

The Christ Church News



11th September 2026

Our value this term is: **RESPECT**

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RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE COURAGE FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic week it has been at school! Our children have enjoyed a range of exciting enrichment opportunities, including BMX workshops, a climbing wall experience and / or cheerleading. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, confidence and determination as they embraced these new challenges. We are incredibly fortunate to be able to offer such a wide range of experiences, and we know that not all schools are able to provide this breadth of enrichment. These opportunities help to create lasting memories and support the development of important life skills beyond the classroom.

A reminder that there are currently spaces available at Kidzone. As an externally run provision, we would encourage families to support and make use of this valuable service.

If you have siblings who are due to start in September 2027, please email the office as soon as possible admin@christchurch.dgat.org.uk so that we can compile a list of likely spaces for new families. Tours have been added to the diary dates if you know anyone seeking a space. If you are already a parent, there is no expectation to come and look again unless you want to.

A reminder that children need a waterproof coat in school every day. If your child is not wearing school shoes, please let class teachers know why this is not possible – we can look at ways to help.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We wish you all a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for another exciting week ahead.

Mrs Pope

Diary Dates

Date	Event
14-17 th September	Y6 Bikeability – pay in Arbor (Children will need a roadworthy bike & helmet)
15 th September	Y2 Meet the Teacher 3.25-3.45pm

22 nd September	YR Phonics meeting 3.30pm
24 th September	Y1 & Y5 Meet the Teacher 3.25-3.45pm
29 th September	YR Maths meeting 3.25-3.45pm Y5 Evacuation Trip – Pay on Arbor
7 th October	9.15am R2027 tour
9 th October	Y4 – Literature festival visit – Information to follow PTA adult quiz night – information to follow
12 th October	Photo day - Individual children
14 th October	Y1, Y2 & Y3 Literature festival visit – information to follow
16 th October	PTA disco – details to follow
20 th October	10am Y3 Harvest service at Church – all welcome – Food Bank donations
20 th & 22 nd October	Parents’ evening – booking information to follow
21 st October	Y2 Mosque & Cathedral Trip – – pay in Arbor/parent helpers needed 9.15am R2027 Tour
22 nd October	Flu immunisations – consent information to follow PTA Go Green – non uniform event – information to follow Last day - finish normal time
23 rd October	INSET day – school closed for children
2 nd November	Term 2 begins - first day back for children
3 rd November	Y3 Stone Age Workshop at The Wilson Museum – information to follow 9.15am R2027 tour
4 th November	9.15am R2027 tour
11 th November	9am Y5 Remembrance Service - Y5 parents are welcome
15 th -21 st November	Road Safety Week
18 th November	9.15am R2027 tour
20 th November	Children in Need
25 th November	9am Y6 Friendship Service – Y6 parents are welcome
2 nd December	PTA Wreath making event - information to follow (adults only)

4 th December	PTA Non uniform day – bottle & present donations
8 th December	Yr & Y1 Nativity 2.15pm – information to follow
9 th December	Yr & Y1 Nativity 9.30am – information to follow
10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
11 th December	PTA Christmas event
14 th December	10am Y4 Christmas Service at church
18 th December	Last day – finish normal time
5 th January	Term 3 begins – first day back for children
9 th February	PTA sponsored pancake flip – information to follow
19 th June	PTA summer party
6 th -9 th July	Year 6 Residential

KS2 BMX Workshops and Whole School Assembly

This week, KS2 were lucky enough to enjoy an exciting visit from **Mike, a professional BMX rider and coach**. During his inspiring assembly, Mike spoke to the children about his BMX journey and the importance of **resilience, perseverance and never giving up**.

The children then took part in a fantastic BMX workshop, where they had the opportunity to learn new skills and tricks. They also learnt about **“Fleams” – turning a failure or mistake into a learning opportunity**. The children discovered that it is okay if something doesn’t work the first time. Instead, they can think about what went wrong, learn from it, have another go and improve.

The children showed fantastic **resilience and determination**, pushing themselves to try things they found challenging and celebrating their progress along the way.

To finish, the **whole school enjoyed an incredible BMX showcase**, with Mike and his talented **demo team** wowing us with an amazing display of BMX tricks and skills. It was a thrilling end to a brilliant Tuesday and a wonderful reminder that **mistakes help us learn, challenges help us grow and perseverance helps us succeed!**



We love this message Mike talks about called a "flearn" - learning from failure.

Cheerleading

KS2 were treated to a showcase display from professional cheerleaders today as part of Sporty September. They learnt about how important it is to work hard and treat everyone respectfully as part of teamwork. Cheerleading club takes place at school every Monday - there are still places available if your child wishes to take part (please see the clubs overview and follow the link to All Stars Passion Cheerleading to sign-up).



Infant Climbing Wall Sessions

YR, Y1 and Y2 LOVED their climbing wall sessions with 270 this week. The children were so brave and showed courage and determination with so many pupils reaching the top and pressing the buzzer! Those who didn't reach the buzzer returned to class "buzzing" with pride and a sense of achievement. What a fun start to Sporty September! If your child loves climbing, there are two local places you can take them – Boulders Cheltenham and 270 Climbing.



