



Christ the King Catholic Nursery and Primary School

Ducklings Meeting

Tuesday 8th September



Things to Remember Every Day



Named Water Bottle



Book Bag



The gates open at 8:40am for morning drop off. Pick up is on the far end of the playground at 3:20pm.



Clubs

Christ the King offers a Breakfast Club and After School Club facility.

Breakfast Club

Times: 07:30 – 08:30

After School Club

Times: 15:20 – 18:00

There are some extra-curricular activities that Ducklings children can participate in. The costs for these clubs vary.



Lunch

All children in Ducklings are offered a free school lunch. This lunch includes a vegetarian and jacket potato option.

Children currently have the option to purchase additional drinks at a small charge.

Snack and Milk



wiseGEEK





In Ducklings we have lots of learning fun! We learn through play, by exploring different resources and experimenting with new ideas. The curriculum is planned around the following areas.



 English

 Art

 Mathematics

 Design and Technology

 Personal, Social & (DT)

Emotional Development  Computing

 Humanities (History

 RE

and Geography)

 PE — Children bring in PE kit and

 Music

change in school.



 Reading

 Phonics





Why is reading for pleasure vital?

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?		
Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
                   	    	
❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.



Why Your Child Can't Skip Their 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight

James

Travis

reads 20 minutes per night,
5 times per week



reads only 4 minutes per night
...or not at all

In one week:

100
minutes of reading



20
minutes of reading

In one month:

400
minutes of reading



80
minutes of reading

In one school year (9 months):

3600
minutes of reading



720
minutes of reading

By the end of eighth grade:

28,800
minutes of reading



5760
minutes of reading

Which student would you expect to read better?
Which student would you expect to know more?
Which student would you expect to write better?
Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?
Which student would you expect to be more successful in school and life?
How do you think each student will feel about himself as a learner?



Early Reading and Rhyme

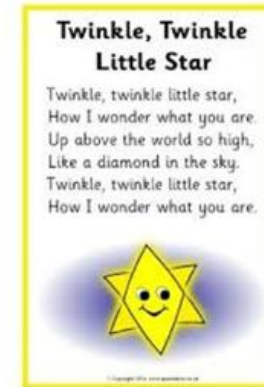
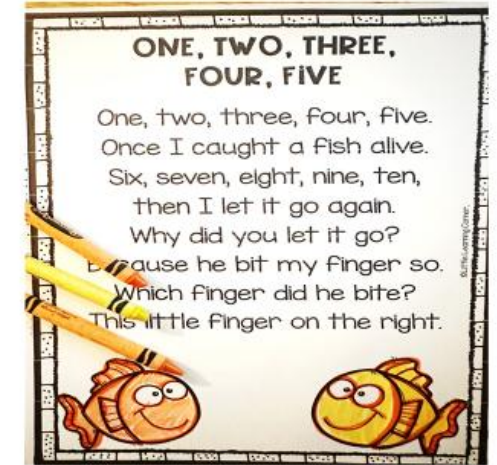
Why encourage the use of rhymes?

Some of the benefits of rhymes for children include:

- Repetition of rhymes and singing supports language and literacy development
- Children will take comfort from rhymes when they are repeated and become familiar
- Rhymes are portable play things - they can be sung or said any time, any place
- Through rhymes, children naturally learn essential skills for communicating, such as turn-taking and joining in

Evidence shows that familiarity with rhymes makes learning to read easier. This is because:

- Rhymes help children decode words (by detecting the phonetic constituents), for example recognising that cat rhymes with mat. Rhyming words also have similar spellings.
- There is also a link between rhyming with children and their phonemic awareness (the ability to hear the sounds and distinguish between them in the English language) Research highlights phonemic awareness as a strong predictor of a child's reading success.
- Knowledge of rhymes helps children progress in reading once they start school, regardless of socio-economic background, general intelligence or memory ability .





Homework

The children will continue to have Homework books this year. Each new term there will be a new set of activities for you to participate with and complete with your child. Books will go out on **Wednesdays** and are expected back on the following **Tuesday**. This is meant to be a fun and engaging way to continue what we are learning in school at home.

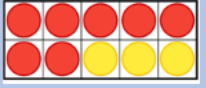


Christ the King HOMEWORK ACTIVITIES

Term 5

Ducklings

Every week your child will need to complete a literacy task (green section) **OR** a maths task (blue section) Please try to alternate between literacy and maths tasks each week. Please complete at least one topic activity (purple section per term). Please read every day.

