

# The Christ Church News



27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Our value this term is: **THANKFULNESS**

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**RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE CREATIVITY FRIENDSHIP**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had an amazing week, mainly due to the whole school enjoying a trip to Cattle County – fully funded by the PTA and your donations. It was lovely to be together as a whole school family, enjoying having fun together. Thank you to the staff and volunteers that helped – we think they had a lot of fun too.

Exciting news: Mrs Parker is expecting another baby and will be starting maternity leave at the end of October. We would like to congratulate her and her family on this super news.

We are saying goodbye to Ms Kot today. She has been a super team member and we will all miss her very much. Keep in touch.

The PTA are collecting soft toys for the tombola at the summer fair. Collecting bags will be by the Year 6 entrance on the playground.

A polite reminder that children are not allowed to play with or on any equipment before or after school. Thank you.

We are looking forward to the school disco tonight – thank you PTA :)

Best wishes

Mrs Pope

## Diary Dates Summer Term 2025

Date	Event
27 <sup>th</sup> June	School disco Infants 4.45-5.45pm. Juniors 6.00-7.00pm
1 <sup>st</sup> July	9am EYFS service
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Move up morning – children meet new teachers
5 <sup>th</sup> July	PTA Summer Picnic
9 <sup>th</sup> July	2.30pm Rock Steady Concert (please note change of date)
10 <sup>th</sup> July	9am Y2 service

	Y1 trip to Weston-Super-Mare (re-scheduled date)
9 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Residential trip
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 performance 2pm & 5.30pm – book tickets via shop in Arbor
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of school – finish normal time – Summer Holiday  Y6 leavers’ service 2pm in the hall
21 <sup>st</sup> July	INSET day – no school for children

### **Staffing**

We have now finalised our teachers for 2025-2026.

We would like to welcome two new part-time teachers, Mrs Hugo and Mrs Knight, who are joining our team after a rigorous interview day. They will be spending time in school before the start of term.

Our move up morning 2<sup>nd</sup> July, will allow children to meet their new teachers and teaching partners.

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
EYFS	Mrs Alexander	Mrs Alexander	Mrs Readman	Mrs Readman	Mrs Readman
Y1	Mrs Smart	Mrs Smart	Mrs Smart	Mrs Smart	Mrs Hugo
Y2	Mrs Proctor	Mrs Proctor	Mrs Proctor	Mrs Proctor	Mrs Proctor
Y3	Mrs Knight	Mrs Knight	Ms Steel until Dec Mrs Kirby from Jan	Ms Steel until Dec Mrs Kirby from Jan	Ms Steel until Dec Mrs Kirby from Jan
Y4	Mrs Burton	Mrs Burton	Mrs Burton	Mrs Burton	Mrs Parker until Oct Ms Guy from Nov
Y5	Mrs Walker	Mrs Walker	Miss Hillier	Miss Hillier	Miss Hillier
Y6	Miss Greenwood	Miss Greenwood	Miss Greenwood	Miss Greenwood	Miss Greenwood

Teaching partners often work across classes depending on need so it is more difficult to make a simple table.

As such, teaching partners will be in these year groups at points during the week:

EYFS: Ms Freer

Y1: Mrs Slee

Y2: Mrs Mwakeguela, Ms Hakimi

Y3: Mrs Allen, Mrs Jaynes

Y4: Ms Guy, Mrs Phelps, Mrs Rees, Mrs Stoddart, Mrs Sugur, Mrs Phelps, Mrs Sugur

Y5: Mrs Moores, Mr Hofman, Mrs Munro (new TP)

Y6: Mrs Parr, Mrs Jaynes, Mrs Rees, Mrs Sugur, Miss Gillen

Pastoral Lead TP: Mrs Pickering

SENDCO: Mrs Pendlebury

### Cattle Country

A wonderful time at Cattle Country for our whole school trip! Here is a recount from Year 4:

Yesterday was our very first whole school trip! Our destination was the fantastic Cattle Country and it was just 35 minutes from school.

The first activity we did was play in the giant sandpit. Lots of equipment was provided, including buckets, spades and little wheelbarrows. Most of our class played tag but the others dug and transported sand with the help of the borrowed wheelbarrows.

