

The Christ Church News



10th January 2025

Our value this term is: **PERSEVERANCE**

Telephone: (01242) 523392

Email: admin@christchurch.dgat.org.uk

Web: www.christchurchschool-chelt.co.uk

Twitter: @ChristChurchCo3

RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE CREATIVITY FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to welcome the children back to school on Tuesday. We have spent time this week looking at our theme for this term "Perseverance." Children shared some wonderful examples during service about how they have persevered over the Christmas holidays. I am sure you will have your own stories too!

What a frosty start we have had to Term 3! Please do remember to provide your child with appropriate outdoor wear and label all gloves/ hats etc.

We welcome Ms Steel to our school this term and look forward to working with her. A little bit about Ms Steel:



I'm a mum of two energetic boys and we enjoy hiking, gardening and swimming. I love reading and always enjoy sharing recommendations with the children in my class. I am originally from a little island called Saba in the Dutch Caribbean – it is a beautiful, secluded, little known island where I enjoy going hiking and diving with my family every two years.

Please do make sure you read each newsletter carefully so that you do not miss out on any key messages or opportunities for your child(ren). Look who's talking (please refer to newsletters from 29th November and 12th December as a reminder!) will continue next week- many classes are already off to a great start. Thank you so much for all your support at home with this project!

Have a good weekend all!

Mrs Pendlebury

Diary Dates 2024-2025

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

As part of staff training on Monday this week, we looked at reading fluency with a focus on **prosody**.

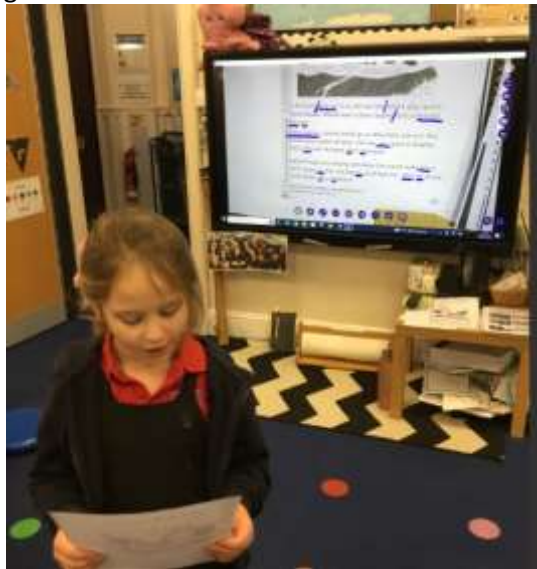
What is fluency?

*Three key elements of reading fluency: accuracy in word decoding, automaticity in recognising words, and appropriate use of **prosody** or meaningful oral expression while reading.*

- Prosody is reading aloud (and silently in the reader's head) with appropriate use of stress, intonation and expression. It requires both reading accuracy and a level of comprehension. Understanding words and ideas enables pupils to make decisions about how they might vary their volume, phrasing, smoothness and pace to reflect emotion, emphasis or tone. Reading with prosody sounds interesting and engaging to others.
- As children develop better reading skills, they start making variations in pitch, they pause in the right places, and they emphasise segments in text.

Modelling prosody for children, both at home and at school, with the adult as the expert, will ensure that children are able to access comprehension at the point of reading. This can be achieved by echo reading. You might like to have a go at home, reading a sentence or a phrase with prosody and the child reads it back to you. Do let me know how you get on!

Year 2 enjoyed a prosody lesson this week learning how to read aloud with expression, intonation and stress. We practised as a class then text marked the passage to consider where we would pause or which words we would emphasise or even change the pitch of our voice. Millie demonstrated how her interpretation was different to Mrs Proctor's and we hope to apply this to all our reading now.



Year 6

Year 6 have been busy with their sculpture work this week



Attendance FAQs

If my child needs to be absent from school, what do I need to do?

You should contact their school as early as possible on the first day of absence to explain why. If you do not, your child's school will contact you on the first morning of their absence to find out why your child is not in school. All parents can request a 'leave of absence' for their child which gives them permission to be absent from school. Your child's school has the final say over whether to approve the request and for how long your child can be absent. Generally, a leave of absence **would not** be allowed for a holiday.

My child has a short term illness. Do they have to go to school, and will I be penalised if they don't?

