

The Christ Church News



13th September 2024

Our value this term is: **RESPECT**

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RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE CREATIVITY FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week saw an influx of bikes into school with Year 6 completing their bikeability – such an important life skill. Well done to them all and thank you to the instructors.

Please can children have a waterproof in school every day – the weather is so unpredictable at the moment. May we also remind you that footwear to school should be a shoe rather than a trainer or boot. Just let your teacher know if there is a temporary issue with this however.

Later in this letter you will see an invite to the PTA's annual meeting. We would love to welcome new members, so please pop along to find out what it is all about. You will see that there are a variety of roles available that help is needed with. It is a great way to help out and also quite fun too!

Mrs Pope

Diary Dates Autumn Term 2024-2025

Date	Event
17th September	Mini police Y5
19th September	PC Laura visit Y6
24th September	PTA AGM 7pm – all welcome
24 th September	Reception & Y1 Phonics meeting – details to follow
26th September	Y6 swimming starts
4th October	Y4 Literature Festival trip
7th October	Y1 Literature Festival trip
8th October	Y6.5.3 Literature Festival trip
9th October	Y2 Literature Festival trip
14th October	Glos Wildlife Trust with Y4 and 5
16th October	Y3 Wilson Museum visit

22nd & 24th October	Parents' Evening – information to follow
22nd October	Harvest service led by Y3
24th October	Finish for half term
25th October	INSET DAY – No school for children
4th November	Children back to school
5th November	Nasal flu vaccinations
7 th November	Individual & sibling photographs
12th November	Skateboarding and scooter sessions Y1-6
14 th November	Y4 film festival cinema trip
26 th November	Y3, Y5, Y6 film festival cinema trip
27 th November	Y2 film festival cinema trip
12 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
13th December	Reception trip to the Everyman
17th December	Christmas service 10am led by Y2
20th December	Last day of school – Christmas holiday
6th January	INSET DAY – No school for children
7th January	Children back to school

**ALL PARENTS WELCOME
AND ENCOURAGED**

FIRST PTA MEETING

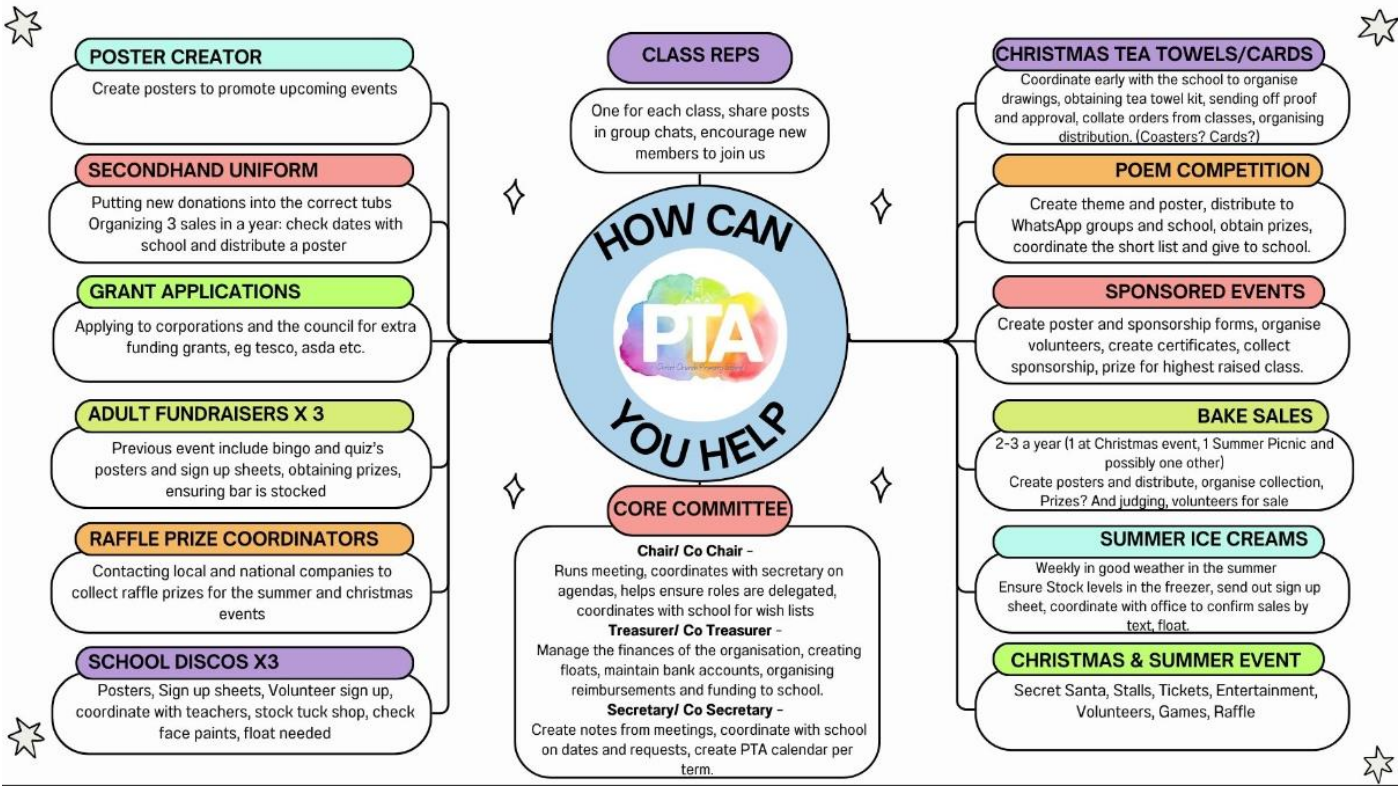
**Tuesday 24 September
7-8:30pm
in the Kidzone hall
PTA AGM**

Come and find out how we did last year, what we have planned this year.

