July- Yr – Yr6 Class Assembly and Prize Giving

Wednesday 13th July- Y3 Class Assembly and Prize Giving

Friday 15th July- Y6 Leavers Assembly and Prize Giving Year 6 Prom

Thursday 21st - Change the Rules PTA event

Please let us know if there is any other information you would like included in your newsletter. We are very happy to include community events where appropriate.