

The Christ Church News



1st May 2026

Our value this term is: **COMPASSION**

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RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE COURAGE FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to celebrate the success of our recent Year 4 residential, which proved to be a truly memorable experience for everyone involved. The children embraced opportunities with enthusiasm and courage, developing their independence, resilience and teamwork through a wide range of activities. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow as they challenged themselves, supported one another and returned to school full of stories, smiles and a real sense of achievement.

Experiences like this would not be possible without the dedication and generosity of our staff. We extend our sincere thanks to the team who gave up their time away from family and home comforts to care for the children so thoughtfully and attentively. Their commitment ensured that every child felt safe, encouraged and valued throughout the residential, making it an enriching and positive experience that will be remembered for a long time.

PE: We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our expectations regarding PE kit, specifically the requirement for children to have their house T-shirt. This helps to ensure that all children feel included and a valued member of their house team. Children are expected to wear their house T-shirt for PE lessons and this will also be required for participation in Sports Day. Wearing the correct house colours helps to promote team spirit and a sense of belonging across the school. If your child is attending extracurricular clubs, a plain white T-shirt is absolutely acceptable as an alternative. We appreciate your support in helping us maintain consistency and inclusivity for all pupils.

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend – hopefully the weather forecast will improve!

Mrs Pope

Diary Dates 26

Date	Event
4 th May	Bank Holiday – school closed
5 th May	YR & Y1 dental survey – selected children
6 th May	Class photos – children to wear full smart uniform including jumpers/cardigans

11 th - 15 th May	Y6 SATs week
16 th May	OPAL Working Party 10.00-13.00
18 th -22 nd May	Readathon Week – fundraising for children in Gloucestershire hospitals Walk to School Week – information to follow
19 th May	Y6 Residential Meeting 3.30pm
20 th May	Y1 Class Celebration service 9.00am - parents welcome
21 st May	Y2 Slimbridge trip – no more volunteers needed thanks
22 nd May	Last Day – School finishes at normal time
1 st June	Children back to school First aid training workshops for Reception, Y1, Y2, Y3
2 nd June	Y2 Science Festival trip – information to follow (no more volunteers needed)
3 rd June	Y5 & Y6 Science Festival trip – (no volunteers needed)
4 th June	Y3 Science Festival trip PTA meeting at The Swamp 7pm
5 th June	Y4 Science Festival trip – information to follow
8 th June	Book Fair arrives at school for the week
10 th June	Y6 Leavers’ service Gloucester Cathedral – children only
11 th June	Whole school geography workshop day
12 th June	PTA Disco – information to follow
16 th June	Sports Day - KS2 morning and KS1 afternoon
17 th June	Y4 Robinswood Trip – information to follow
18 th June	Y4, 5, 6 first aid training Reception 2026 parent meeting
19 th June	Prince of Wales athletics – invited children
20 th June	PTA Summer Picnic (note change of date)
23 rd June	Reserve Sports Day

24 th June	Y1 Weston-super-Mare trip – information to follow
25 th June	YR Perrygrove Railway trip – information to follow
1 st July	Move up morning – children go to their new classrooms
3 rd July	PTA Beach Party theme non-uniform day
6 th July	Whole school skipping workshops
8 th – 10 th July	Y6 Residential trip
9 th July	Y4 & Y5 Cheltenham Music festival trip
14 th July	2.00pm & 5.30pm Y6 Performance – PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE
15 th July	Rock Steady Concert 2.30pm
17 th July	Y6 Leavers' Service 2pm Last day - School finishes at normal time

Sports Day



Readathon Week starts 18th May

We are taking part in the DGAT Read for Good Readathon starting 18th May to raise money for children in Gloucestershire hospitals. Please see the separate letter sent out last week. We hope the children will be excited to read a variety of different texts across the week to get sponsorship at home for this great cause. You can watch this video to see a special message from Michael one of the Read for Good authors.

<https://vimeo.com/1173358782/f14e669ff0?fl=pl&fe=sh>



Year 2 Science – Sketching plants

We went outside to sketch parts of plants (stems, leaves and flowers) just like Jane Colden (the first female botanist) would have done back in the 1730s in New York! We have so many fantastic artists in our class, the end results were so detailed!



