

The Christ Church News



8th November 2024

Our value this term is: **FRIENDSHIP**

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RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE CREATIVITY FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a really busy first week back after the half term break. It has been great to hear about the children's half term adventures. We started the week with the parable of the four friends and had a great discussion on how we show friendship to others. Please take the time to read through this bumper packed edition and look at class pages on the website to see even more.

Have a lovely weekend all.

Mrs Pendlebury

Diary Dates 2024-2025

Date	Event
11 th November	10am Y5 lead remembrance service parents welcome to attend 3.30pm Y6 SATS information meeting
12 th November	Skateboarding and scooter sessions Y1-6
14 th November	Y4 film festival cinema trip
15 th November	Children in Need
19 th November	Y6 Class worship
20 th November	Y6 visit Mandir
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
10 th December	YR & Y6 height weight & vision checks – information to follow pm Reception & Y1 Nativity Time TBC
12 th December	Christmas Jumper Day am Reception & Y1 Nativity Time TBC
13 th December	Reception trip to the Everyman PTA crafternoon

17th December	10am Christmas service led by Y2
18 th December	Christmas lunch 2.30pm Rock Steady Concert
20th 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

Children in Need

We will be celebrating Children in Need on Friday 15th November by wearing something spotty or Children in Need themed and donating a £1 to our class collections if you can please help us support this fun and wonderful charity event.



Harvest Service – Year 3



Thank you to Year 3 for leading our Harvest Service this year. A harvest festival is an annual celebration that occurs around the time of the main harvest of a given region. Given the differences in climate and crops around the world, harvest festivals can be found at various times at different places but we always celebrate ours in October at Christ Church.



Foodbank Donations – THANK YOU!



We received this message from Cheltenham Foodbank following our Harvest Donations.

Thank you so much for your harvest donations. We really appreciate it. We rely on the generosity and support of people and organisations such as yourselves to continue the important work we do. Your donations will directly support many vulnerable, struggling individuals and families. On behalf of the Foodbank team and our clients may I say, once again, thank you.

Kind regards,



Parent Prayer Group

We're delighted that our Parent Prayer Group is back up and running again, meeting the first Wednesday of each month at 8.50am in the Healy Hall. In future, children, staff and parents can send prayer requests via our school admin@christchurch.dgat.org.uk email address. Thank you to Emily Rattenbury for helping organise this for us.

Poppy Appeal 2024



Poppies will be on sale at break and lunch in school to raise money for the Royal British Legion as we remember this important time of Remembrance. We ask for a small donation per poppy and £1 for the other items provided by the British Legion. Please be aware we are unable to give change as the collection boxes supplied to us are sealed. Alternatively, if you would prefer to donate directly, without receiving a poppy, you can use the link below:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/donate>



We have also updated our prayer space to offer a reflection space for children to write, draw or respond to Remembrance Sunday and what is currently going on in our world with war now.

Term 2 Value – Friendship

This term we explore our value of Friendship and our learning in PSHE is “Celebrating Difference” and we have anti-bullying week coming up shortly.

'A friend loves at all times.'

(Proverbs 17:17)

- Be empathetic, listen to your friend's thoughts and ideas
- Trust and respect others
- Accept others for who they are
- Support and stay with others, in good times and bad
- Congratulate others and enjoy their success
- Compromise and share
- Be truthful and honest
- Forgive others' mistakes

Key Bible Story

"Through the Roof - Jesus heals a man" (Luke 5: 17-26)

Here is a weblink to a video of our Bible Story this term: <https://youtu.be/SWDgdPiNpz0>



Reading Display – World War I themed for November

We have selected books linked to World War I ready for November's Reading for Pleasure Wall.

Our reading ambassadors helped create the display and children are encouraged to borrow the books to read for pleasure.

Y1 – Elsia

Y2 – Darcie

Y3 – Theo

Y4 – Frankie

Y5 – Lucas

Y6 – James



Year 6

Lily-Rose had her hair cut for the little princess trust. Lily said:

'I decided to cut my hair short to donate it to the little princess trust so another little girl who has got cancer and lost all of her hair can have hair again. I knew if I did this, it would make a really big change in someone's life. I have also raised £150 by asking people to sponsor me. This money will go towards making a wig. When I was getting my hair cut, I felt really nervous but when it was done I was really excited and now love it'



Well done Lily-Rose, we are **all** so very proud of you!