Drinks and nibbles provided

You don't need to be in the PTA to find out what is happening

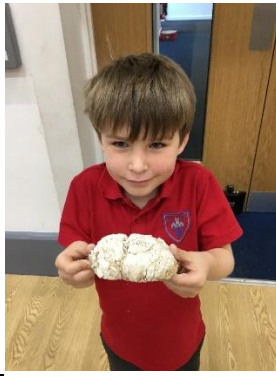






[Year 2 Bread Making Design and Technology Project](#)

This week, Year 2 followed recipes to make their unique bread loaves. The children could choose between white, wholemeal or a mix of both flours then added ingredients like raisins, olives, seeds, oats, or cranberries to personalise their designs. Thank you to Mrs Slee for taking a group each day this week. Photos are on the [Year 2 webpage](#).



New Sensory Circuits

The children are enjoying our new playground markings – thank you to Mr Taylor for organising this in the summer holidays. The “Mirror Me” game allows children to mirror and copy the movements of the person in the circle which is trickier than it looks! We think our outdoor spaces are looking fantastic, especially the new Reception and Year 1 covered area.



Year 4



This week in English, Year 4 have been studying poetry. We have been annotating poems to identify rhyme, personification and metaphors. We really enjoyed performing poems using our expression, intonation and projecting our voices, which links closely to our Whole School Oracy Curriculum.

Year 5

Year 5 have produced some wonderful poems this week based on inspiration from the short film "Beyond the Line." We recognise the importance of oracy and development of language within every unit of writing. The children have particularly enjoyed rehearsing ideas using the writing pouches. A great start to the year.



Reading expectations

You will be receiving a letter today about the importance of reading at home. Please do take the time to check through this letter. Children make amazing progress when they are avid readers both home and school.

Junior ParkRun



We'd like to highlight a fantastic free family event that takes place each Sunday morning at 9.00am at The Park Campus. Children age 4-14 can take part (adults can run alongside if needed) and it's a great way to start your Sunday. Most people arrive at 8.45-8.50am (free parking in the car park) and you register online to print off a barcode that is scanned at the end of the 2km run which records your timings/placing. You are welcome to walk it too and it doesn't take long – you'll be back home by 9.30am at the latest. Most younger children take between 10-15 minutes. Look out for Mrs Proctor who is there most weeks with her own children (unless it's torrential rain-then she tends to skip it!).



<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/cheltenham-juniors/>

Practical Maths

Read and Write numbers to 10,000,000



Y6 Bikeability 2024

Our Y6 children enjoyed partaking in Bikeability training this week where they were able to grow more confident on their bikes – both on the playground and out on local (quiet) roads. The children grew in their cycling proficiency skills and independence, becoming safer and more confident cyclists as a result. Thank you to the amazing team of instructors!





Worship Team

We have so many children who want to be part of the worship team in school: Michael, Martha, Grace, Defne, Theodore, Rupert, Archie, Elsa, George, Leo, Lily-Rose, Olivia, Logan, Viola, Taya, Edward, Evie, Addy, Sadie and Faith. We are looking forward to hearing from them.

Attendance

Please read the following from GCC on attendance.

Why is good attendance important?

Good school attendance is vital for children's success in the future. Being in school every day that it is open is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and their wider development. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.

If children do not attend school regularly, they may:

- struggle to keep up with schoolwork
- have few opportunities to catch up on missed learning
- miss out on the social side of school life
- miss opportunities to make and keep friendships

What does the law say?

By law, all children of compulsory school age (between 5 and 16) must get a suitable, full-time education. As a parent, you are responsible for making sure this happens, either by registering your child at a school or by making other arrangements which provide a suitable full-time education.

Once your child is registered at a school, you are responsible for making sure they attend regularly.

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Levels 1, 2 & 3

CACHE Certificate in Understanding
Safeguarding & Prevent
CACHE Certificate in
Understanding Challenging Behaviours
CACHE Certificate in the
Principles of SEN

Six Week
Course
Mon - Fri
9:30 - 11:30am
12:30 - 2:30pm
4 - 4:30pm

(last optional session for
reflection and support if needed)

Level 1:

- CACHE Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools
- CACHE Level 1 Award in Safeguarding in a Learning Environment
- CACHE Level 1 Certificate in Wellbeing
- Level 1 Occupational Studies for the Workplace

Level 2:

- CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent
- CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours

Level 3:

- Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Special Educational Needs

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must Be Aged 19+
- Either Claim Benefits (Universal Credit, JSA, ESA, PIP, Income Support, Housing Benefits or any type of Tax Credit including Child Tax Credit).
- OR, be in employment, able to attend the sessions and earning less than £23,500 per year
- You Can't be a student or an International Student
- You Can't be an Asylum Seeker
- You Must have lived in the UK for a Minimum of 3 Years (Except if you are from the Ukraine).