Orienteering Session

Year 2 absolutely loved their Orienteering Session with coach Tyler. They impressed him so much with their knowledge of compass points and were able to follow instructions to move e.g. North 3 steps, face East, move North three steps while facing East! The children then hid a beanbag for a partner and needed to direct them to that location using directions.



Year 4 PGL Liddington Residential – A Trip to Remember



Our two-night residential visit to PGL Liddington was a fantastic success and a truly memorable experience for both pupils and staff. From the moment we arrived, pupils threw themselves into the adventure, embracing new challenges, strengthening friendships and, most importantly, having fun.

Throughout the stay, children enjoyed spending quality time with their friends, building confidence and resilience as they worked together, supported one another and shared plenty of laughter along the way. The experience created memories we are sure will last a lifetime.

While the activities and social interaction were clear highlights, there were also some *very* memorable moments beyond the timetable. The PGL gift shop proved extremely popular, as did the hydration station – both of which we are confident you have already heard all about at home! We are incredibly proud of how the children represented our school.

Year 6

Record-Breaking Event Celebrates Success for YMCA Cheltenham - well done to our Y6 pupils who took part!

YMCA Cheltenham's annual BIG Shelter-Build challenge set a new record, with 64 primary school children, 6 homeschooled children, and 19 pre-schoolers taking part in the event on Friday 24th April. The whole of Y6 loved taking part - they represented Christ Church so well and in doing so, showed fantastic courageous advocacy. Held at the YMCA Cheltenham Sports Centre and Cherry Blossom Pre School, the event offered a unique opportunity for children to learn about homelessness in their community, understand the challenges people face, and find out more about the services that the YMCA provide as a charity. Throughout the session, the children had the chance to use their creativity and problem-solving skills by designing and building cardboard shelters. Collaborating with local construction firms, students from schools across Gloucestershire gained practical experience with basic construction techniques. Teachers and parents praised the event as a 'real-life' learning opportunity, combining education with social responsibility.



Worship Team Led Service – An Artist’s View of God – Finding God

Some members of the Year 6 Worship Team led our service on the next piece of artwork by Eloise Hopkins. Her friend, Tim Hutchinson took this photograph of smoke curling, then when he developed it, he noticed it looked like a pregnant woman. Eloise added pinpoint points of light as a crown using dots and dashes to spell out El Shaddai which is Hebrew for “God Almighty” or “All-sufficient one.” We thought about WOW moments in life when Christians feel closer to God and are thankful.



EL SHADDAI

Whoever goes to the Lord for safety,
whoever remains under the protection of the Almighty,
can say to him,
"You are my defender and protector.
You are my God; in you I trust."
Psalm 91:1-2 (GNT)

SOMETHING TO PONDER

Could you say 'wow' more?
What difference would it make?
What can you think of to thank God for now?



Cricket Club

Cricket club is off to a fantastic start and the children are thoroughly enjoying their sessions. We are so proud of the range of clubs we offer at Christ Church!



Attendance

Social and Emotional Development

Coming to school regularly is about much more than lessons. It gives children the chance to spend time with friends every day, share experiences, and learn how to work and play together. These daily interactions help them to build confidence, develop stronger communication and teamwork skills, and practise managing their feelings in a safe environment. Regular attendance also helps children feel part of the class and school community, giving them a stronger sense of belonging and security.

Learning Progress

Every lesson builds on the one before it. When children miss days at school, it's harder for them to keep up and gaps in learning can quickly grow. Regular attendance means children stay on track, build knowledge step by step, and develop the skills they need with confidence. It also helps teachers to support them more effectively, as they can see the full picture of each child's progress.

PTA Diary Dates

Wednesday 4th June – 7pm PTA meeting at the Swamp

Friday 12th June – Summer disco

Tuesday 16th June –Sports Day, selling ice coffee and soft drink in cans

Saturday 20th June – Summer Picnic

Friday 3rd July – Beach party themed non-uniform day

Lost & Found

A fit-bit watch was found outside school last week. We are holding it in the office. Owner to identify.

