

The Christ Church News



15th May 2026

Our value this term is: **COMPASSION**

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RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE COURAGE FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils who have completed their SATs. They have approached this important milestone with determination, resilience, and truly positive attitudes throughout. Each child gave their very best effort, and that is something to celebrate. Thank you too to our dedicated staff, whose preparation, support, and encouragement have played such a vital role in helping the children feel confident and ready. A fantastic team effort!

The children were all treated to an ice lolly to end the week, thank you to our wonderful PFA for providing these.

Mrs Pope

Diary Dates 26

Date	Event
16 th May	OPAL Working Party 10.00-13.00 - CANCELLED
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
7 th July	2.45pm RSE meeting for parents TBC
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

Readathon Week starts 18th May

GET READY FOR READATHON®

We're raising money to help children in hospital

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. 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.

[One of our pupils Freya attends hospital each month and she had met a "Read for Good" visitor who gave her two books to enjoy while she was having her treatment last week. She said it really brightens up her day!](#)



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

[Sir David Attenborough's 100th Birthday](#)

We met together on Friday 8th May in the afternoon for a special webinar along with 1,000,000 other schools to celebrate Sir David Attenborough. Primary Picture News organised a webinar with Steve Backshall. It was lovely to mark this special occasion. We even sang happy birthday to him!



Who is he?

Sir David Attenborough is a famous TV presenter and conservationist,

who has spent his life exploring and explaining the natural world.

What has he done?

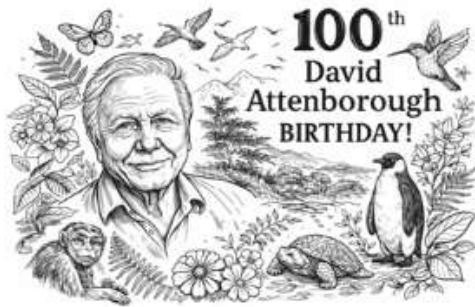
Sir David has made nature programmes for over 70 years!

He has created famous series like Planet Earth and Blue Planet, travelling all over the world to film animals and habitats.



Sir David Attenborough is 100!

Sir David aims to help people understand how the planet works, showing the beauty of nature and explaining why it's important to protect the environment.



Above: A graphic to commemorate Sir David's special birthday.
Source: Nathan Burns/Mrmetacognition

What are some of Sir David's key messages?

1. Humans need to take care of the Earth.
2. Small actions can make a big difference.



Interesting facts!

- Sir David has visited every continent!
- He has filmed some of the rarest animals on Earth.
- He's helped millions of people learn about wildlife.

We celebrated the life and legacy of Sir David Attenborough on his 100th birthday. We explored his work, the wonders of the natural world, and why protecting our planet matters more than ever. Through images, discussion and thoughtful questions, the children reflected on how one person's voice can inspire global change and what we can each do to care for the world around us.

Year 1

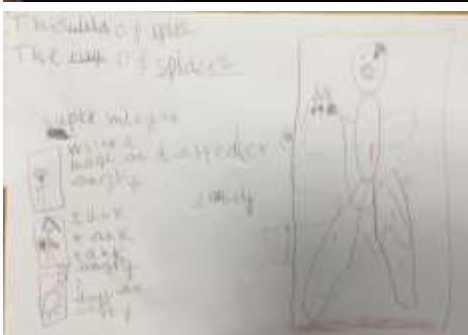
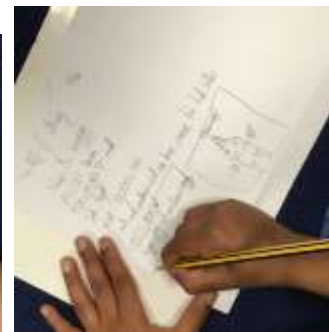
This week Year 1 have been learning about the parts of a flower and what plants need to grow. The children enjoyed planting their own sunflower seeds and are excited to see how much they grow over the next few weeks.



Year 3

Y3 enjoyed a virtual session with the author Kieran Larwood on Monday morning. Kieran spoke to the children about being an author and his most recent series of books, Dungeon Hunters.

The children enjoyed an interactive session in which they designed magical items, characters and then had a go at writing a battle scene! We really enjoyed it 😊



Year 6

Y6 enjoyed PE in the sunshine last week where they took part in a range of team games!

