The Christ Church News

23rd January 2026

Our value this term is: **PERSEVERANCE**

Telephone: (01242) 523392
Email: admin@christchurch.dgat.org.uk
Web: www.christchurchschool-chelt.co.uk

RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE COURAGE FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

A reminder that the PTA are working hard, organising events to raise money for our children. Details of the quiz, wine bluff and the pancake flip are to be found later in this letter.
Please can children be provided with a waterproof coat. As part of our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) provision, the children access outdoor play in a wide variety of weather conditions.
Warm wishes.
Mrs Pope

Diary Dates 25-26

Date	Event
29th January	Y2 Polar workshop – see separate letter sent
30th January	Evening event – PTA adult quiz (please see below)
4th February	Y5 Bournside Theatre trip - please let the office know if you do not want your child to participate (by Monday 26th January)
6th February	PTA school disco – details to follow
13th February	PTA sponsored pancake flip - see information below (sponsor forms have been sent home with children)
16th-20th February	Half term – School closed
23rd February	INSET day – school closed for children
27thFebruary	PTA Wine Tasting (adults only!)
5th March	World Book Day
12th March	Y4 'In the Net' - information to follow
20th March	Red Nose Day

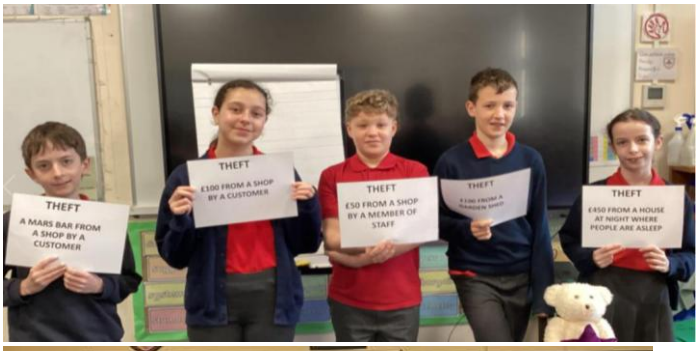
24th March	Y2 lead Easter Service at Church 10am Parents' Evening – booking information to follow
25th March	Rock Steady concert 2.30pm Parents' Evening – booking information to follow
26th March	Y2 Sandfield Farm trip – information to follow
27th – 29th April	Y4 Residential trip
6th May	Class photos
11th - 15th May	Y6 SATs week
21st May	Y2 Slimbridge trip – information to follow
16th June	Sports Day
23rd June	Reserve Sports Day
4th July	PTA Summer Picnic
8th – 10th July	Y6 Residential trip

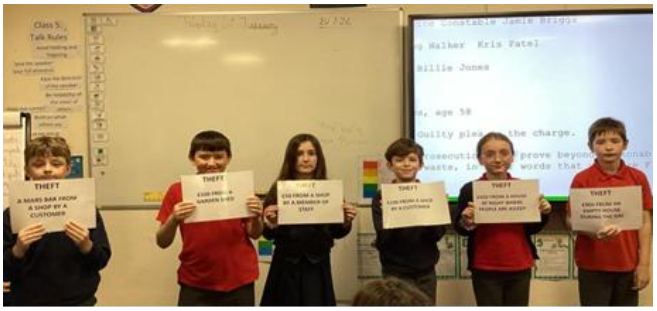
Retirement

It has come to my attention that a key member of staff's retirement was missed from the newsletter in December. I can only apologise to Mrs Stoddart. Mrs Stoddart has supported children at Christ Church over many years and has had a positive effect on so many children over the years. We hope that she has a very happy retirement.

Y5 & Y6

Y5 and Y6 were visited on Tuesday by Lauren, a local magistrate 👮 A local magistrate is an unpaid community volunteer who hears criminal and family court cases, sitting in benches of three to make fair, impartial decisions on less serious offenses, manage court proceedings, and determine sentences like fines or community service, guided by legal advisors. Lauren shared information about an upcoming opportunity to partake in a mock trial and the children engaged in a live debate, using their oracy skills!





Worship Team lead an assembly on "An Artist's View of God."

Thank you to this term's Worship Team from Y6 who have started leading us in a series of services about an artist called Eloise Hopkins who has created artwork to show us her interpretation of "a Glimpse of God."

We discussed and reflected on the idea that God is like a mother eagle. In the Bible Moses describes God as "a mother eagle teaching her babies to fly."

She uses layers in this piece. When you lay the artwork flat, you only see the person, but when you hold it to the light, it reveals the image of the bird carrying her. She thought it was a great image to show God who we can't see but is sometimes unexpectedly revealed.

Catering

Our caterers, Caterlink, have asked us to share their pupil survey with you:

Primary Pupil Survey Link - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R3RTFTV
Survey is open until 27th March

Move More

A message from Jen:

Boundaries and Defiance

This webinar will take place on Wednesday the 28th of January at 1pm and the topic will be: Boundaries and Defiance- Helping Children Thrive.