Next up was a crazy active play in the Cowshed. This building held a soft play and there were slides such as a curvy slide that had bumps now and then. Walking in, you would first see a race track that timed how quick you could complete the challenge within. In this was a roped climbing frame then you had to swing across a ball pit, slide or climb down a bumpy slope and go through a collision of giant rubber balls and finally dive through the hole that led you to the finish line where beside it you had to press a rectangular button. There was a tiny town to the right of this and a track where you could drive mini cars around.

Afterwards we stumbled out dizzily to bounce on the massive inflatable pillows on which we turned and tumbled. One of them could hold up to 15 children while the other blue one was half the size.

Our last activity of the morning was meeting animals such as baby goats, who liked to try to chew your clothing, as well as rabbits, chicks and guinea pigs. Outside of this roamed deer, alpacas and pigs, while male peacocks were showing off to the females, who couldn't care less! Ducks and chickens were also within the pen.

For most food lovers, the best part was lunch! We sat on the picnic benches around the map. Obviously, after all the morning events, everyone was ravenous for their scrumptious lunch that parents (or guardians) had packed.

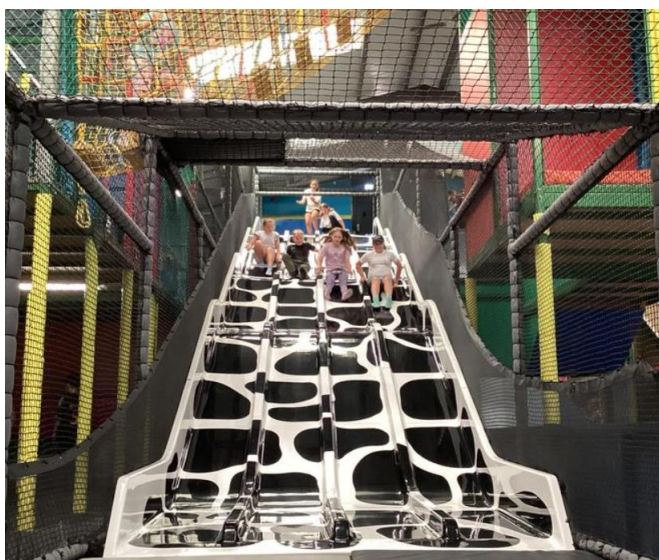
After all the school had eaten their personal feasts, we all went into the Slide Barn, where known by the name, a variety of slides lay. Within this was an even bigger death slide than the one mentioned in the previous playroom. Like in the sandpit, most people played tag, while others were exploring this adventurous soft play room.

Before departing, we played in a smaller replica of Berkely Castle with added slides and obstacles. Once more, the pupils of CCPS played their best game of tag (again!) while others roamed and rode the zip wire. Some of us were so exhausted by then we chilled under a big weeping willow with a refreshing drinks break..

We finally departed on the four double deckers, keeping the memory of this spectacular day forever in our minds. Thank you to the PTA for this special end of year experience!

Esme and Noah Y4





### Grow your own potatoes competition

Year 2 harvested their potatoes in time to enter them for the national competition and Lisa in the kitchen kindly cooked the salad potatoes for the children to have with their lunch – positive responses and every one was eaten by



children in Y1 and 2!



### Year 2 D+T Sewing project

Children designed and sewed their own animal felt decoration this year with some pupils making it at the local care home with the residents which brightened up their day! All the children explored ideas for flower theme cushion covers and worked as a group to combine ideas before sewing 5 cushions we will donate to the care home as a gift for the residents. Many thanks to Meridon and Bella's mums who came to help with using a sewing machine. We will share the final finished cushions with you soon!



### Donut the Dog



Donut the Dog has been in visiting pupils again listening to them read!

### Prince of Wales Athletics – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Well done to the amazing team of athletes who took part and represented Christ Church brilliantly in the Prince of Wales Athletics on Friday last week. It was extremely hot, but the team persevered and showed determination and excellent sportsmanship. Christ Church came away with 5 medals – congratulations to these athletes. Thank you to Miss Hillier for organising! We wanted to also highlight the vital role that the reserve athletes had and want to thank them, and their families, for supporting them to fulfil this.

