

The Christ Church News



18th September 2026

Our value this term is: **RESPECT**

Telephone: (01242) 523392

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Web: www.christchurchschool-chelt.co.uk

RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE COURAGE FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move further into September, it is beginning to feel a little more autumnal. With cooler mornings and the likelihood of wetter weather ahead, please ensure that children bring a waterproof jacket to school each day.

Our Year 6 pupils have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Bikeability this week and have developed valuable cycling skills and confidence.

We also hope that parents found the recent *Meet the Teacher* sessions useful and informative, providing a helpful opportunity to learn more about the year ahead and ways to support learning at home. Some are still to come!

Finally, a reminder that, due to allergies within our school community, children must not bring any products containing nuts into school. Please see the information below about this.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and we wish you a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Pope

Allergy Awareness

At Christ Church, we are committed to being an allergy-aware school and to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all our pupils. We have children in school with severe allergies, including some who are at risk of anaphylaxis. Whilst we cannot guarantee that our school environment is completely nut-free, we strongly ask that children do not bring products containing nuts into school, including nut sandwiches, peanut butter, chocolate spreads containing nuts, cereal bars or nut-based snacks. Even small traces of nuts can cause a serious allergic reaction for some children. We appreciate the support of all families in helping us to reduce the risk of accidental exposure and create a safer environment for everyone. For further information about food allergies and how you can help keep children safe, please visit <https://www.allergyawareuk.org/>

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Diary Dates

Date	Event
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 (Y2 have enough helpers now thanks, Y1/Y3 helpers still needed)
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 RE Trip – pay in Arbor (We have enough helpers now thanks) 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 at school - Y5 parents are welcome
16 th -20 th November	Road Safety Week
17 th November	Y2 Cinema Trip – details to follow (we have enough helpers now thanks)
18 th November	9.15am R2027 tour

	Y5/6 Cinema Trip – details to follow Y6 Swimming starts
19 th November	Y3 Cinema Trip – details to follow (parent helpers needed)
20 th November	Children in Need
23 rd November	8.50am Stay and read – Join your child in their classroom and see how we teach reading
25 th November	9am Y6 Friendship Service – Y6 parents are welcome
27 th November	Y4 Cinema Trip – details to follow
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 - donations for Save the Children charity
11 th December	PTA Christmas event
14 th December	10am Y4 Christmas Service at church – parents arrive from 9.50am
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

Year 6 Bikeability



This week, our Year 6 children have really enjoyed taking part in Bikeability! They developed their road safety skills, built confidence and learned how to cycle safely and responsibly on the roads. The instructors commented on how wonderfully behaved the children were and what exemplary representatives they were of Christ Church. We are incredibly proud of them - well done, Year 6!

Attendance and Holidays

Good attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children achieve well at school. Every day in the classroom provides valuable learning opportunities, as well as supporting children's friendships, confidence and sense of belonging within our school community.

We would like to remind parents that holidays taken during term time will not be authorised, except in very exceptional circumstances. This is not a decision made by the school; it is government guidance that all schools are required to follow. While we understand that holidays can sometimes be more affordable during term time, even a short period of absence can mean children miss important learning, making it harder for them to keep up with their classmates and fully engage in future lessons.

We greatly appreciate your support in this.

Collective Worship Services

We are so fortunate to have a fantastic plan of daily Collective Worship at our school. It's always a highlight of the day coming together as our school family.

Mondays – Mrs Pope leads a values-based service – Y6 Worship Team lead one a term too

Tuesdays – Singing Worship

Wednesdays – Open the Book come from Christ Church to retell a Bible story every fortnight or we have an OPAL, British Values or PSHE themed service on the alternate weeks.

Thursdays – Normally this is led by the vicar at Christ Church but as we await a replacement for Rev Simon, we have invited Matt and his team from Youth4Christ Gloucestershire to come in who link to our current value each fortnight. On the alternate week, we have Rev Jacqueline Henson visiting to kindly lead our service too.

Fridays – Celebration Services where we celebrate our acts of kindness, external certificates, TTRS/Numbots certificates, reading certificates and writer of the month.

Our worship team in Y6 plan and lead services. Each class will lead a collective worship throughout the year. Keep an eye out on the newsletter for those dates.