We will spend the time exploring why children might struggle with boundaries, the difference between developmentally appropriate boundary-pushing and disruptive behaviour disorders. Sharing tools, advice and support that are currently available for parents and carers in these areas will also be an important part of the webinar. As always, we will try to answer as many questions as possible. Parents/carers can submit questions when registering for the webinar or join us for the live session.

To access both the live session and the recording of it, all parents/carers need to do is sign up by following this link: https://www.move-more.org/events/webinar/

Thank you for sharing this with your communities!

Kind regards,
Jen

Attendance

EYFS: 97.0% attendance

Year 1: 98.0% attendance
Year 2: 97.1% attendance
Year 3: 94.4% attendance
Year 4: 96.9% attendance
Year 5: 96.5% attendance
Year 6: 95.5% attendance

Why is good attendance important?

Good school attendance is vital for children's success in the future. Being in school every day that it is open is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and their wider development. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.

If children do not attend school regularly, they may:

- struggle to keep up with schoolwork
- have few opportunities to catch up on missed learning
- miss out on the social side of school life
- miss opportunities to make and keep friendships

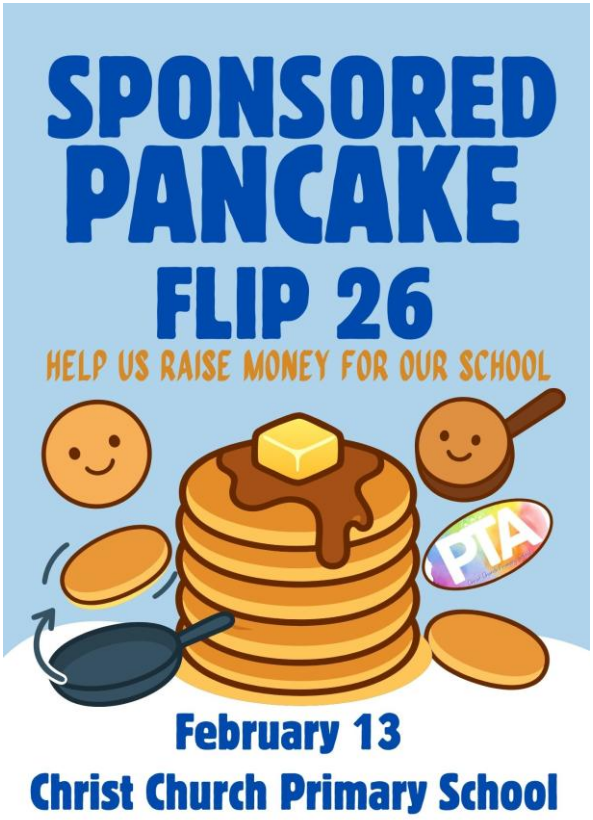
What might the impact of poor attendance be on your child?

Research shows children who are not regularly attending school are:

- more likely to become involved in or be a victim of crime and antisocial behaviour
- more likely to fall behind due to the strong link between attendance and achieving good results
- less likely to achieve 5 good GCSE's (grades 9-5) compared with those with fewer than eight days' absence
- more likely to have increased levels of anxiety due to inconsistencies and uncertainty in their routine
- more likely to have reduced self-esteem due to finding learning increasingly hard having missed out on important information.

PTA

Please click here to register your team.



SPONSORED PANCAKE FLIP 26

February 13 Christ Church Primary School

All the children will be invited to take part in the pancake flip at school during the day. They will all receive a certificate confirming the number of flips completed within a minute.

If sponsorship forms could please be completed and returned with the sponsorship money by Friday 28 February. You can sponsor either an amount per flip or an amount for participating its up to you.

All money raised will be used to help the school. Currently we are raising money to fund books and equipment to help support your children in school.

Please click here to book.

Community Notices

Bikeability Holiday Courses

Gloucestershire County Council is offering Bikeability courses during all 2026 school holidays. These courses help children aged 9-14 build cycling confidence and safety skills in small groups with qualified instructors.

Dates/Locations

- **February Half-Term Ashley Manor Prep School, Cheltenham**
- **Easter Holidays Bournside School, Cheltenham**
- **May Half-Term Kingshill School, Cotswold**
- **Summer Holidays Skillzone (2 sessions available) Gloucester**
- **October Half-Term Pineholt Village Hall, Hucclecote**

Details

Age: 9-14 years
Cost: £10 per course
Format: 2 x 2-hour sessions
Bikes: Available subject to availability

Scan to book

thinktravel
New sense of direction.

1 bikeability 2 bikeability 3 bikeability

Living our values every day
Accountability Integrity Empowerment Respect Excellence

Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL