

# The Christ Church News



17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Our value this term is: **PERSEVERANCE**

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**RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE CREATIVITY FRIENDSHIP**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe we are only in the second week of the Spring Term- Christmas already feels like a distant memory! We have enjoyed a busy week with many children giving their all to the Oracy Challenge. Classes have continued to work on our theme of Perseverance with many children demonstrating their determination to persevere with tricky tasks!

Have a lovely weekend all.

## Staffing News

As you will be aware, Mrs Pope has been supporting another school in an interim executive head role. Her last day in this position will be 24<sup>th</sup> January and she will be returning to Christ Church 27<sup>th</sup> January, As such, Mrs Pendlebury will resume her class teaching role in Year 5 on Mondays and Tuesdays. Miss Guy will return to Year 4. Thank you to all staff who supported during this period of time, and for Mrs Pendlebury's hard work as full-time deputy.

Many children have benefitted from the support of Oksana Shumylovska as a volunteer and TP. She has now secured a position at Leckhampton Primary. We would like to thank her for her hard work and wish her every success in this new role.

## The Healy Fund

Thank you to the Healy Fund (in memory of our old caretaker Ken Healy) who has subsidised the KS2 STEM Club for Terms 3 and 4 run by Diatom Dave. This week the children explored buoyancy and made boats! Last week was focused on tectonic plates and how volcanoes work - lots of fun explosions!

### KS2 STEM Club with Diatom Dave



Making boats and learning about forces this week.

## Oracy “Look Who’s Talking” Competition

Year 1 Winner: Ollie S

Year 2 Winner: Emily Y

Year 3 Winner: Henry B

Year 4 Winner: Arthur M

Year 5 Winner: Lena N

Year 6 Winner: Elsa P



### Year 2 Robot Algorithms using Blue Bots



### Y6 Worship Team lead a service on Spirituality – the WOWs of Life

We explored things we see, smell and hear as WOW moments in our lives we can stop and appreciate. Mrs Proctor even lit an incense stick that smelled of frankincense so we could think of smells that make us say wow!



**A message we have been asked to share from Gloucestershire Music:**

We're really excited to be running a fantastic project for musicians across the whole of Gloucestershire this term but I'm afraid it's quite short notice! Please would you be able to share the attached poster (pdf & jpg versions) and below info with your students. This is aimed at students who already play an instrument.

Dear young musician,

We're really excited to be running a fantastic project for musicians across the whole of Gloucestershire this term. Students are invited to come and learn Holst's *The Planets* with our expert team of tutors and young musicians from across Gloucestershire. Concluding with the amazing opportunity to perform in the magnificent Cheltenham Town Hall as part of Gloucestershire's Music for Youth festival.

#### Rehearsals / activities

Saturday **25<sup>th</sup> January** 9.30 – 12.30 at **Sir Thomas Rich's School**, Oakleaze, Gloucester, GL2 0LF

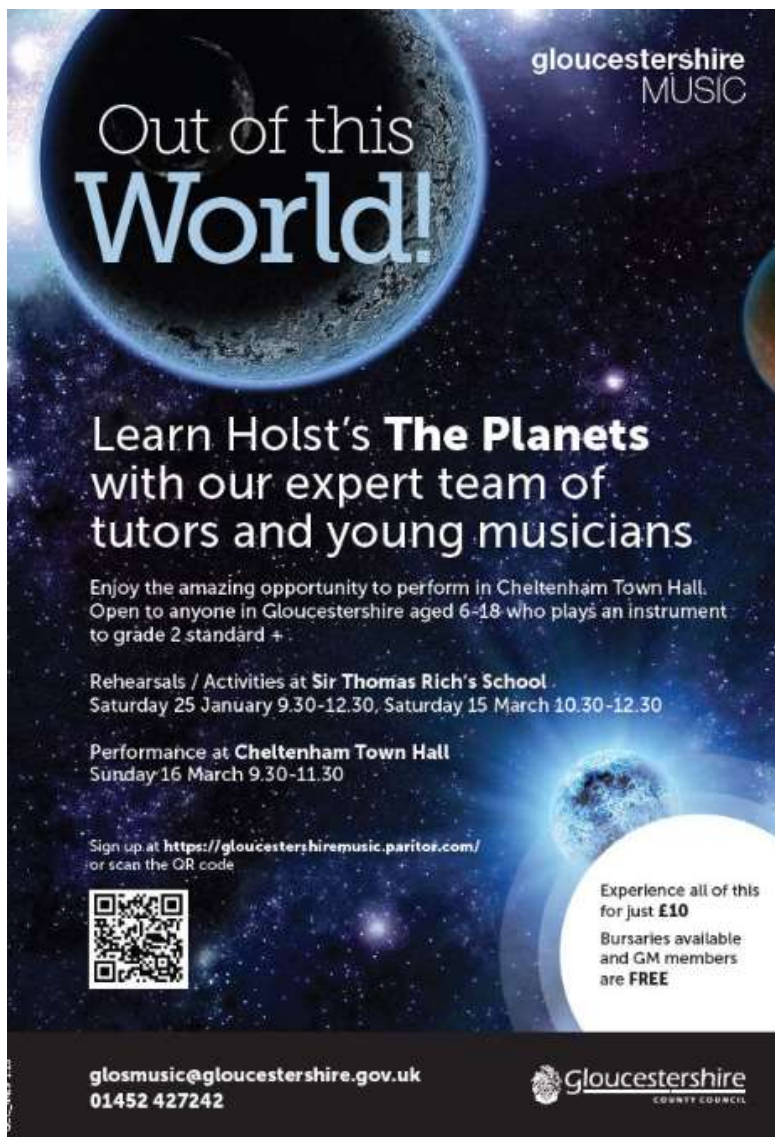
Saturday **15<sup>th</sup> March** 10.30 – 12.30 at Sir Thomas Rich's School