Bring in a photo or drawing of a minibeast Explore outdoors together. If your child finds a minibeast, help them take a photo or make a very simple mark or scribble. You can label it for them. Encourage pointing or showing rather than speaking.	Life Cycle Poster Use real objects, toys, or pictures to show a simple life cycle (e.g., egg → chick → chicken). No writing needed—your child can place items in order or choose between two options.	Plants Go on a walk – what plants can you see? Let your child smell, touch, or point to plants. You may take photos and talk about them later.	Instructions Take pictures of your child doing a daily routine. Stick photos in order to make a visual instruction sequence.
Counting. Can you count forwards and backwards to 10 and then 20? Can you count further than 20? Play a board game and practise counting and reading numbers. Count objects together using real items like blocks or snacks. Let your child drop items into a container while you count aloud.	Positions Explore positions using toys or objects: in, on, under, behind, next to. Model language while your child places or points to items—no speech required. Take pictures to show different positions.	Adding and subtracting 1. Take turns to roll the dice. Collect the right <u>amount</u> of buttons. Add them up as you go. Who has the most at the end of 4 rolls? 2. Start with 10 buttons each. Roll the dice and take away the number. How many have you got left? Who has the most left at the end.	Facts to make 5 and 10 What are all the pairs of numbers to can find that add to 5 and to 10? Can you use a five frame or ten frame to help you? 
Plants and flowers What plants have you seen in our local area? Which ones can you name? Provide sensory art materials to create a plant picture. Your child can choose textures and colours.	Floating and Sinking Can you explain what float and sink mean? Find some different things around the house – which things do you think will sink and which will float. Test them out in the sink – were you right?	Make a minibeast mask Using any materials, make a mask of your favourite minibeast. What colours will it need to have? Can you tell us about your minibeast?	Transportation Explore different types of transport using toys, pictures, or real vehicles seen outside. Can you point to, choose, or match vehicles such as cars, buses, trains, bikes, or planes? Can you make a simple collage or place vehicles into groups (e.g., things that go on land, water, or in the air)?



Joining in school prayers



We are a Catholic school and we pray regularly during the school day. This gives the children quiet time to talk to God, to say thank you and to ask for help. It will help your child enjoy prayer time if they understand what prayer is and they are able to sit quietly during prayer time. You can help by saying family prayers together at home. You can also practice saying the school prayer with your child before they start school.



Recognising their own name

Your child is not expected to recognise letters and numbers when they start school, but it will help them if they can recognise their own name. They will see it written on their coat peg and school uniform and belongings, so recognising their own name will help them to identify their own things. They will also write their name on any work they do. You can help them by practicing writing their name with them before they start school. Start by getting them to trace over their name, and place name labels around your home so they can find and recognise them.





Encouraging self-care

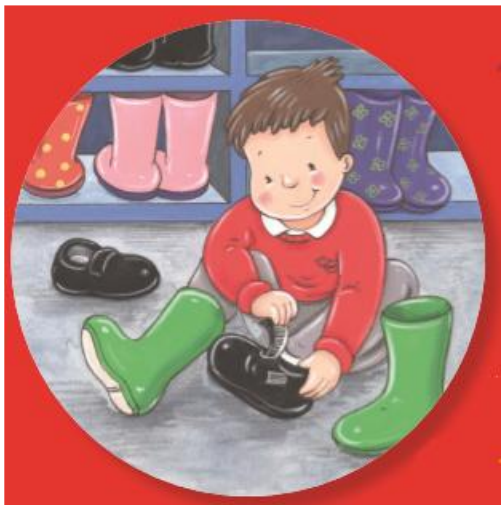


When your child comes to school, they will be encouraged to be more independent. So, they will usually be expected to go to the toilet by themselves. They should be able to wipe and flush after they have been to the toilet and be able to wash their hands with soap and water. If your child is not yet confident in going to the toilet independently, encourage them to practice in the months before they start school. We are happy to help any child that needs it, and we will always be supportive if a child has a toilet accident.



Getting dressed and undressed independently

During the school day, your child will be taking off their coat and shoes. Your child will find it much easier to do this by themselves if their clothes and shoes are easy for them to take off and put on. We recommend buying shoes with Velcro fastenings rather than laces, and clothes with big buttons and easy zips. Children often enjoy dressing-up games so encourage them to practice 'getting ready' for school at home in the weeks before they start school.



Using cutlery

We have staff to look after the children when they have their lunch, but it will help your child if they are able to use cutlery and feed themselves independently. They will feel more confident and grown-up. We are a very caring and kind school and we always encourage good table manners, so help your child practice at home before they come to school.





Questions?