

The Christ Church News



14th March 2025

Our value this term is: **CREATIVITY**

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RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE CREATIVITY FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a contrast the weather has provided over the last week! The children continue to enjoy their OPAL play and had an assembly on Wednesday all about the provision.

The PTA have funded whole school workshops with 'Jonathan's Jungle'. These start next week. A thank you for the money you have contributed, and to the PTA for their hard work to enable these to happen.

We have updated the calendar with some extra dates to add to your calendar.

Details of parents' evenings and bookings will be sent soon.

Warmest wishes.

Mrs Pope

Diary Dates 2024-2025

Date	Event
17 th March	Jonathan Jungle visitor workshop YR-3
21 st March	Red Nose Day
27 th March	Y5 river trip
28 th March	PTA Wine tasting event (adults only!)
31 st March	Jonathan Jungle visitor workshop Y4-6
1 st April	Parents' Evening – information to follow
2 nd April	Parent Prayer Group 8.45 Healy Hall – sign in at office
3 rd April	Parents' Evening – information to follow
4 th April	Y6 SATS meeting for parents 3.30pm PTA Disco

8 th April	10am Y4 led Easter Service (at church)
9 th April	2.30pm Rock Steady concert
10 th April	PTA bake sale – info to follow
11 th April	Last day of school – finish normal time – Easter Holiday
28 th April	Children back to school
28 th – 30 th April	Y4 Residential
30 th April	2.30pm Cyber safety talk for parents – info to follow
5 th May	Bank Holiday – school closed
7 th May	Parent Prayer Group 8.45 Healy Hall – sign in at office
9 th May	PTA quiz
19 th May	Class Photos
21 st May	Y2 trip – info to follow
23 rd May	Last day of school – finish normal time – May half term
2 nd June	Children back to school
5 th June	Y3, 5, 6 Science Festival – info to follow
6 th June	Y2 Science Festival – info to follow
18 th June	Y5 Cadbury world trip – info to follow Y4 Robinswood trip – info to follow
5 th July	PTA Sumer Picnic – info to follow
9 th -11 th July	Y6 Residential trip
16 th July	Rock Steady concert 2.30pm
18 th July	Last day of school – finish normal time – Summer Holiday
21 st July	INSET day – no school for children

Reminders

I am sorry to have to bring up parking again but we are still having issues with parking outside school. Please park legally, rather than for your convenience, and with consideration of safety for all.

Another reminder that nail varnish is not part of our school uniform. Please reserve this for the weekends. Many thanks.

Red Nose Day



Christ Church will be helping celebrate **40 YEARS of Comic Relief's RED NOSE DAY...on Friday 21st March.** We will be wearing our optional Red Noses to school along with fun **party clothes or non - uniform** and collecting a pound or two donation (or any amount you want!) from our school children and staff to help raise funds for this fabulous and fun Charity Day.

YMCA

Last week, a group of Year 6 children were invited to take part in a STEM activity at the YMCA headquarters where they designed and made shelters for the YMCA team to sleep in overnight in Cheltenham, thus raising awareness of homelessness. They represented Christ Church brilliantly – we are so proud of this wonderful community partnership and example of courageous advocacy. BBC Radio Gloucestershire were there to cover the event and you can listen live [HERE](#)



CCPS on Trial

A group of children in Y6 have been preparing to represent Christ Church in a “mock trial” at Cheltenham Courtrooms. Their task was to analyse evidence, pose questions to witnesses and ultimately prove that “the

defendant” was not guilty of a fictional crime (graffiti). On the day, the children had to battle it out with an opposing school’s team who were trying to convince the magistrates otherwise. Despite the slightly intimidating surroundings of Cheltenham Courtrooms, the children expressed themselves with real maturity and confidently convinced the judge to deliver a NOT GUILTY verdict!



Year 2

Year 2 have their final artwork on display showcasing their watercolour skills in the style of Edward Wilson, our local hero. They also wrote fact files about his life and work.





Mighty Me- Week 2

Hi All,

I hope that you are well and not confused by the change in the weather like me.

Attached is the second instalment of the Mighty Me! self-esteem programme. Week 1 seems to be quite popular with parents/carers so I hope that you will find this instalment equally helpful.

This week the focus is on the second self-esteem building block - resilience. Inside the attached document and the accompanying video ([Mighty Me week 2 video](#)), there are tips for adults to support children's resilience, as well as activities to do with your children.

The next instalment will be on growth mindset.

Until then, I hope you all have a good week.

