



CHRIST the KING

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Spreading all good things within our school community!

Since I arrived last September, I thought it would be good to share some good news stories with you all. As many of you know we are going through a lot of change at CtK. Ofsted visited our school last year and thought there were a number of areas we could be better at. So, without delay we have gone about changing lots of things. Some of these are maybe more obvious than others.

For instance, sometimes change is good and that includes re-visiting our school crest. The CtK logo stands out but it's always good to make the changes. Most of you will have seen this but with some subtle changes including a crown above the 'T' representing the Holy Trinity. The old crest has had its day and it's time for a change. It will look very distinctive on the new blazers that Year 7 will wear in September. (Blazers are optional for Year 8 – Year 11 students).



In addition, you may remember that in RE we looked at a number of saints and their impact on the world. You had an opportunity to vote for what would replace the existing Houses named after famous artists/painters. You voted for 4 incredible people to represent our new House Saints.

- St Maximilian Kolbe
- St Oscar Romero
- St Maria Goretti
- St Francis of Assisi



I also have good news to share with you that you will all be in your year groups from September and that means assemblies for Houses will be the only time the groups are mixed year groups. After a number of internal interviews last week, I'm delighted to say there will be 4 new Heads of House – these will be announced very soon!

This also means that you will all be assigned to a House and there will be some exciting opportunities for some of you who may be interested in becoming Young Leaders. More details in due course!

You will also notice that around school we are working on improving facilities, making them better for you and hopefully that helps you look after our school environment. I know there seems like a lot to do but over time you will see more changes for the common good. Remember that every positive thing you do within our CtK community means celebrating greatness for all.

around our school. That can happen rapidly if you all pull together and contribute in every way you can. Remember, if you all do more, whether that is through the Student Council, helping within departments, contributing to the wider school life or simply being kind to one another following 'THE CTK WAY'. As I have said earlier, there is a lot of change taking place and it can take time to get used to new systems but most of all we want to ensure that you and your peers feel safe, making lots of friends, are having fun and learning!

"Be the change you wish to see in the world."

(Mahatma Gandhi)

You may remember that many of you completed a student survey about how you feel. There were lots of questions where many of you responded positively about how you feel around school and areas that you were not happy about. Firstly, it's important to value everyone's opinion but most of all feel you can contribute to making the change

If you feel there is something you are unhappy about then tell a member of staff or if there is something you are really worried about, do not forget to use image that you can see via Firefly to report anything. It's dealt with confidentially so please do not be worried about alerting the pastoral team.

Report a concern to the Pastoral Team



Please click the image above to report a concern

Finally, I thought I would share some attendance data for your year groups. Attendance is so important. If you are away from school you are not learning which means you cannot make the same progress as you might have done had you been in school. The minimum expectation is that you achieve at least 97%. As a school we are around 92% and that needs to be much better.

As can be seen below, Year 7 attendance is the best on average, well done and for the rest of the school in particular in Year 8 & 9 you need to get above 90% asap!

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
92.7%	89.7%	89.9%	91.6%	90.4%

Appointments With Staff

If you wish to have a face to face meeting with a member of staff please will you telephone first to make an appointment. This will avoid disappointment if you call in and the member of staff is not available.



The first point of contact for any pastoral issues concerning your child is the Head of Year.

used to inform us of absences and request meetings. The messages only need to be short. There is no need to tell us who you are or who the message is about as, in school, the programme already informs us of this. Please do not use emojis as this distorts the messages. Should you need instructions of how to download the app please ask your child to collect a sheet from the office. Once a parent is using the app the cost of text messages home is free and letters can be attached to the message.

messages that are sent out to the students.

Free School Meal Vouchers – July 2023

Once again, the Government are supplying Free School Meals Vouchers for the Summer break. These will be emailed to you by Edenred in July. Please check your email and redeem the voucher before the 17 July. Once redeemed you then have up to 3 months to spend it.



Communications Between Home and School



There are now two ways that parents can stay in contact with school.

The first is Groupcall Xpressions – this is the free two-way text messaging service which should be

The second form of communication is the Class Charts app. All parents should have now received a code (please use Groupcall Xpressions to request a new code). In Class Charts you can check on your child's merit totals, behaviour issues such as referrals or detentions and read the daily

If you have not received your email by Tuesday, 18th July please inform school so that the voucher can re-ordered before the end of term. There will not be an opportunity to resend the vouchers once school has closed for the summer holiday.

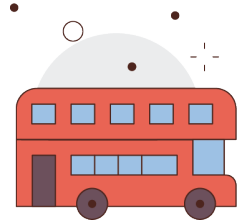
School re-opens for ...