Well done to all of our Year 1 children, who had an amazing time on the climbing wall that visited school on Wednesday! The children approached the challenge with great enthusiasm and excitement, showing fantastic perseverance, courage and determination as they climbed higher and pushed themselves to try something new. We were incredibly proud of the way they supported one another and demonstrated such positive attitudes throughout the morning. What a wonderful and memorable experience had by all!

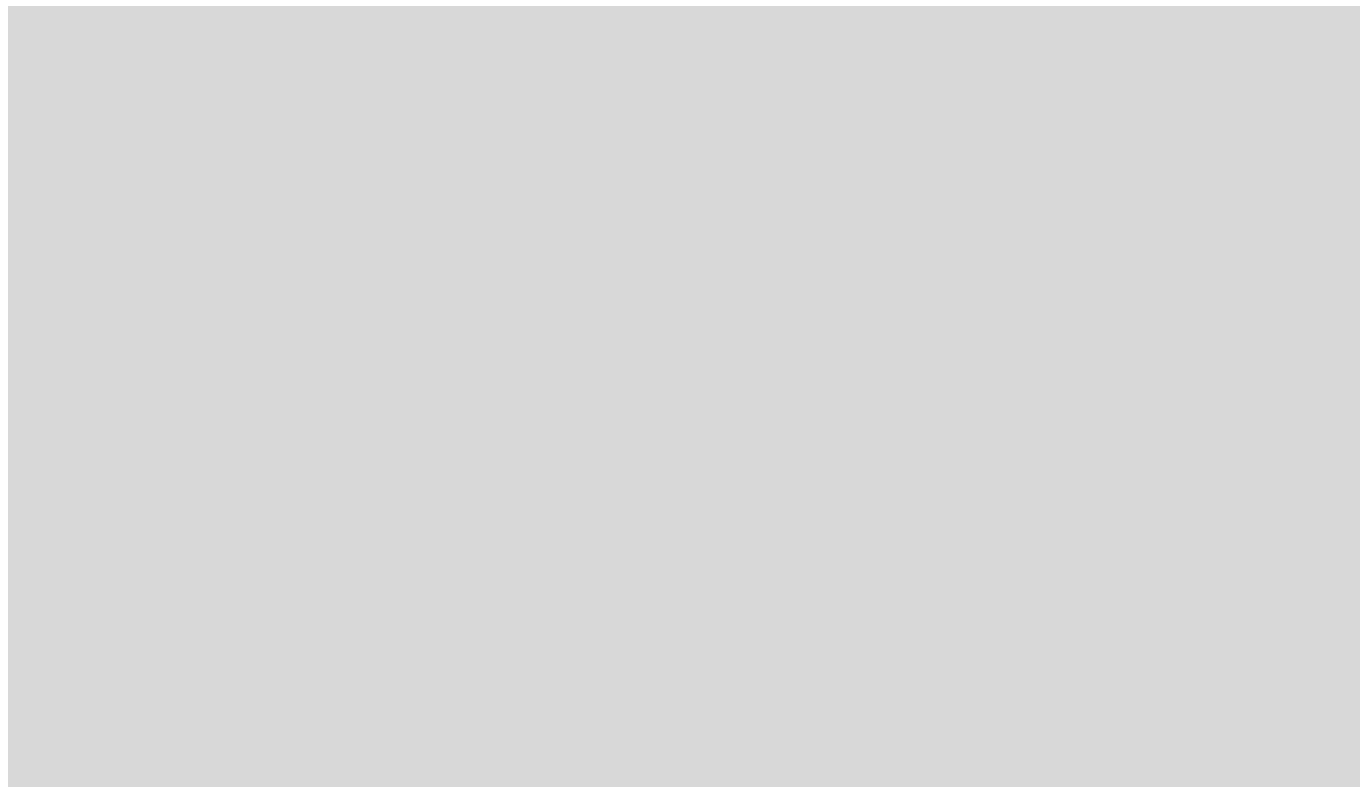


It was lovely to hear the children cheering on their friends and encouraging them to keep going!

"Be Strong and Courageous" Song

All these sporty activities have linked nicely to our Bible Scripture and school song.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tiLSlIDcAVU&t=1s>



If your child loves singing, all the worship songs we use are on our website with links online.

Year 2 Design and Technology - Bread-making project

This week, Year 2 have tasted different types of breads (white, wholemeal, seeded, cheesy and chocolate brioche) to see what textures they liked before designing their own individual loaves of bread. Each child sketched out their design and helped Mrs Proctor write a shopping list – we had many shapes and tastes including, cheesy, raisin, olive, seeded and even carrot but we decided to keep our loaves healthy and leave the chocolate chips out! Lots of skills were learned like following instructions, measuring, grating to name a few. We hope they are excited to make their bread at home too and maybe change their design this time.

