

The Christ Church News



22nd November 2024

Our value this term is: **FRIENDSHIP**

Telephone: (01242) 523392

Web: www.christchurchschool-chelt.co.uk

Email: admin@christchurch.dgat.org.uk

Twitter: @ChristChurchCo3

RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE CREATIVITY FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had an early snow flurry this week which brought joy to many children as they arrived at school on Tuesday morning. Thank you for providing weather ready outdoor wear to ensure your child can enjoy our platinum award winning play (read on for more details).

Thank you to Year 6 for leading class worship on Tuesday this week too. Their oracy skills were fantastic and they shared an important message about the importance of friendship.

Have a lovely weekend all - despite the forecast!

Mrs Pendlebury

Diary Dates 2024-2025

Date	Event
22 nd November	PTA Disco Infants 4.45pm-5.45pm - Juniors 6pm-7pm
26 th November	Y3, Y5, Y6 film festival cinema trip
27 th November	Y2 film festival cinema trip
2 nd December	Move More Parent session 'ways to help your child thrive at school' – contact the office to book your place
6 th December	PTA Non-Uniform Day. Information to follow
10 th December	YR & Y6 height weight & vision checks – information emailed 2.15 pm Reception & Y1 Nativity
12 th December	Christmas Jumper Day 9.30am Reception & Y1 Nativity
13 th December	Reception trip to the Everyman PTA crafternoon – information to follow
17 th December	10am Christmas service led by Y2
18 th December	Christmas lunch 2.30pm Rock Steady Concert
20 th December	Last day of school – Christmas holiday Finish normal time

6th January	INSET DAY – No school for children
7th January	Children back to school
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
6 th March	World Book Day
8 th April	10am Y4 led Easter Service (at church)
11 th April	Last day of school – finish normal time – Easter Holiday

Helping children to THRIVE

Have you signed up for our parents' morning on 2nd December yet? This is a great opportunity to drop in and get to know other parents in school as well as picking up some top tips from our family support worker Marijana. There are still places available. Mrs Whybrew and Marijana have a wealth of experience so please do contact the office and book your space.



It should come as no surprise that success at school starts at home. What children bring to the classroom matters as much as what they are taught at school. Studies have linked social and emotional development and academic performance to factors such as sleep, nutrition, attendance and parental support. The learning attitude that your child arrives with at the school gates each day can directly impact their school experience and progress.

The good news is that nature can be nurtured and your child's potential can be developed. Success can stem from simple everyday practices and changes and just a small shift in awareness.

This is why our next session will be focusing on exactly this: helping you understand what you need to do to best support your child's social-emotional and academic development. If you'd like to find out more about how you can (further) support your child to thrive at school, we are looking forward to seeing you at school on the 2nd of December straight after drop-off. But don't worry, we are not suggesting you brush up on your Advanced Algebra just yet! 😊

The session will be run by Marijana Filipovic-Carter, Head of Family Support at Move-More.

When and where: 2.12.24 at Christ Church CofE Primary straight after drop-off

Any questions or problems, please email Marijana on marijana@move-more.org or contact the school office.

OPAL PLAY AWARD

As many of our parents and families will know, we have been undertaking a project over the last two years to transform our lunchtime play provision for our children by becoming an OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) school. This has been a long journey for us where we have transformed both our outdoor space and the play ethos of the school. We had our final audit on Monday where our OPAL mentor came to observe our lunchtime and see the children at play. We are thrilled to announce that we were awarded the OPAL PLATINUM AWARD which is the highest level of award available.

Rachel Murray, our OPAL mentor throughout this project gave the following comment following her visit.