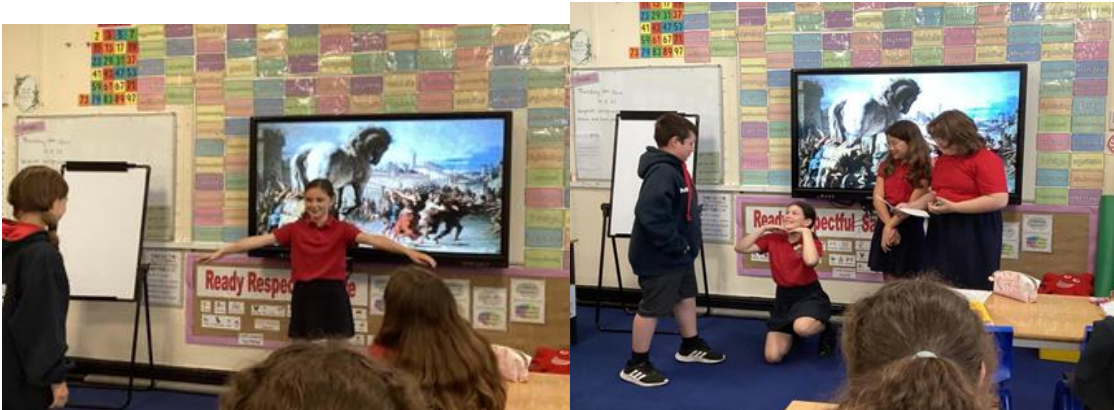
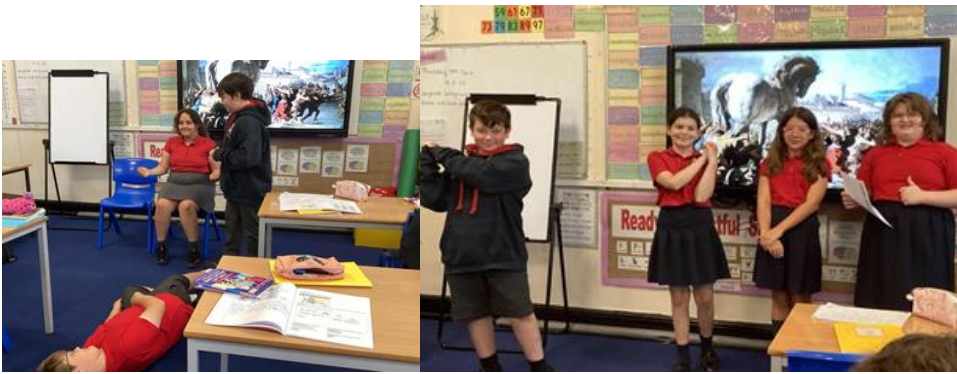


Our medal winners were:

- Yr3 boys - Bronze team relay
- Flo - Silver Yr3 individual sprint
- Jesse - Silver Yr3 individual sprint
- Eva - Gold Yr4 individual sprint
- Emmanuella - Silver Yr5 individual sprint

### **Year 6** - Acting out the story of The Trojan Horse in History

The Trojan Horse story is a famous legend from the Trojan War, where the Greeks, after a decade-long siege of Troy, used a large wooden horse to infiltrate the city. The Greeks left the horse as a supposed offering to the gods while pretending to sail away. The Trojans, believing they had won, brought the horse inside their walls. That night, Greek soldiers hidden inside the horse emerged, opened the city gates, and allowed the rest of the Greek army to enter and conquer Troy 🏰 🗡️



## Year 1

This week in Computing, Year One have been learning how to programme using Scratch Junior. We have been giving our character instructions of how to move and choosing different settings for him.



## Attendance



Well done to Reception: 100% attendance this week!

Year group(s) this week	Attendance this week
Reception	100%
Year 1	93.5%
Year 2	95.8%
Year 3	93.9%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	98.5%
Year 6	97.7%

### **Bikeability Course Registration – Summer Holiday 2025**

Gloucestershire County Council is running Bikeability courses at SkillZONE (Tuffley Lane, Gloucester, GL4 0AS) during the Summer Holiday 2025. The courses are designed for children aged 9 to 14 and delivered by fully qualified, Enhanced DBS-checked and First Aid trained instructors in small groups (1 instructor to 3 children). The cost is just £8 per participant.

### **Internet**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18  
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like *Cyberpunk 2077* and *Hitman* have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

### IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

### UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like *Fortnite* or *Call of Duty: Warzone* allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

### GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

### CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

### POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, *The Super Mario Bros. Movie* (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

### REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

### REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by disabling credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor at *Daily Star* and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including *IGN*, *TechRadar*, and plenty more.



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