A big thank you to Mrs Mwakyegula who took the children in small groups to make their dough and to Lisa in our school kitchen who kindly baked the bread in her large ovens. There are more photos on the Year 2 class webpage.



Reception

Reception have been welcomed to the Christ Church family by placing their fingerprint onto a canvas and having it turned into a ladybird!



Reading Corner

As the evenings begin to draw in, why not set aside ten minutes each day to enjoy a story together? Reading with your child is one of the best ways to support their learning, build their vocabulary and nurture a lifelong love of books. Whether it's a favourite bedtime story, a chapter from a longer book or even sharing a magazine or comic, every shared reading experience helps develop confidence and enjoyment. Why not let your child choose a book this week and make reading together part of your daily routine?

As a school we talk about prosody- the musicality of reading- which is a vital part of becoming a confident and expressive reader. Through high-quality modelling, adults demonstrate how their voice can be used deliberately to reflect meaning, mood and punctuation. Pupils learn to notice the rise and fall of the voice, changes in pace, volume and intonation, and the strategic use of pauses to create effect and enhance understanding. By regularly listening to and imitating fluent, expressive reading, children develop their own reading voice, deepen comprehension and gain confidence in communicating meaning through the spoken word.

Stay and Read: you will have the opportunity to watch your children in action during our upcoming stay and read event. Further details will follow shortly.

A Message About the Importance of Being in School

We know that school is about much more than academic learning. While regular attendance is vital for children to make progress in reading, writing and mathematics, being in school also provides many important opportunities that help children grow and thrive.

Each day at school, children learn how to work and play alongside others, develop friendships, build confidence and resilience, and establish routines that support their emotional wellbeing. Through shared experiences, team activities, classroom discussions and social interactions, children develop the skills they need to navigate the wider world successfully.

For many children, the sense of belonging that comes from being part of a school community is especially important. Feeling connected, valued and safe helps children to flourish both personally and academically. We recognise that this is not always the experience for every child immediately, but regular attendance gives us the best opportunity to support them in developing positive relationships and feeling part of our school family.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your child attends school every day whenever possible. Together, we can help them make the most of all the opportunities that school has to offer.

The Local Offer

Every family's journey is unique, and sometimes a little extra support can make a big difference. Gloucestershire's Local Offer is a fantastic source of information, advice and guidance for families of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Whether you are looking for local activities, support services, parenting advice or information about education and health provision, the Local Offer brings everything together in one easy-to-access place. We encourage all families to explore the website and discover the wide range of help and opportunities available across Gloucestershire.

[GloSFamilies Directory](#) | [Support for Families with SEND - Gloucestershire's Local Offer for Parent Carers](#)

PTA

PTA events - date for your diary

Friday 11th September - second hand uniform sale

Friday 9th October - Adult Quiz Night

Friday 16th October - School Disco

Thursday 22nd October - Go-Green non school uniform event

Wednesday 2nd December - wreath making adult event

Friday 4th December - non uniform day - bottle and present donations

Friday 11th December - Santa's Unlikely Helpers Show - Meet the animals behind all the Christmas magic + Christmas event

Tuesday 9th February - Sponsored Pancake Flip

Saturday 19th June - Summer party



Community Notices

LIVING WELL
SUPPORT

Family Group



**Thursdays
School Holidays**

Oct 29 / Dec 22 / Feb 18
10:00am - 12:00pm
Longfield Living Well Service
Burleigh Lane, Minchinhampton
Gloucestershire GL5 2PQ



longfield.org.uk/family-group
Registered Charity Number 258627

LONGFIELD
Community Hospice

Supporting families to connect

Is someone in your family living with a life-limiting condition or bereaved?
Bring along your family to our school holiday Family Group.
A welcoming space for all the family.
Enjoy craft activities, games, and nature.
Connect with others in a similar situation.

For more information:
livingwell@longfield.org.uk
01453 733706

FR Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Looking For A Great-Value Family Day Out This Autumn?

Cheltenham Town Women FC compete in the FA Women's National League Southern Premier Division, the third tier of women's football in England, with a number of home fixtures coming up at Kayte Lane, Bishops Cleeve FC (GL52 3PD) throughout September and October.

Families can enjoy the action with our brand-new **Family Ticket for just £15**, covering **2 Adults and up to 4 Under 18s**.

Upcoming fixtures include:

Sunday 6 September, 2pm – Worcester City (WNL Cup)

Sunday 13 September, 2pm – Exeter City

Sunday 4 October, 2pm – Hashtag United

Sunday 11 October, 2pm – Plymouth Argyle

Thursday 29 October, 7:45pm – Swindon Town

Tickets: <https://app.fanbaseclub.com/club/cheltenham-town-women-fc>

Come along, enjoy live women's football and support the local team!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Family Tickets can be purchased online in advance or for £15 at the turnstiles on the day. All members of the Family Ticket group must enter the ground together.

Fixtures are subject to change. Please check ctwomenfc.com or our social media channels for the latest fixture information before travelling.

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