Community Notices



41st Cheltenham Scout Group
Teeth-gritting, keep-on-going, summit-reaching, giggling, fun-loving Beavers!
Monday nights-every week in term time at Scout District HQ, Brooklyn Road, Cheltenham.
Come and give it a go.
Beavers: Mondays 5.00pm – 6.30pm

BEAVERS

We need helpers too!

Scouts **41st Cheltenham Scout Group**
Vacancies for Beavers !

Our Beaver group meets on a Monday 5.00-6.30 at the Scout Hut on Brooklyn Road and we currently have vacancies for new Beavers. It is £12 a month for Subs and we meet in term-time only. If you think you have a keen child age 5,6 or 7 (Years 1-2) who would be interested in joining, please get in touch.

Please contact Harry "Brock" Butland, (41st Beavers Leader) by email:
41st.cheltenham.beavers@gmail.com



Previous attachment



Respect · Optimism · Community · Kindness

Open Evening

Thursday 4 June 2026
5:30pm – 7:30pm



For
Prospective
Students

Year 7
Admission
September
2027

Unlock Your Potential

Talks from the Principal at 6pm & 6:30pm in the
main hall.



Denmark Road
High School

Be part of the Denmark
Road experience.

Join us for our Open Morning
30th April or 4th June
8.45-10.30

All welcome.
No booking required.



www.denmarkroad.org



Frampton on Severn Sailing Club Junior and Families Info 2026 Short version:

Junior Sailing Opportunities (Ages 7-17)

Frampton on Severn Sailing Club is offering affordable junior sailing training sessions this spring, leading into their popular Junior Week in the summer holidays.

No experience needed – boats and safety gear provided. Just bring a wetsuit and the ability to swim!

Spaces are limited and training courses start soon.

Find out more about how to become a member and book here:
<https://www.fosec.org.uk/sailing/frampton-juniors>

MULTI-SPORTS CAMPS – Every school holiday ✓



Just Camps

School Holidays just got a whole lot more fun!

including:



at All Saints Academy & Bourneside School

Multi-Sports
Tag games
Mini-Olympics

Themed Arts & Crafts
Team games
And much more!



Register
Early and
Save 20%

My son absolutely loves Just Camps! So glad we've found this club. Amazing value and I know he is safe!
Lorraine Wilson



Blaze Pods

Ages 4-16 years
✓ Ofsted registered
✓ Childcare vouchers

Limited spaces available. Book early to avoid disappointment!

justcamps.co.uk
01242 436753

admin@justcamps.co.uk



1.5 mile run through beautiful NT woodland

FUN RUN

£6 entry - medals for all runners

Sunday 10th May

Run starts at 10am from Sherborne C of E Primary School, GL54 3DH

Come along and enjoy a fun family morning

Lots of great prizes, BBQ, tea & cakes!

Book your entry at Race Nation



in association with  National Trust

Proceeds to FOSS charity

KICK-A-BOUT
The Unique Football Experience

Weekly Football Sessions

FRIDAYS

Cheltenham
BOURNSIDE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE
Warden Hill Rd,
Cheltenham GL51 3EF

4-5 year olds	4:20-5:05
6-7 year olds	5:10-5:55
8-9 year olds	6:00-6:45
10-12 year olds	6:45-7:35
12-14 year olds	7:35-8:25

TWO WEEK FREE TRIAL

Book your child's place at www.kick-a-bout.com
Call DAVID on 07876 112444 | DAVID@kick-a-bout.com

Fully DBS (CRB) checked coaches | First Aid responders on site
Full insurance | Experienced FA qualified coaches

FOCUS ON INVOLVEMENT, FUN AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL!

COLOUR UP FOR KIDS

Prices from **£10**

Saturday 9th May 2026
Plock Court, Gloucester

Get ready for a splash of colour, bubbles, music, and inflatables!

Run, walk, or skip through this fun-filled family event while supporting local children facing childhood cancer, life-limiting and life-threatening conditions.

JAMES HOPKINS TRUST | **30 years of** | **Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust**

Just by taking part you'll be supporting 2 fantastic local charities that help support children facing childhood cancer, life-limiting and life-threatening conditions.

www.colourupforkids.co.uk

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