Go to: www.studysmartuk.online for more info'

Please find our Raring2go! Autumn magazine link below... this edition has got lots of hints and tips to help the children enjoy reading as a family group along with some great suggestions of books to read.



[CLICK HERE FOR LINK](#)

MOVE MORE

EVERY CHILD ACTIVE

Our coaches will teach your child how to go from **gliding to riding!**

- Controlled fundamental movements: balancing, spatial awareness, motor skills.
- Getting on and off a bike safely.
- Propelling and steering a balance bike.
- Gliding & braking.
- Transitioning to pedal bike.
- Confidently riding a pedal bike.

INDEPENDENCE
CONTROL
BRAKING
STEERING
CONFIDENCE
LIFE SKILL
AWARENESS
SAFETY

Classes suitable for ages 3-7, Equipment provided

Saturday's @ All Saints Academy

WWW.MOVE-MORE.ORG/BALANCEABILITY

SUPPORTERS
GCACHEER
RAISING FUNDS

WWW.GCACHEER.COM

FAMILY FESTIVAL

@THE RAMBLERS CLUB
GL2 5AS

SAT SEPT 14TH

12-4

FREE ENTRY

LOTS OF FUN! GUARANTEED!

FEATURING:

- Inflatables & Softplay
- Facepainting
- Tarot cards & Medium
- Interactive games
- Stalls
- Luxury ice cream & food trucks
- Raffle & prizes
- Live dance acts
- Music

EVERYONE WELCOME

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about LEGO FORTNITE

Epic Games have recently introduced three new game modes to Fortnite: Rocket Racing, Fortnite Festival and, finally, Lego Fortnite: a survival game using official Lego characters. There are lots of great mechanics that encourage creativity in children, but – as with any online game – it's important to stay aware of the potential risks.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MONETISATION

Lego Fortnite utilises a similar online item shop to the main Fortnite game. When this title was released, the makers introduced thousands of Lego versions of the original game's character skins. Owning an original Fortnite cosmetic means you also own the LEGO version at no extra cost, but the addition of these extra versions could potentially spark new interest in young players, making it more tempting to pay real money for these in-game accessories.

ONLINE PLAY

LEGO Fortnite can be played online, as with the base game. While a player's LEGO world is private when it's first created, they can then invite anyone on their in-game friends list to play with them. If any strangers are on this friends list, they can be invited onto their server. Thankfully, Epic Games has implemented a solid reporting system, as well as tools to kick other players from the game.

FEAR FACTOR

There is no explicit violence in Lego Fortnite, but there is a lot of combat. While the battles in Lego Fortnite remain very cartoonish and child-friendly, a lot of the action unfolds inside dark caves, with spiders, skeletons or scary-looking monsters. The game can get a little spooky at times, which could potentially scare younger players.

COMPLEX GAMEPLAY

Lego Fortnite is a survival game, though it's not as simple as something like Minecraft. There are lots of different crafting stations and loads of items to use or combine (including various rarities to seek out and harvest). The gathering and crafting elements of the game can get quite complicated and confusing, which could be a source of frustration for some younger players.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEGO IS FRIENDLY

Much like real Lego, this game is incredibly inviting. It's friendly, fun and accessible: a younger player could still enjoy this title even if they'd never played Fortnite before. With sanitised violence, it's a far more family-friendly gaming experience all round – worth bearing in mind if you're concerned about children and young people being exposed to violent or frightening content.

SET LITTLE CHALLENGES

As we've noted, the game is a lot more difficult than it may seem, which could be frustrating or upsetting for some younger players. While the game does a good job of setting realistic targets for players, it can still feel overwhelming. If parents suggest smaller challenges – such as building a house – children can flex their creativity, express themselves with their builds and feel a real sense of accomplishment.

PLAY TOGETHER

Take some time to play the game together. Not only will that help with some of the complicated tasks, but it's also just a fun pastime. Playing with family members also reduces the potential for younger players to invite strangers to enjoy the game with – if any are on their friends list. Furthermore, playing with children will let you more effectively limit their time spent on the game. Instead of "switch it off", you can now say "let's play some more later!"

MONITOR SPENDING

If a child has provided their parents' email address and been given consent to make in-game purchases, it's worth keeping an eye on how much gets spent on the in-game currency, V-Bucks. It's very tempting to buy character skins in LEGO form, as a way of expressing yourself and looking cool and unique. As you may know already, the average skin costs between £6-18, which can add up very quickly if not tracked and limited. Keep in mind that you can make it necessary to enter a PIN code to validate every purchase using the game's parental controls, and you can prevent the game from saving your payment information whenever you make a purchase. Furthermore, players under-13 automatically have their spending limited to \$100 (£78.55) per day.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality, augmented reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



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