

Aughton Christ Church C. E. Primary School
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26th March 2021

Communication

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you all to clarify our communication pathways before the summer term.

As a school we always publish a weekly newsletter and updates on our school website. Our main newsletter is published on a Friday to keep everyone updated about all aspects of school. Additional news updates are also published here as necessary. Over the last year we have published all relevant information on our school website to ensure our whole school community is updated about events in school.

Each week, we send a notification out to your school spider app to alert you to this. We also send out notifications of key events and reminders via the school spider app which everyone in school has signed up to.

During the national Pandemic, it has also been necessary to open up different pathways of communication due to remote learning, periods of school closure and to support home school relationships. During the last 12 months we have therefore initially introduced class emails and then *ClassDojo* as an essential and improved communication and learning platform.

ClassDojo has also opened up opportunities for additional and supportive ways of home school communication. We are therefore closing down class emails and I wish to confirm to everyone how we are now communicating with you regarding all aspects of school as we prepare to move into the summer term.

School Website

It is a **statutory requirement to have an updated school website**. All events in school are published on our school website under the **parents section** and **newsletters**.

Our weekly newsletters keep everyone updated about the things you need to know *including* class events. A notification is sent to you when updates appear and we encourage everyone to check our Friday Newsletters which are usually published by 5:00pm every Friday. *This is the primary point of our communications to you*. We also publish other updates in this part of our website and alert you when they appear. Everyone should check this part of our website regularly.

School Spider app

Everyone in school is signed up to our school spider app. This is our primary communication app which every parent should have as key reminders will be sent out using this platform. This is the way in which we would notify parents of any urgent aspects of school life such as a school closure. We also alert you to check our published updates using this. In the future, we will be using this app to book appointments and participate in questionnaires about school events and life so it is *crucial* everyone has this whole school point of contact.

ClassDojo

Everybody now has *ClassDojo* for remote learning purposes. This is now a new and necessary part of school life and communication. Due to the pandemic we now require this additional platform for remote learning and class communication. It does not replace our main communication pathways of the school website and School Spider app.

As parents cannot come into the building *ClassDojo* allows for strong home school links as there is a messaging service you can use to contact the class teacher. It is important to recognise that as teachers are teaching during the school day and have other duties, you may not receive a response until the following day to messages sent through *ClassDojo*.

This platform also allows the class teachers to send class information about learning, homework and class events to you remotely to save sending paper copies. This platform is for learning purposes and home school links for class teachers and families.

School email: bursar@aughtonchristchurch.lancs.sch.uk

We also have *one* school email address that you can contact. Class emails previously used have now been closed down as ClassDojo has replaced this to communicate with your child's classteacher.

Any *urgent messages* during the school day or information regarding *medical concerns*, *illness*, *absence* or *collection arrangements*, *complaints* or *request to talk to myself as Headteacher* should always be sent to the school email address. This is regularly checked from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm Monday to Friday.

As a school I firmly believe communication is crucial and understand the requirement to ensure this works for everyone. I hope this update ensures that our communication pathways are clear and allows everyone to have a complete understanding of school events and strong home school links.

Over the coming term I will be evaluating our communication pathways and providing an opportunity for parents and carers to evaluate this as well. If you do not have access to these pathways I ask that you please contact the school by email or telephone so that we can support you with this.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Mr D Kennedy Headteacher