



Good afternoon,

This week has been our first full school week with all year groups back to school since March.

Stephen Hawking said, *"Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change!"*

Our children have shown us that plentifully. I am incredibly proud of them all. As I walked through the school on Wednesday afternoon, I was thrilled to experience the real Claremont: there was a class from year 3 doing drama and freeze frames outside, year 5 were playing basketball on the top playground. Year 2 were at afternoon break on the bottom playground and a class was coming up from the school field using the one-way system.

In addition, the children have all returned to start our school year proper, and been diligent at focussing on the tasks, quizzes and tests with their new teacher.

This couldn't have happened without the consistent and outstanding practices of the staffing team who are also adapting to the three new staff rooms, different breaks and lunch slots and maintaining handwashing, social distancing and hygiene.

Our new members of school- Acorns and Saplings - have already become part of us and are confident on their entries and exits without adults. Today one group has stayed for lunch for the first time.

We also have three new members of staff to welcome: Mr Luke Grant and Miss Kimberley Cruttenden have joined our amazing Teaching Support Assistant Team, and Ms Rajinder Buhai has joined us as a Midday Meal Supervisor.

Finally, I would like to thank our neighbours and parent community for all of their support during these unusual times; we value your help to maintain a safe environment for the children at Claremont. You may have seen that the Government have a new mantra- please do stick to it in the community as well.



### Hands: Face: Space

Very Best wishes and enjoy the weather this weekend.

Candi Roberts and the Claremont Team



If your child is unwell and displaying one of the three identifiable signs of COVID-19, please call 111 for advice. Please then update the school office. If it is not COVID-19 related, please continue to report absences to the school office in the normal way.

## Remote Learning on Dojo

If your child or children are off for reasons relating to COVID-19, their class teacher will post their work from school onto their portfolio. (If they are too ill with COVID-19 to work, then we would not expect any work to be completed.) Work will not be set for any other absences.

In order to see this work, your child needs to be logged onto Dojo and look at their own portfolio, rather than looking through your parent account. This is a slight change from how we used Dojo during lockdown, as we are only posting work for specific children and not onto the whole Class Story.

Teachers will post work from the day before in school by 8.45 am so, for example, Monday's work would be posted on Tuesday and so on. This is because teachers would not have time to post work whilst teaching, on the day that they are told a child is off.

All work will be approved and there will be written feedback to match what is happening in class. Please be aware that due to the current restrictions in school, written feedback in books is less than normal so there will be at least two written comments in a week but no more than one per day.

There may be occasions where children would be unable to complete the exact lesson that is taking place in school e.g. science and maths lessons with equipment, a drama lesson. In these instances, teachers may guide pupils to other similar online materials e.g. maths games.

Many thanks,

Sarah Seddon

### **Wellbeing: Re-framing negative thoughts**

Mentally Healthy Schools have produced an excellent resource to support children with re-framing negative thoughts to help them to think in a more positive way:

We all have negative thoughts and may get into patterns of negative thinking. In times of distress, these may occur more frequently, and it is easy to be self-critical and focus on the negative thoughts. Sometimes we might catastrophise a situation, making it seem worse than it really is, or we might blame ourselves for things out of our control.

Recognising these thoughts and re-framing them is a way of training our brain to reduce anxiety and over-thinking. The simple gauge prompt and activity in this resource can be used with individual children to help them identify when they are thinking unkind or negative thoughts, take a pause, and reframe their thoughts into something more positive.



Please follow the link below for some supporting resources:

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/media/2214/rebuild-and-recover-reframing-thoughts.pdf>

## Homework on ClassDojo

As per the parent handbook, all homework for the time being will be set via the ClassDojo platform. Different year groups will be setting it on different days so you may find it helpful to setup the new post notifications within ClassDojo, so that you are alerted when something is posted.

This article will explain how to set them up if you do not have them enabled - <https://classdojo.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/202816805-Not-Seeing-Notifications-When-Teacher-Sends-a-Message#ios> .

Homework may be set from this weekend so please do check ClassDojo.

### Charities

The children have received thanks from both the **Hospice in the Weald** and **Water Aid** in recognition of raising £310.06 and £103.50 respectively last year.

Well done everybody!

### Curriculum Newsletters

Due to the current situation, curriculum newsletters will now be online only. You can still find out about what your child is learning and key dates for the term by visiting the Claremont webpage.

Simply select the 'Children and Learning' tab at the top of the page and then select 'Claremont - Our Curriculum'.

Jon Greaves

### Christ's Hospital School Invites Bursary Applications for September 2021 entry.

Current Year 6 pupils who are considering secondary education in September 2021 are invited to apply for a means-tested bursary place at Christ's Hospital for entry to the School next September into Year 7.

Christ's Hospital was established over 460 years ago as a charitable boarding school and is proud to maintain its founding principles and ethos. It offers an independent boarding education of the strongest quality to children with academic potential, from all backgrounds in a caring and supportive environment.

The closing date for applications for September 2021 entry into Year 7 is Friday, 25 September 2020.

Interested families, wanting to discover more about Christ's Hospital, can explore their [Virtual Open Day Experience online](#) and contact us with any questions they may have, about 2021 entry to Christ's Hospital and their means-tested bursary places.