Kind regards,

Marijana

mighty me!
Move More Self-Esteem Programme for Families

MEMBER SCHOOL **MOVE MORE**
EVERY CHILD THRIVES

WEEK TWO

Self-esteem can be described as liking yourself, feeling worthwhile, believing in yourself and knowing what you do well. Children who have low self-esteem often engage in negative self-talk ("I am stupid", "I will never be able to do it"). Often, they think that they are not smart enough, able enough, they struggle to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Some children become very sad while some try to mask their feelings by turning into "jokers" and "class clowns".

Does this sound familiar? If yes, then this programme is for you and your child. During the next few weeks, we will be sharing ideas around supporting your child's self-esteem. Self-esteem usually develops organically but we can also be intentional about it. The programme includes activities for both adults and children, with the aim to create a supportive environment where children feel empowered, valued, and understood. There will be a mixture of facts and practical ideas – all with the goal to empower you to improve your child's self-esteem.

The graphic features a blue background with white and yellow text. A video player thumbnail shows a young girl looking down. The text is arranged in a clear, readable layout with a mix of bold and regular fonts.

Attendance

- Running late? Just get here as soon as you can - better late than never - let us know with a phone call if possible.
- Make doctors and dentists appointments during the school holidays or after school.
- Teach your child good hygiene - regular hand washing and using a tissue will help prevent them picking up or passing on bugs that lead to absence due to illness.
- Avoid taking your child out of school during term time. A holiday can no longer be considered an exceptional circumstance and will not be authorised.

Perfect Punctuality Pointers

- Be on time. School starts at 8.40!
- Get your child their own alarm clock.
- Get everything ready the night before - uniform, packed lunch, PE kit ... Don't forget the breakfast things.
- Come even earlier and join us for breakfast and/or games at Kidzone
- Set that alarm clock five minutes fast.
- Don't allow TV or computer games before everyone is ready - if at all!

Too sick for school?

- Children get colds and headaches but don't need to miss a full day of school. Try getting them to eat something, drink plenty of water or if necessary give a suitable medication, such as Calpol.
- Use us. It is better to send your child to school in all circumstances. If we feel they are too unwell to stay, we will send them home.

Internet Safety

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX



Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGable.com.



[@wake_up_weds](https://www.wake_up_weds.com)

[/www.thenationalcollege](https://www.thenationalcollege.com)

[@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday)

[@wake.up.weds](https://www.youtube.com/wake.up.weds)

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Other Information



SIR THOMAS RICH'S GLOUCESTER



OPEN MORNINGS 8-9 APRIL Book online @ www.strschool.co.uk

We warmly invite prospective pupils and their parents to visit us on a normal school day, learn more about the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools admissions process, meet key staff and current students, and take a tour of the school

One of the **happiest schools in England and Wales** according to *The Sunday Times*, based on Ofsted Parent View Data 2020-2025

Holst
Gustav Holst 1874-1934
150

THE HOLST 150 BIRTHDAY PARTY

PITTVILLE PUMP ROOM
CHELTENHAM
SATURDAY 29TH MARCH
2PM - 9.30PM

Community event celebrating the
150th anniversary of Cheltenham's most famous son
and the 50th birthday of the Holst Victorian House

MARS STAGE (FREE)
Music 2pm - 5.30pm

Including Cheltenham Silver Band, Nethra Academy of Performing Arts, Cheltenham Improvisers Orchestra, Edward Derbyshire and Miserden Morris

Make, Create (FREE) - All Ages Arts and Crafts Activities 2 - 5pm
and Holst's Spaceship Earth - a multi-sensory, creative technology
experience pop up play-lab

Ticketed evening concert from 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Including Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra, Montpellier Brass Ensemble,
Pianist Gary Branch and Charlton Kings Choral Society

For information about the day and tickets for the evening,
please visit holstvictorianhouse.org.uk



Cheltenham Arts Council
CHELTENHAM ARTS CULTURE



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JET AGE MUSEUM

PROUDLY PRESENTS

84



84TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF THE JET AGE

SATURDAY 26 APRIL 2025

WHITTLE - THE JET PIONEER (65 MINS)

SCREENED AT 1030 AND 1445

AN AUDIENCE WITH IAN WHITTLE

30 MINUTES OF TALK AND Q & A

1145 AND 1400

NO BOOKING NECESSARY

Every year Jet Age Museum commemorates the anniversary of the birth of the Jet Age celebrating the genius of Sir Frank Whittle whose pioneering work on the jet engine led to the first flight of the Gloster E28/39 aircraft which left the ground at Brockworth, near Gloucester, during taxi trials in April 1941 - and the world of air travel we know today. This year all are welcome to visit the Museum to see the film: Whittle - The Jet Pioneer and to meet our Patron, Ian Whittle, a retired RAF and commercial airline pilot and son of Sir Frank Whittle.

Meteor Business Park, Cheltenham Road East,
Gloucester GL2 9QL. Tel 01452 260078
www.jetagemuseum.org