They have worked so hard in the run-up to SATs next week - we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them!





Well done Y6 for working so hard this week during their SATs. The children have made us really proud. Thank you to all the staff who have supported them. Here's to an exciting summer term ahead!



Whole School Joe Wicks Workout for Mental Health Awareness Week

We gathered together in the hall for a live assembly workout with Joe Wicks this week! It was great fun to exercise with over 200 of us in one space! We listened to Joe answer lots of questions too afterwards.

The children learned how exercise makes us feel good and it's so important for our mental health.



Over 200 of us working out!

Christ Church Prayer Space is coming next week to our school



Next week we have Gill Heron from Christ Church leading a Prayer Space in our school library. Each class will have the opportunity to visit and take part in the reflective tasks. In previous years, the children absolutely love this different experience.

Parents are welcome to come and visit with their children after school on Tuesday 19th May if they can meet Mrs Proctor by the main door where y5/6 leave at 3.20 until 3.45pm.

We know the children love to re-visit after their sessions at break and lunch too. Our library is transformed into a beautiful, special space for children to spend time thinking.

Why prayer spaces? Most children and young people are naturally curious about the world around them, and about spiritual things like God and prayer. At the same time, many struggle with anxieties, insecurities and difficult life experiences. Prayer spaces provide a safe place for them to be still, to think and feel, to ask questions, and to pray if they want to. These spaces make a valuable contribution to the wellbeing of pupils, and to the pastoral and spiritual life of whole school communities.



Attendance



PTA Diary Dates

Wednesday 4th June – 7pm PTA meeting at “The Swamp” at Deya

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

Community Notices



Ready, Set, Save!

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18th - 26th May

Gloucestershire Grammar Schools Entrance Test Dates for 2027 Entry

Register in Year 5
to sit Entrance Test in Year 6

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Opens: Monday 18 May 2026 (12 noon)

Closes: Friday 26 June 2026 (12 noon)



TEST DAY

Saturday 12 September 2026

[REGISTER HERE!](https://www.g7.applicaa.com)
G7.applicaa.com

For more information and to register, visit school websites



BOYS
marling@marling-school.co.uk



CO-ED
crysleeschool.org
pat@pate.org



GIRLS
denmarkroad.org
ristonhall@glouce.sch.uk
strosshigh.glouce.sch.uk



Move More. Every Child Thrives



lucy@move-more.org

Join #TeamMoveMore at the 2026 Run Cheltenham!

Move More is thrilled to offer you the chance to take part in Run Cheltenham and support a fantastic local cause!

★ Why Join the Move More Mile?

- Tickets only £5 – accessible for everyone
- A brilliant, feel-good morning at one of Cheltenham's biggest events
- Perfect for schools and families
- Celebrate movement, wellbeing and community together
- Support our mission to help every child thrive

[CLICK HERE TO ENTER](#)

Last year, thanks to supporters like you, Move More worked with over **20,000** children and young people across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. By taking part, you're helping us make an even bigger impact this year.

Every runner makes a difference! The school with the highest percentage of pupils taking part will win a sports equipment voucher.



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Message from Gloucestershire County Council - [Bikeability](#)

We wanted to let you know about the upcoming [Bikeability](#) Holiday Course taking place during the May half term. This is a great opportunity for pupils who may have missed [Bikeability](#) training in school to still take part and learn an important life skill through cycling.

Cycling helps children build confidence, independence, and physical activity into their daily lives. It also plays an important role in road safety, helping pupils develop the skills and awareness they need to ride safely, understand the road environment, and make safer journeys.

We would be very grateful if you could help promote this opportunity by including it in your school newsletter and sharing it across your school network with parents, carers, and colleagues.

Further information and booking details can be found here:

<https://www.thinktravel.info/upcoming-events/bikeability-holiday-courses>

We also wanted to highlight that we will be running two further holiday course sessions, during the summer holidays and October half term, so there will be more opportunities for pupils to take part later in the year as well.

Thank you for your support in helping more children access this valuable training.

[Thinktravel](#)

Gloucestershire County Council

Integrated Transport Unit

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Follow us on Facebook or X: [@thinktravelglos](#)