Summer Library Challenge



Well done to everyone who took part in the Gloucestershire Summer Library Challenge this year. Christ Church always has a high number of participants and it's a great way to keep our love of reading up in the holidays!

Jigsaw Launch Assembly – Term 1

In our PSHE lessons this term, we explore "Being Me in my World" across the school. Mrs Paterson led a special launch assembly and all the classes brought their Jigsaw characters to the hall. The story explored gratitude and how even if we feel a bit sad or low, we should always remember to think what we are grateful for. It is good to focus on positive things and experiences we have.



Gratitude is pausing to observe and feel appreciation for the things we are thankful for.



Being grateful is about focusing on what's good in our lives...



... and being thankful for the things and experiences that we have.

Reading Corner

Save the Date – Stay and Read Event

We are delighted to invite parents and carers to our **Stay and Read** event on **Monday 23rd November** beginning at 8.50am. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time alongside your child and learn more about our school's

approach to developing confident, enthusiastic readers. During the event, you will be able to visit classrooms and see reading in action, giving you a valuable insight into how reading is taught and supported across the school. We look forward to welcoming you and sharing ways that we can work together to foster a love of reading.

Move More



Reluctant to Ready: Supporting Children to Feel Safe, Ready and Able to Attend School



When: Wednesday 30th September at 1pm

Duration: Approximately 60 minutes

Many children experience periods where attending school feels difficult, particularly during times of change, transition or uncertainty. As parents and carers, it can be hard to know what sits behind these struggles or how best to respond. Attendance conversations can often leave us feeling worried, pressured or judged, when what is needed most is understanding and support.

This webinar will explore some of the emotional, social and sensory factors that can affect children's feelings about school, helping us to look beyond behaviour and better understand what our children may be communicating. Together, we will consider practical and positive ways to support children to feel more confident, settled and ready for the school day.

This session will focus on:

- Exploring what lies beyond the behaviour that we experience
- Understanding common reasons school feels hard
- Practical strategies to reduce stress, support emotional wellbeing and make mornings easier
- Working positively with school to identify barriers and develop supportive solutions

How do you sign up for the online session?

To register for this online session, please click the icon below:



It will take you to our website where you will be asked to answer a few simple questions. We would encourage you to register even though you might not be able to attend the session live, as all registered participants will receive a recording of the session to watch in their own time within a week of the webinar taking place.

I've signed up: what happens next?

Once you complete our short registration form, you will be registered for the online session. You will automatically receive an invitation for the online session. If you don't hear from us by the 28th of September, don't hesitate to contact Jen on jen@move-more.org. Please make sure you check your junk/spam folders.



MM Family Hub

www.move-more.org

@MoveMoreCIO

Charity Number 1175899

To access both the live session and the recording follow this link:

<https://www.move-more.org/events/reluctant-to-ready/>



You Are Not Alone Drop-in

Every 1st Tuesday of the month - 7.00pm - 8.30pm

A free monthly online drop-in for parents & carers

The **You Are Not Alone** community is a friendly and safe space run by Erik & Sally Wagter where you can come and learn about autism & PDA, ask questions, connect with like-minded people or simply listen and learn from other people's conversations.



In this community we talk about all sorts of things such as:

- helping your child regulate their emotions & feelings (meltdowns etc)
- understanding autism and PDA
- navigating school and EHCPs
- Supporting your child with friendships
- understanding and managing challenging behaviour
- managing sensory needs
- developing a positive relationship with your child (family dynamics)
- exploring EOTAS or home education
- looking after your wellbeing
- and so much more



Here's what parents have said:

'My husband Jamie was saying that in the last few sessions, he has learned so much more about autism and PDA than he has over the past year - Jo (parent)

'Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel and I really do feel less alone and more validated. My hope is back' - Louise (parent)

You can request the **Zoom link** on our website

<https://youarenotalone.community> or you can send an email to

team@youarenotalone.community



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

where
LITTLE MINDS
grow,
BIG FUTURES ★

NURTURING TODAY, INSPIRING TOMORROW

A loving place to learn, play and grow! ♥

- PLAY-BASED LEARNING**
Hands-on activities that spark curiosity and creativity.
- CARING & EXPERIENCED EARLY YEARS PRACTITIONERS**
Caring & experienced early years practitioners who know every child is unique.
- SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
Building confidence, kindness and good habits for life.
- SAFE & NURTURING ENVIRONMENT**
A secure, happy space where children feel at home.