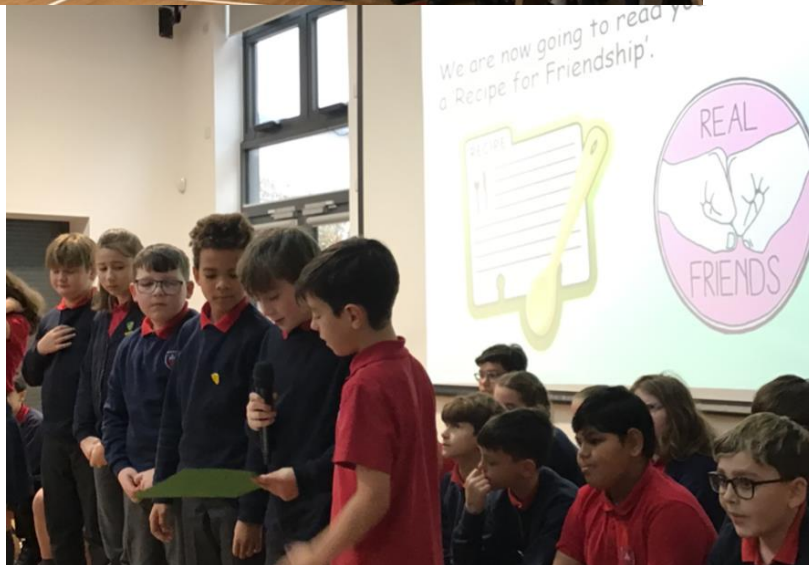
“Many congratulations to Christ Church C of E primary school, Cheltenham on your OPAL Platinum award! This is a significant achievement and places Christ Church as one of the best primary schools in the country for the quality of their outdoor play. The OPAL team has worked tirelessly to open up their whole site for play and seek creative solutions to provide a rich and inspiring play environment for all of their pupils. Children's Right to Play, as defined by Article 31 in UNCRC, is valued and respected at this school. The playground has an active, community feel. Younger and older pupils play together and support each other. Pupils are proud to hold playground leadership roles such as Mighty Mediators, Mini Police and lunch hall support. The site now boasts a MUGA, large sandpit, reflection area, pond, mud kitchen, mobile trim trail, climbing and construction equipment and shaded craft area. Pupils can freely access water, sand and mud, and the team have been successful in bringing nature into the site. Congratulations to the whole school community.”

We would like to give particular thanks to Miss Hillier, curricular lead for play, and Mr Taylor who have led the project as well as all the families who have donated play equipment over the past two years.



Year 6 Class Service

On Tuesday, Y6 hosted a class service about friendship to the school and their parents. Y6 made everyone so proud and shared important messages about how friendship is so important in our school community (and the wider world).



Y6 had a thoroughly enriching and educational visit to the Hindu Mandir in Cheltenham on Wednesday. They engaged with lots of new learning to support their Hinduism enquiry in RE this term.





Year 6 Worship Team – Spirituality (part 2)

Thank you to Addy, Elsa, Sadie, Theodore, Logan and George who helped Mrs Proctor lead another service on Spirituality. We remembered the Kintsugi story where the bowl was cracked but then repaired with gold and it became even more beautiful.

In school, we describe spirituality as the WOWs, OWs and NOWs of life.

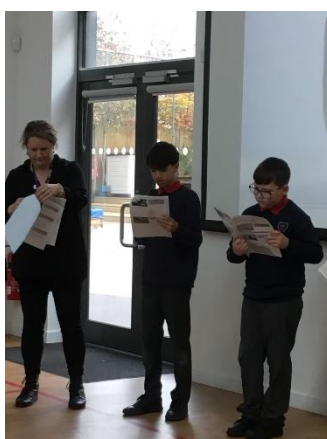


Can you think of moments when something has happened that feels a bit like a crack?

Have you ever thought about asking God to help you feel whole again?

SOMETHING TO PONDER

Have you ever looked closely at an old person's hands? You might see scars and marks. These are all evidence of the long life someone has lived. They can be a beautiful reminder of a life lived to the full.



Yoga Sessions

Years 2 and 5 are enjoying Yoga Sessions this term learning sequences of stretches, poses and movements with Stephen our yoga teacher.



Year 4

Our Art project is well under way - designing and making modroc 3D 🎭 masks. Children are really enjoying it.



Year 1

In computing this week, Year 1 have been building on their mouse and keyboard skills to create digital paintings. The children have become a lot more confident at controlling the mouse and applying their computing skills to edit and improve their digital paintings.



C&I Centre Sale



The Centre children loved holding a sale after school.

We sold off some books and games and raised £58 from generous donations.

Thank you to all those that supported us and well done to our enthusiastic sales people!

NSPCC Workshops

Children in Years 2, 5 and 6 had visits from the NSPCC to learn about their SPEAK OUT campaign. Last week, we saw all pupils had watched videos to learn their key message that every child has the right to stay safe. Your child in Years 2, 5 and 6 will have taken home a booklet to share with you.



We talked about trusted adults in school and at home they can talk to if they feel unsafe and learned the ChildLine number 08001111 and how their website has really useful information and games to explore.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/buddy-zone-under12service/>

Attendance Matters: NHS advice

Is my child too ill for school?

High temperature

If your child has a [high temperature](#), keep them off school until it goes away.

Feeling anxious or worried

It's normal for children to feel a little anxious sometimes. They may get a tummy ache or headache or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can make a child's anxiety about going to school worse. It's good to talk about any worries they may have such as, friendship problems, school work or sensory problems. You can also work with the school to find ways to help them.

