

The Christ Church News



26th September 2025

Our value this term is: **RESPECT**

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RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE CREATIVITY FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that many of you enjoy the PTA's event this evening. We would like to thank them for organising this fun event and for the money that it will generate to go straight back into your child's school. There is also the AGM on Thursday evening.

We are really lucky that teachers and teaching partners run clubs in their own time after school. Unfortunately, a number of children are not attending the clubs they are signed up for and not giving reasons for non-attendance when they have been in school all day. The clubs are not an opt-in some weeks and not others. If you and your children have chosen not to attend a club anymore, please email the office so places can be released. Non-attendance after two weeks without notification may result in the place being cancelled. Please do chat with your child before signing up for any club – some children are quite perplexed as to why their parent has signed them up!

Prior notice - There are two parents' evening in October (21st and 23rd). For those new to the school, appointments are booked online, time slots are first come, first served. We will let you know when booking opens and how to do this. C & I children do not have parents' evenings in the same way.

Best wishes,

Mrs Pope

Diary Dates 25-26

26 th September	PTA Drink & Draw
2 nd October	PTA AGM
10 th October	Yr 2 Literature festival visit
13 th October	Yr 6, Yr 4 & Y1 Literature festival visit
15 th October	Yr 2 Cathedral / Mosque visit
17 th October	PTA disco – timings TBC
21 st October	Yr 3 lead Harvest Festival service at Church 10am
21 st & 23 rd October	Parents' evening – info to follow

23 rd October	PTA Non Uniform day
24 th October	INSET day – school closed for children
27 th – 31 st October	Half term – School closed
3 rd November	Children back to school
4 th , 5 th 6 th November	9.15am Reception 2026 tours for prospective parents – book via office
10 th 11 th and 12 th November	I sing pop rehearsals this week
11 th November	Yr 5 Remembrance service Lead by Y5
12 th November	Positive noticing day 9.15am Reception 2026 tour for prospective parents- book via office
13 th November	I-Sing pop concerts at church – 2pm & 6pm info to follow
14 th November	PTA quiz evening (adults only)
19 th November	Individual & sibling photograph day
3 rd December	9.15am Reception 2026 tour for prospective parents – book via office
5 th December	PTA Christmas Crafternoon – info to follow
9 th December	Nativity performance 2.15pm – ticket info to follow
10 th December	Nativity performance 9.30am – ticket info to follow
11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
17 th December	Yr R Everyman Theatre – info to follow
18 th December	Yr 4 lead Christmas Service – info to follow
19 th December	Last day – finish at usual time
5 th January	INSET day – school closed for children
6 th January	Children back to school
27 th February	PTA wine tasting (adults only)
4 th July	PTA summer picnic

House Captains



We welcome are new house captains. Children were asked to apply in writing for the position and then were interviewed by the SLT. Well done to all who applied.

Year 1

Year One have been learning different parables from the bible to answer the question 'What do many Christians believe about God?' We enjoyed acting out the story of 'The Lost Son' and discussing our favourite parts.



The son was so hungry he had to work for a farmer and was jealous of the pigs' food.

Our favourite parts of the story.



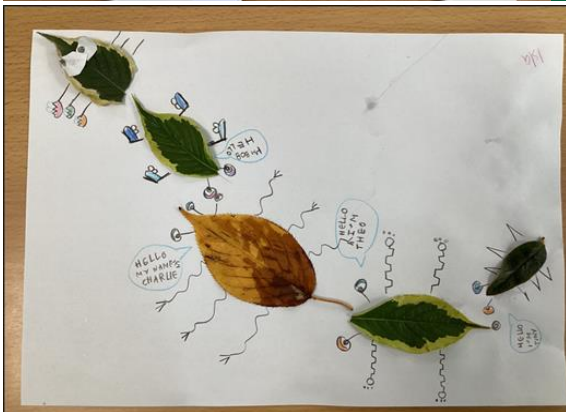
The father missed his son and looked for him to return.



The father was so happy that they threw a party.

Art Club

Art club have had a creative start to the year. Last week, the children have created some beautiful wax resist paintings using wax crayons and water colour. This week they have created bug characters using leaves gathered on the playground.



STEM Club



Opal Play

We love our playtimes at Christ Church! As well as our amazing climbing equipment, we have Opal play where we use lots of different resources in many inventive ways! Thank you for all your donations to our school.



Attendance



We know that GREAT attendance makes a real difference to your child's school experience. Being in school every day not only supports their learning but also helps them build a strong sense of belonging and self-worth. When children are part of the daily routines, friendships, and classroom learning, they feel more connected and confident in themselves.

Great attendance gives children the best chance to achieve their potential, both academically and socially. Every day in school is a step towards helping them be the very best they can be.

Thank you for your continued support in making sure your child attends school regularly and on time. Together, we can help them thrive.

Online Safety

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

SNAP STREAK
97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak has been going for a few days, users will see a 'Snapstreak' icon. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of extortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture these images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images or impulses – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a family safety hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report someone for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.




Source: see full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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Community Notices



Community Drop-ins In Cheltenham



Contact Us

01242 514417

0808 168 2443

Cheltenham.CBS@p3charity.org

We can help with:

- Tenancy support
- Dealing with household debts
- Staying independent
- Applying for benefits
- Getting in touch with other local agencies



Think we can help? Come and see us!

P3 Charity Cheltenham Hub

Unit 1 and 2, St Georges Business Park, Alstone Lane
Cheltenham GL51 8HF

Monday—Friday 10am—1pm

Springbank Resource Centre

Springbank Way, Cheltenham GL51 0LH

Tuesday 9am—1pm

The Cornerstone

1 Severn Road, Whaddon, Cheltenham GL52 5QA

Thursday 10am—12pm



www.p3charity.org



Ribston Hall
High School

SHARING AMBITION

Open Morning and Evening - Thursday 16th October



Ambitious
academic learners



Confident
and creative thinkers



Proud
to be Ribston

Our students are inspired to perform to the best of their ability, challenge themselves and go beyond expectations.

This event is aimed at Year 6 students who will have received their grammar school results as well as perspective year 5 students who are at the start of their grammar school journey.

Ribston is a community we are all proud of.

Visit our website to find out more: www.ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk/join-us