#### Performance

Sunday **16<sup>th</sup> March** 9.30 – 11.30 rehearsal and performance at **Cheltenham Town Hall**

All of this is available to students for just £10 – full bursaries also available for those facing financial hardship. This is open to any young musician who can play an instrument – we advise that you are playing at around **grade 2 standard** or above to get the most out of the project but you do not need to have taken an exam. Unfortunately, we only have limited spaces for piano players and percussionists so these will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

To sign-up, please go to <https://gloucestershiremusic.paritor.com/> or scan the QR code on the attached poster. Scroll down until you see 'Out of this World'.



gloucestershire  
MUSIC

# Out of this World!


Learn Holst's **The Planets**  
with our expert team of  
tutors and young musicians

Enjoy the amazing opportunity to perform in Cheltenham Town Hall.  
Open to anyone in Gloucestershire aged 6-18 who plays an instrument  
to grade 2 standard +.

Rehearsals / Activities at **Sir Thomas Rich's School**.  
Saturday 25 January 9.30-12.30, Saturday 15 March 10.30-12.30


Performance at **Cheltenham Town Hall**  
Sunday 16 March 9.30-11.30

Sign up at <https://gloucestershiremusic.paritor.com/>  
or scan the QR code



Experience all of this  
for just **£10**  
Bursaries available  
and GM members  
are **FREE**

[glosmusic@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:glosmusic@gloucestershire.gov.uk)  
01452 427242

