



# Ditton CE Junior School

## Newsletter November

“Enriching generations to serve and flourish.”

It has been a **great joy** to begin to get to know your children. **Miss Johnson** and I have started with Year 6 this week and will move through the year group bubbles on a weekly basis to get a strong picture of your child’s experience. I’m impressed with the attitudes to learning and general behaviour of our oldest children after such a disruptive year and I think they are starting to show everything we would expect of our top team in the school. It will be a challenge for them to really fly this year with work to be caught up and expectations to get embedded again, but they are lovely to spend time with. Same can be said for the **staff** who strike me as very dedicated, hardworking and caring.



### Dress as a Firework

In lieu of our annual fireworks extravaganza we will be holding a dress down day tomorrow **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November**. Children can come to school dressed in brightly coloured clothes. We ask for a donation of £1 which will go to the PTA fund.

### Children in Need

Next week on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November** we will have another dress down day. Wear something spotty for Children in Need. Again we ask for a £1 donation for this good cause.



**Parents Evenings** – After much discussion we have decided that we will follow the same approach this term as our neighbour infants school. We will produce **a written report** for you on how your child is progressing, including targets for this term. This short report will include a feedback form for you to raise any questions or concerns. We aim to get reports out by Friday next week, and are planning follow up phone conversations where we need to respond to your feedback. Reports will take staff longer but I am already impressed by their willingness to go the extra mile. Sadly, unlike larger schools, we don’t have the infrastructure to manage zoom calls at this time.

### Hand sanitisers

Some parents have noticed that we are not consistently asking children to sanitise on entrance to the building as we used to. This is because, as they come in kitted out in gloves and more clothes, we are sanitising more often on entry to classrooms as the weather gets colder.



### Uniform

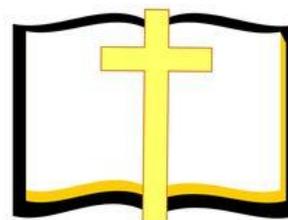
Can we also remind parents that there is a uniform statement on the website in the **Parents** section. I realise that it is not especially prescriptive but could I stress that, when time and money permits, we would prefer that children come to school in plain black shoes, that long hair is always tied back with minimal, i.e. boring, head accessories in blue or black, and that jewellery is studs only for safety at school. Many thanks.

Ditton Juniors is a school that sits firmly in its community with a distinctive Christian ethos. We help the children to learn about all major religions and their teachings but, as part of being a church school, we have four key values: **Respect, Empathy, Responsibility and Courage.**

We also have a strapline that states we are here – “**Enriching generations to serve and flourish.**” For our team and the children one way we can enrich their experience is to remember this verse.

[Luke 6:31](#)

And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.



**A message from the PTA** – the PTA will be holding their AGM via a zoom call this year due to Covid guidelines. This will happen on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.30 pm. A group will be created a week before with an invite code which will be emailed out prior to the date.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the PTA or just simply a helper please let us know via our email address or Facebook page, where we will be happy to explain the roles. Without helpers we will not be able to put on events and raise much needed funds for your children and school.

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