ENROLLING NOW!

GROW. LEARN. PLAY. EVERY DAY!

Christ Church Pre-School
FOR CHILDREN 2 TO 5 YEARS

GET IN TOUCH!
01242 243021
christchurchplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk
christchurchcheltenham.com
Malvern Road,
Cheltenham, GL50 2JH

CHRIST CHURCH PRE-SCHOOL ♥ BIG CARE FOR LITTLE HEARTS



Pate's Grammar School

Open Evening for Year 7 Entry

Tuesday 29 September 2026

5.00pm - 8.00pm

Headteacher's Welcome: 5.00pm, 6.00pm and 7.00pm

Tours start from 5.15pm

We welcome you and your family to join us for our Autumn Open Evening. Come and explore our school on a self-led tour, with our students and staff on hand to help you discover all you want to know about Pate's school life and joining us in Year 7.

Book now

Parking available on site (subject to weather conditions).

01242 523 169
patesgs.org

Princess Elizabeth Way
Cheltenham GL51 0HG

Book your place at www.ticketsource.com/patesgs/t-vxvenkg.



Respect + Optimism + Community + Kindness



Respect + Optimism + Community + Kindness

Open Week for Prospective Students Y7 Admission 2027

Monday 28th & Tuesday 29th September 2026
10:30am-11:25am

Wednesday 30th September 2026
10:45am-11:40am



Guided tour of the school by our students



See our teachers and classrooms in action



Talk in the Hall from the Headteacher

Faith & Learning in Pursuit of Excellence

To book a session, visit our website.



Respect + Optimism + Community + Kindness

Open Evening Thursday 1 October 2026 5:00pm - 7:00pm



For Prospective Students

**Year 7 Admission
September 2027**

Faith & Learning in Pursuit of Excellence

Talk from the Headteacher at 6pm in the main hall.



Open Events Thursday 15th October 2026

Please join us for one of our Open Events this October:

Open Morning: 9am to 11:30am

Open Evening: 4:30pm to 7pm

Open Evening: 5:30pm to 8pm

Our open events are the perfect opportunity to find out more about our school and the changes to the Grammar Schools Test for 2027.

We will also be offering student-guided tours, and our Senior Leadership and Admissions teams will be available to answer any questions you may have.

To find out more and book your place please visit:

www.ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk/join-us



Cheltenham Bournside School

Open Evening



Wednesday 30 September 2026, 5.30pm - 8.00pm

Headteacher's welcome at 5.40pm, 6.30pm and 7.15pm

Parents and families are warmly invited to our upcoming open evening. Hear from our senior leadership team, teachers and students and find out about life at our school. You will be invited to explore our extensive facilities and departments, take part in interactive activities and discover our inspiring enrichment programme on a student-led tour. We look forward to welcoming you to Bournside.

Open morning tours run daily at 9.00am, from Monday 21st September.

Please contact us to book (open mornings only):

- admin@bournside.com
- 01242 235555



“Inspiring lives through learning”

Be part of the Denmark Road experience.

Join us for our Open Events

5th October
8.45-10.30am

7th October
5.00-8.00pm

All welcome.
No booking required.

www.denmarkroad.org



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!



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

[Dean Close Scholarship Information; please click on the links below:](#)

[Scholarship Information Evening Thursday 24th September at 6pm](#)

[Open Morning Saturday 3rd October at 8.45am](#)



THURSDAYS IN TERM TIME
JUNIORS (Years 3-6) 5-6pm
SENIORS (Years 7-13) 6-7pm

Cheltenham Youth Choir

Bringing confidence to young people through a love of singing

SIGN UP HERE



OPEN REHEARSAL
THURSDAY 1st OCTOBER or
COME FOR A FREE TASTER SESSION

REHEARSAL VENUE
CHRIST CHURCH
CHELTENHAM, GL50 2JH



LIVING WELL SUPPORT

Family Group

LONGFIELD Community Hospice

Thursdays
School Holidays

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

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

longfield.org.uk/family-group
Registered Charity Number 298627