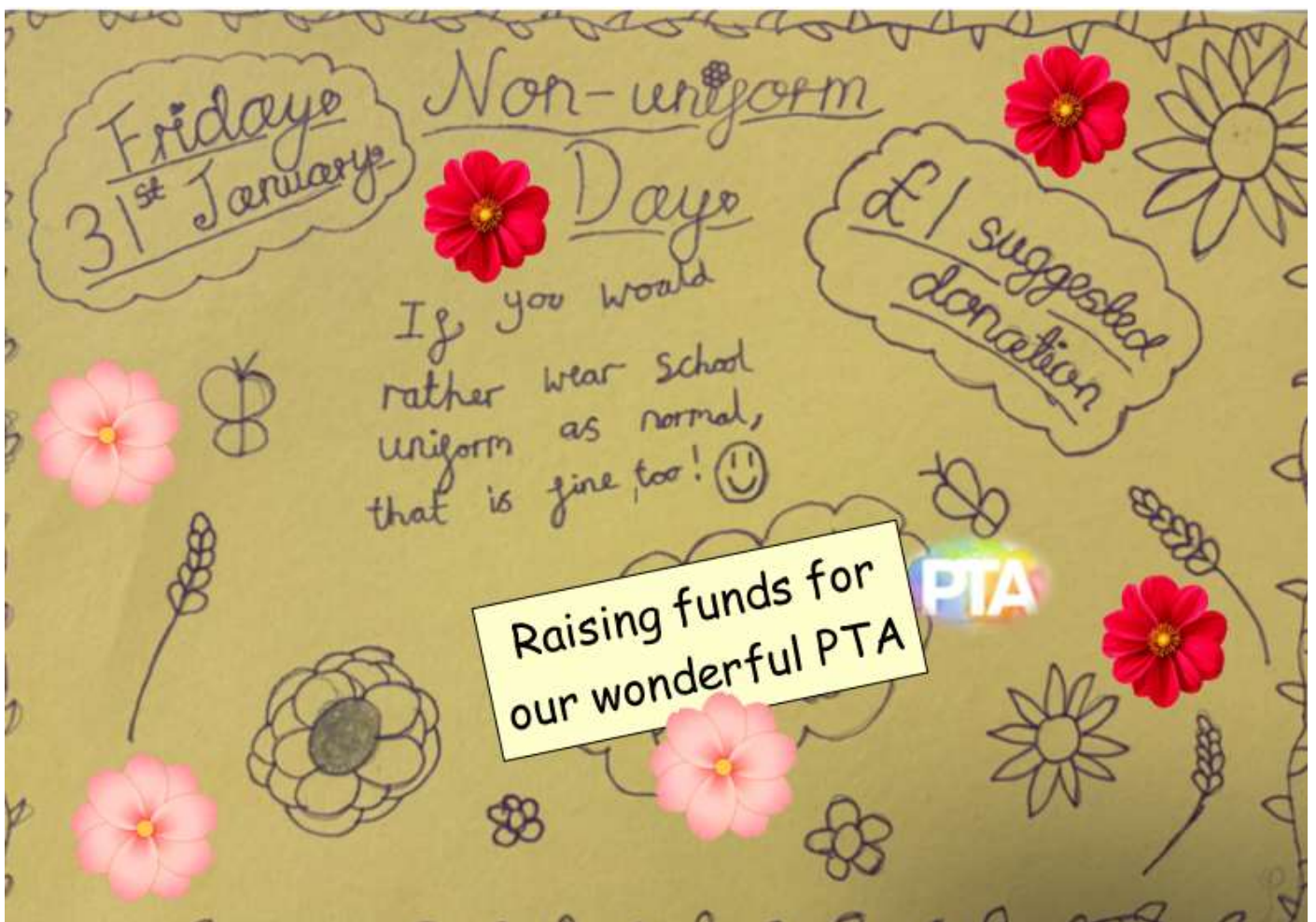
 Gloucestershire  
COUNTY COUNCIL

**Diary Dates 2024-2025**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Y4 Residential meeting 3.40pm
5 <sup>th</sup> February	Y5 Bournside theatre trip Parent Prayer Group 8.45 Healy Hall – sign in at office
14 <sup>th</sup> February	Last Day of school – finish normal time – February Half term
24 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET DAY – No school for children
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Children back to school
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Young Voices Concert - Birmingham
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Into the net trip to St Gregorys – info to follow
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Prayer Group 8.45 Healy Hall – sign in at office
6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Y5 trip – details to follow
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Parent Prayer Group 8.45 Healy Hall – sign in at office
8 <sup>th</sup> April	10am Y4 led Easter Service (at church)
9 <sup>th</sup> April	2.30pm Rock Steady concert
11 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of school – finish normal time – Easter Holiday
28 <sup>th</sup> April	Children back to school
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – school closed
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Parent Prayer Group 8.45 Healy Hall – sign in at office
7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> May	Y4 Residential
19 <sup>th</sup> May	Class Photos
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Last day of school – finish normal time – May half term
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Children back to school

PTA Events Dates:

31st January	Non Uniform Day
7 <sup>th</sup> February	School Disco
14 <sup>th</sup> February	Uniform Sale
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Pancake Flip
21 <sup>st</sup> or 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Wine tasting event (adults only!)
10 <sup>th</sup> April	Bake Sale
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Picnic




Attendance

# MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.


#AttendanceCounts

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Being just 10 minutes late each day equates to 30 hours of lost learning each year...



Minutes Late	Days Lost	Hours of Learning Lost
5	3	15
10	6	30
15	10	50
20	13	65
30	19	95



Fortitude Resilience Mindful School Crest Integrity Leadership Young Citizens

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# TIKTOK

**13+**  
Content suitable for ages 13 and over

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

**CONCERN**

While TikTok's following level only displays when their fan-follower ratios for how to be successful based on it seem to increase, watched clips, most of these videos will probably be harmless, but the repeated presence of one concerning or suitable if children then engage with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of videos means that a small amount of harmful clips through.

### BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, some online videos for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body monitoring and so on) and for young men for boys, but it is prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the "Machos" trend, which encouraged users to hold a hot breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to her brother being hospitalised after he had seen the huge death of their children.

### IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Gift bundles range from £0.99 to an eye-watering £99, while that may not sound excessive, the app will generate £7.9 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

**CONCERN**

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact with strangers on TikTok is high. Although an account created by over-18s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public by default, this means that not only is someone's profile able to be viewed but on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and a video can be shared or commented on there.

### MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more fun than the longer ones on YouTube, it can still influence the user's view in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 16-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of ideological, racial or conspiracy-related content sharing that they see the world.

### ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 37 minutes per day on the app that's also as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The variety of appropriate nature of the app means they also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Having paired above parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on restricted mode. Turning on this means if a child posts inappropriate content, set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't view these settings without parental approval.

### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks, ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they come to you for a trusted adult. It may be worth trying to establish an age-appropriate time to use TikTok for news. It's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

### BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, use two other than settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We've discovered enabling this feature, so it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of cash. However, buying TikTok coins is a task that can be done from the app – sometimes without even realising.

### READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability, loss of interest in other activities, and changes in eating or sleeping habits. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's your job to use them to the best.

### Meet Our Expert

Mark Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, Tech Radar, Tech's Guide, The Pleading Standard and The New Statesman.



**#WakeUpWednesday**

**The National College**

Source: New York Times, accessed on 10/01/2024. <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/10/technology/tiktok.html>

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