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

Reverse Advent Calendar



1  Tinned soup	2  Shampoo	3  Variety tins/boxes	4  Tinned tomatoes	5  Rice	6  Deodorant
7  Box of biscuits/chocolates	8  Nuts and confectionery	9  Tinned fish	10  Coffee	11  Jam	12  Breakfast cereal
13  Tea bags	14  Chocolate bars	15  Long-life fruit juice	16  Instant mashed potatoes	17  Tinned vegetables	18  Cooking sauces
19  Tinned potatoes	20  Tinned meat	21  Toilet rolls	22  Rice pudding	23  UHT long-life milk	24  Tinned fruit

Thank you to those who have started donating items for our local food bank to help classes complete their charts.

If anyone is keen to help us transport items, we would appreciate it as we'd rather donate what we have weekly rather than waiting until the last day of term! Please let the office know if you can help. One clever parent set up a poll on their child class WhatsApp with each item listed so parents could click on what they're happy to donate to ensure all items get ticked off! We know the food bank will really appreciate all our donations.



Fun Science

FESTIVE STEM CLUB 2024/25

10am-3pm, 23 Dec & 3 Jan

Suitable ages 4-11, £30 per day / £55 both

Book now: tinyurl.com/funscixmas24

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators EDUCATING CHILDREN ON SPENDING AND SAVING

Evidence shows that children's spending habits begin to form as early as seven years old. With primary schools in England not required to teach financial literacy, many young people are reaching adulthood without knowing the basics of budgeting. This guide explains how to teach young people about money in a practical way, giving them the understanding to become savvy spenders and savers.

1 PROVIDE POCKET MONEY

Giving children money – even a small amount – can help them learn to make their own budgeting decisions about how to spend or save it. Research shows that youngsters who receive pocket money are more likely to become adults with strong financial skills and significantly less debt.

2 USE A PREPAID CARD

Being able to pay by card is essential these days, with some retailers not accepting cash since the pandemic. Prepaid debit cards are available for children from the age of six, allowing them to get used to spending like they will as adults with no risk of dipping into an account. Learning about money is like learning to swim – you need to get in the pool and have a go!

3 PRACTISE BORROWING

Although official borrowing is only available to over 18s, kids need to understand how debt and interest work before they become adults and are exposed to credit cards or 'buy now, pay later' schemes. For a safe means of teaching them about this, parents could offer them extra pocket money but mention that it needs to be paid back by a certain date, plus an extra couple of pence as interest.

4 ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATION

Chatting about money and how much things cost will teach children that finance is a part of everyday life and not some 'scary adult thing'. Parents can involve them in budgeting for the weekly shop, for example, working together to get everything on the list while keeping the total below a certain number. Letting young ones make spending decisions in a safe space can build up their confidence regarding money.

5 DISCUSS THE PRESSURE TO SPEND

Whether it's YouTube ads or a hint of envy at a friend's recent purchase, spending triggers are everywhere. Encourage children to notice how clever shop design (like placing sweets at the checkout) and offers such as '2 for 1' deals entice us to spend more. Challenge them to resist impulse buys by getting them to sleep on it before deciding to spend.

6 TELLING 'NEED' FROM 'WANT'

Learning how to prioritise spending is an important life skill. The difference between 'need' and 'want' is key. To help, when shopping, it's the perfect time to say "That's a want. We're getting our needs first." You could show how you budget for food, electricity and so on before buying fun things.

7 ENCOURAGE SAVING

Getting children saving early can set them up with a useful habit for their adult life. Suggest that they set something aside every time they receive money and help them set a target for how much to put away, so they feel motivated to continue. For example, encouraging them to save for a friend's birthday gift can get children much more invested in what they buy.

8 SPARK INTEREST IN INTEREST

Introduce children to the concept of interest. You can describe it as a reward for saving money. Explain how everything they put away will grow over time. As an exciting example, explain that if doubled every day for a month would result in approximately 65,536 times. Some prepaid cards for young people also offer interest, parents and carers could also add a little to supplement what their child saves and show how it works.

9 PAYING FOR CHORES

This is a complex debate with no right or wrong answer. It depends on what works for each individual family. However, it can be one of the best ways to teach children that money needs to be earned and helps to create more mindful spenders. If parents aren't keen on paying for everyday chores, they could ask the children to suggest their own ideas for earning a little extra.

10 PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SCAMS

Scams are a terrifyingly easy way to lose money, and children are generally more likely to be taken in due to a lack of experience with these financial criminals. As a minimum, make sure they're aware of the most common scams they could be exposed to – by text, email and phone, for instance. Young people should tell a trusted adult about any unexpected message or call and never give out their personal information.

Meet Our Expert

gohenry is a prepaid debit card and financial education app with a mission to make every young person smart with money. Co-founder and CEO Louise Hill is a passionate campaigner for better financial literacy among school children and strongly believes that money management is a crucial life skill.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/spending-and-saving>

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 20.8.2024