- **Year 7 students at**
 - 8.40am on Monday, 4th September 2023
- **Year 8 to 11 students at**
 - 11.00am on Monday, 4th September 2023

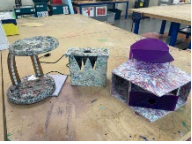
The school bus 721 services will operate as per the timetable in the Year 7 information pack.

For Year 8 to 11 students the bus timetable will be:

Preston Bus Station, Stand 4	10.10am
Ribbleton, Acregate Lane	10.18am
Ribbleton, Ribbleton Lodge	10.21am
Moor Nook, Pope Lane Shops	10.24am
Ribbleton, Hesketh Road	10.27am
Farringdon Park, Tudor Avenue	10.34am
Skeffington Rd	10.39am
Frenchwood, Christ The King	10.49am



Plastic Recycling



Over the last year we have installed three machines in the Technology Department that are able to transform plastic waste into creative arts sheets that can be used in Technology lessons - an RS 25 Shredder to grate the plastic, a sheet press which makes the sheets of plastic and an injection moulder to make shaped objects such as earrings or key rings. Every single sheet or object is unique.

The sheets and shapes are now used in the curriculum and our Year 11 students have used them in their GCSE projects. The Year 9 students are currently making lights out of the sheets of plastic and they are looking spectacular.



Carmelite Monastery (Preston)

After over 100 years serving the Preston community, the Carmelite Convent in Fulwood has recently closed. As an enclosed order, the Carmelites are cloistered; that is, they do not leave the monastery except for medical needs and in other special circumstances, but remain within the convent leading a life of quiet prayer and work. We are delighted to have received from the monastery a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes, several crucifixes and some pictures to display in school. The first picture of Our Lady is now on



display outside the Headteacher's office. Mr Pearson (Art) is kindly restoring the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes and once finished will be placed in our Waiting Room.

Another picture donated by the nuns is of Christ the King, our patron. and a second one, of Christ the King, will be on display soon after some cosmetic repairs.



We have also placed one of the larger crucifixes in our main staff corridor. We are truly blessed to

have received such important icons from the Carmelites and they are now pride of place within the heart of the CTK community. I would also like to thank Mr Frank McGrath (an active member of Our Lady & St Edward's, Fulwood) who liaised with the local convent and these religious artefacts were presented to our school. I will be writing to the Sisters who have now been relocated across the UK to thank them on our behalf. Having these icons around school reminds us that CTK is truly a special place to attend as a student and a place to work.



Ctk students visit 10

Downing Street and meet the Prime Minister

It was quite a unique opportunity for me to visit 10 Downing Street and meet the Prime Minister as part of the Kings Coronation celebrations. He seemed to be quite friendly, approachable and humble. It was an amazing day and the food at the big lunch was fabulous.



The visit provided me a number of learning points which I have summarised below:

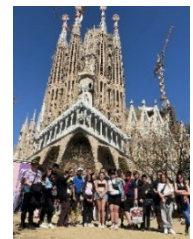
1. Participating in a group event which has taught me self-confidence.
2. Sightseeing in London including Hyde Park, Buckingham Palace, Big Ben and Piccadilly Circus to name a few of the world-famous London places of interest.
3. By travelling without my family for the first time it has boosted my self-confidence and given me the ability to use public transport in London independently in the future.
4. By engaging with other people, I didn't know has allowed me to learn new communication skills and learn from other peoples lived experiences.

Rayyan Yakub & Abdul'Lah Isap

Barcelona Trip March 2023

On 28th March 2023 we took a group of students to visit the magical city of Barcelona. We visited all the major sites; Parc Guëll, La Sagrada Familia, Montjuic and the Spanish Village, Nou Camp and many more.

During the very first day, we headed out together towards Bogatell Beach. The weather was absolutely stunning, a warm sunshine and a cool breeze and especially the deep-blue, transparent Balearic Sea. The whole atmosphere was magical. Me and my close friend sat together and listened to music whilst being mesmerised by the waves of the sea



place to practice it!

On the following day, as an amateur Spanish speaker I really enjoyed the time we spent in the Boquería Market as I got to speak with Spanish locals for the very first time and fortunately, they understood what I said. During that day I remember feeling proud and confident. In addition, the fruits and meats they sell in the market both taste and smell heavenly! If you are interested in learning the Spanish language I believe Barcelona is a fantastic

The last day was my personal favourite, as a treat we were surprised with a beautiful beach picnic with fruits and Nutella sandwiches. We all had an amazing time especially when I decided to teach myself how to do gymnastics! To my surprise, I succeeded along with some assistance :) Overall Barcelona is an extraordinary place rich with culture and fun opportunities to make great memories with friends. With no hesitation I would go again if I received the opportunity to do so 😊.

Oscar Schneider



Happy Holidays!