



www.churchtown.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. J. Payne

5th August 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following on from opening the school twice last week to families, our primary focus continues to be on providing support for the entire Churchtown community during such a difficult time. Feedback from both sessions has highlighted how families have benefitted from the opportunity to talk to each other and seek support from professionals.

As a school, we are committed to continuing to facilitate weekly opportunities where children, parents and staff, come together to support one another. These sessions will also provide access to specialist services and information on additional support available. Families will need to enter through the main school office and staff will be on hand to sign families in and support throughout each session. There is no need to confirm attendance in advance. The dates and times for these sessions are as follows:

Thursday 8th August 11-1pm

Wednesday 14th August 9-11am

Friday 23rd August 1-3pm

Wednesday 28th August 11-1pm

Furthermore, during the above dates, we are also offering the opportunity for sessions to be booked with mental health nurse support. These 30-minute sessions are designed to provide tailored support to those in need. Further information regarding how to book on a session will be sent out to all families prior to Thursday 8th August.

Crucially, it is vital that we plan for how to support the wellbeing of all children and their families upon our return to school in September. **As part of this plan, there will be a staggered start to the new academic year.**

Monday 2nd of September and Tuesday 3rd of September will remain as INSET days for staff. As part of the INSET days, it is important that our school staff have the opportunity to connect with one another, receive the relevant support, training and plan to ensure a successful return for all children.

The academic year will then commence for all pupils on Wednesday 4th September. During the day, children will attend school for one hour as a staggered start to the new school year. This will allow children the opportunity to re-connect with their peers and new teachers before their first full school day on Thursday 5th September. Children will come back into school as part of a small group with their peers to meet with their new class teacher and spend an hour together. We believe that this approach will help ease the transition back into school life and provide a supportive environment for children, families and staff. Further information regarding the staggered start on Wednesday 4th September will be sent out later on this week. If you require childcare around the one hour session in school on Wednesday 4th September, our Butterflies Holiday Club will be open and can be booked for your child(ren) via the butterflies email butterflieswraparoundcare@churchtown.org.uk. For those pupils who are in receipt of free school meals, 'grab bag' lunches will be available to pick up from the school office.



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Although this is a school day, as pupils are not attending for the full day, should you have any concerns regarding the safety or safeguarding of a child please refer to the following contact details outlined on our website <https://churchtown.org.uk/safeguarding-contacts>.

Finally, we have compiled a range of supportive information and resources for families to utilise. These resources include information on various services that are available to offer further support and other resources that you may find useful to support your child(ren) and yourselves over the coming weeks. We encourage you to make use of these resources as needed, and to reach out to should you require further support. All information and resources can be found by visiting our school website (www.churchtown.org.uk) or by clicking the link below: <https://churchtown.org.uk/support-resources/>

Please do not hesitate to contact us via email at office@churchtown.org.uk if you have any questions or if we can provide any further specific support. We are here to help and we stand united as a community to support one another through this incredibly challenging time.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Payne
Headteacher