If your child is ill, read the NHS's 'Is my child too ill for school?' advice to help you decide whether they can go to school. If they are too ill to attend, you are not breaking the law and will not be penalised. You should let the school know as soon as possible on the first day of absence and schools must record such absences as authorised. If the

absence due to illness is ongoing or frequent you should speak to your child's school to see what support can be put in place.

What should I do if my child needs a dental or medical appointment in school time?

To avoid disruption to your child's attendance, medical and dental appointments should not be booked during the school day whenever reasonably possible. When they are, you should ask the school in advance for a leave of absence and collect them as close to the time of the appointment as possible and return them to school for the rest of the school day afterwards.

Club opportunity for Years 1 and 2



CHELTENHAM TOWN WOMEN U7s

PLAYERS WANTED

- *We are looking for new players and a coach to join our new U7 girls team to play in the Gloucester County Girls League*
- *Training Tuesday evenings (all year round) With matches on Sundays*
- *Pathway programme all the way through to Woman's football*
- *Current school years 1 and 2 eligible*
- *If interested please contact James Saunders on 07557028577 or jrsaunders643@gmail.com*



www.ctlfc.com

ALL TOGETHER SERVICE



SUNDAY 12TH
JAN, WORSHIP
FOR ALL AGES

COFFEE AND
PASTRIES
FROM 10AM

SERVICE
STARTS
10:30AM



CHRIST CHURCH
CHELTENHAM

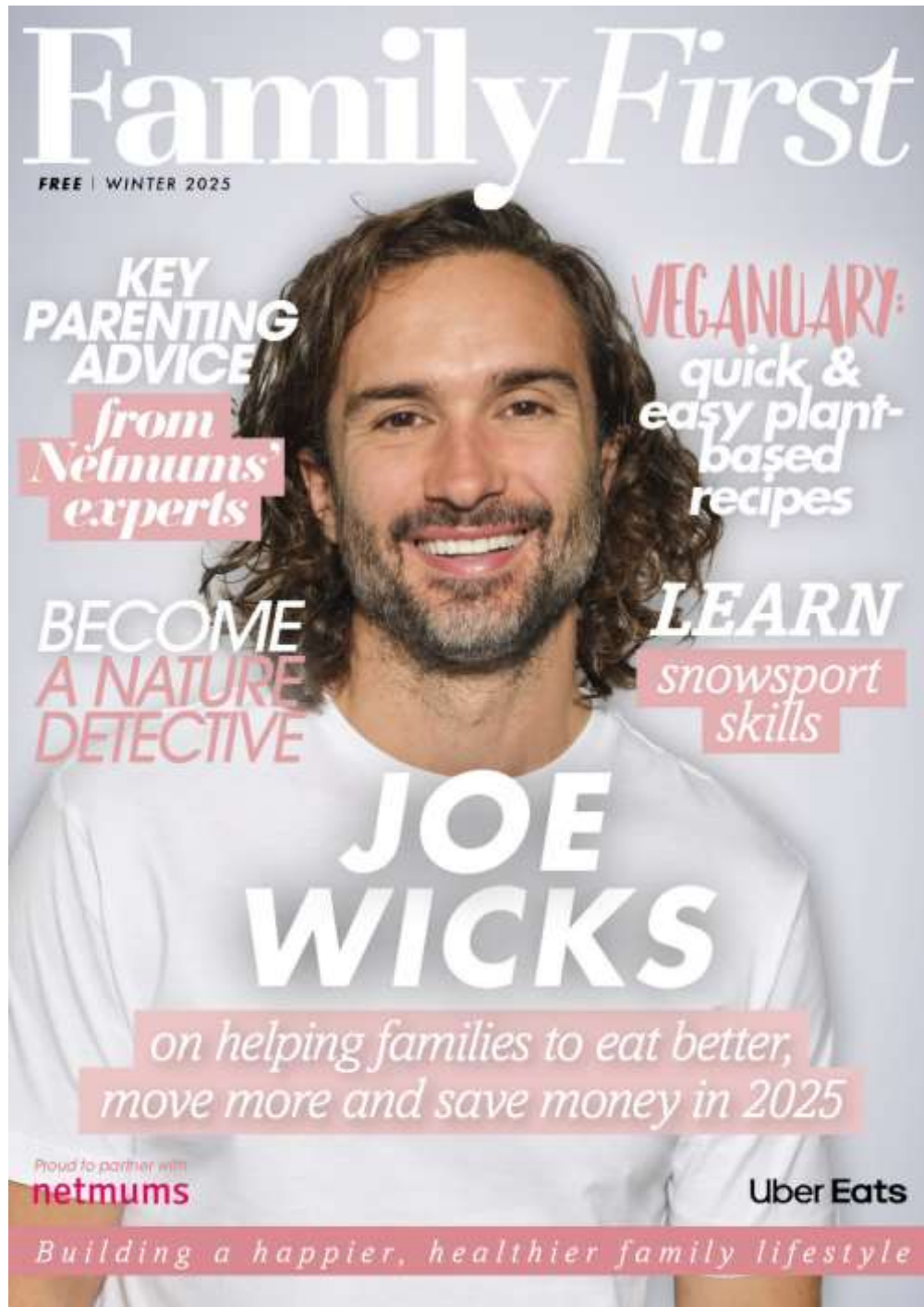


Family First

netmums

Here's your free copy of the UK's
largest parenting title - Enjoy!

[CLICK HERE](#)



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about JUSTALK KIDS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

JusTalk Kids is a child's version of the JusTalk app – a highly popular social networking platform – designed for users up to 13 years of age, allowing them to video call, message and participate in group chats. While adults can link their own JusTalk account to their child's and make use of parental controls, it's important to understand the risks associated with the app.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR PREMIUM ACCESS

While JusTalk Kids is free, there's the option to subscribe to a kids' premium account or a premium family account. At a cost, this feature allows children to have access to more fun features such as games they can play with others in a call; exclusive stickers; a badge denoting them as a premium subscriber; and exclusive ringtones and themes.

RESISTANCE TO CONTROLS

JusTalk Kids endeavours to allow children the sense of having a chat-based app while allowing parents to set controls (within the app or from their own adult JusTalk account). The basis behind this is positive; however, some children are challenging their parents by refusing to use JusTalk Kids, preferring to use the adult version without any restrictions in place.