A message from Caterlink

Good afternoon

We are carrying out our annual pupil survey to assist us in improving our catering service to our customers and we would value the opportunity to survey the pupils at your school.

We have provided the link below and also a QR code.

We will provide feedback to schools whose pupils complete the survey once results have been analysed. Many thanks in advance.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RLKQLHJ>

Scan the QR code



We would ask that all responses are completed by 30th November.

Attendance

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters



Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

PTA messages

A quick note on recent orders: mugs and Christmas cards are expected late November early December

A festive poster for a Christmas Crafternoon event. The background is light blue with white snowflakes and a string of colorful Christmas lights at the top. The text is centered and reads: 'CHRIST CHURCH PTA' in a simple font, followed by 'Christmas Crafternoon' in a large, elegant script font. Below that, the date '13TH DECEMBER 2024' and time '3.30PM - SCHOOL HALLS' are listed. A paragraph describes the event: 'Come and join us for an afternoon of merriment, craft stalls, tombola, secret Santa gift wrapping, mulled wine, mince pies, games and festive treats.' Below this, it says 'Plus the choir will be singing carols'. At the bottom, a white box with a black border contains the text: 'TOKENS ON SALE FROM THE 2ND OF DECEMBER MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW'. The poster is decorated with illustrations of a penguin on the left and a polar bear on the right, both wearing scarves, and a small 'PTA' logo on the lights.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTIONS
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Fortnite was launched back in 2017, but it remains massively popular – with more than 650 million active players. That's partially due to the competitive nature of its player-vs-player combat, its pop culture crossovers and its constantly shifting map. Significant updates are rolled out with each new version of the game – known as 'chapters' – and within these sit shorter 'seasons'.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player offline mode in Fortnite. It can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about (both in terms of connectivity and using up data), so you may find that dedicated young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – cosmetic 'skins', music, emotes and V-Bucks – which don't really impact on gameplay but can cost a significant amount. These items are bought with in-game currency, V-Bucks – earned through completing the Battle Pass (which also costs V-Bucks) and can also be purchased from the game's store for real money.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from movies and TV shows like Family Guy and Avatar; the last Airbender to comic book characters including Batman in other games, such as Street Fighter. This means you could have children asking questions about the monster from Alien or Gandalf from The Witcher a little sooner than you otherwise might have.

CROSSLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. 'Crossplay' lets friends play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC – with the 'party chat' feature allowing them to talk to each other during the game. This can, however, put youngsters at risk of hearing inappropriate language from older players in the heat of virtual combat.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

At its core, there's no denying that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as fishing mini-games and dancing emotes. Despite the guns, shotguns and other weapons often look and behave – statistically, however, so discretion is advised.

FREQUENT UPDATES

The game's developers release content in 'seasons' that usually run for around ten weeks. Each fresh update sees items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment's map and a different overarching theme (such as 'medieval', 'pirates' or 'zombie'). These regular renewals help to hold players' interest – but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MATCH GAMING TIMES

Younger players tend to play Fortnite with their friends. With that in mind, it could be worth speaking to the parents and carers of a child's social group and coordinating their gaming around certain times of day. Safety in numbers is obviously a factor here, but it will also help children feel that they're getting adequate opportunities to socialise with their friends online.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

USE UPDATES AS REWARDS

Fortnite's seasonal updates are free, but each also brings the option of a 'battle pass', unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The passes cost around £8 and are also available as part of larger bundles. The purchase of passes can be an effective reward to young Fortnite fans for good behaviour or academic performance, or as an incentive for completing chores like tidying their room.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game; make sure any young player knows this.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents and carers to do something fun with their child, while also making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



#WakeUpWednesday

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gloucestershire
MUSIC

Brookfield Music Centre

Sir Thomas Rich's School, Oakleaze, Longlevens, Gloucester
Saturdays: 09.30 - 12.30

Open day 9th
November



Music sessions for all
young musicians from
beginner to advanced



Join now!

01452 427242

gloucestershiremusic.co.uk

glosmusic@gloucestershire.gov.uk

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