KNOWING THE PARENT PASSCODE

After downloading JusTalk Kids, parents can set a passcode which users must enter to add contacts. The parental controls help to manage which content can be viewed and who children can add as a contact: this then allows children to chat with friends in a controlled environment. However, prospective contacts don't have to know a specific username. In theory, someone could type in a random name and then add them as a friend.

POTENTIAL DATA LEAKS

JusTalk and JusTalk Kids claim to be secure and encrypted, going so far as to state that even the developers themselves won't access your data. However, a security lapse in 2022 highlighted that messages were not in fact encrypted – leading to concerns around the security of the app and the transparency of the development team.

CYBERBULLYING

Online chats can provide a sense of anonymity, leading some users to post things which they wouldn't normally say in person. Combined with the option of group chats, there's a risk that young people might join in with this kind of behaviour, escalating it further and potentially turning what should be a fun experience into something deeply negative.

TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME

A report by the UK Parliament Education Committee highlighted a 52% increase in children's screen time between 2020 and 2022 – as well as finding that 29% of children used their smartphones in a manner consistent with screen addiction. Introducing children to social networking apps when they're too young can lead to bad digital habits and a reliance on technology from an early age.

Advice for Parents & Educators

JUSTIFY THE CONTROLS

If parents allow their child to use JusTalk Kids, they should explain that they're putting parental controls in place to make the app safer. Make sure the child knows not to put their full name on the account and doesn't use a photo of themselves as their profile picture. This type of open discussion will help to ensure that a child is aware of the app's potential risks and knows how to reduce them.

TALK ABOUT ONLINE FRIENDSHIPS

Young children could be excited to use this app. However, highlight that they must do so in a positive, respectful and responsible manner. While it can be easy to get caught up in a group chat, it's important to talk to others politely and call out

DOS AND DON'TS OF SHARING

Some children might not understand the potential dangers of oversharing online. Set clear guidelines around what is and isn't safe to share on the internet, and discuss the concept of a digital footprint. Children need to understand that the things they say and share online can never be completely erased. Even if they delete it themselves, it can be saved and distributed by others.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Apps like JusTalk can sometimes lend themselves to bullying behaviours. Parents should monitor what their child is sending and receiving, check in with them regularly and encourage them to share their feelings (both positive