

The Christ Church News



12th December 2025

Our value this term is: **FRIENDSHIP**

Telephone: (01242) 523392

Email: admin@christchurch.dgat.org.uk

Web: www.christchurchschool-chelt.co.uk

RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE COURAGE FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week the school, and parent / carers enjoyed the school Nativity performance with EYFS / Year 1. The children were absolutely fantastic and the staff did a brilliant job of preparing them.

Please look later in the newsletter for details of the 'Look Who's Talking' competition which your children enter in January.

Best wishes

Mrs Pope

Diary Dates 25-26

Date	Event
17 th December	Yr R Everyman Theatre – please pay on Arbor Years 1 and 2 to Christmas Multi-skills Event at CLC in the morning Christmas Lunch - Christmas jumpers allowed today too! 2.30pm Rock steady concert
18 th December	Yr 4 lead Christmas Service – 9.15am At Church all welcome
19 th December	Last day – finish at usual time
5 th January	INSET day – school closed for children
6 th January	Children back to school
15 th January	PTA meeting 7pm at school
16 th -20 th February	Half term – School closed
23 rd February	INSET day – school closed for children

27 th February	PTA Wine Tasting (adults only!)
4 th July	PTA Summer Picnic

Christmas Service 2025 Reminder

We would like to invite you all to our Christmas Service at Christ Church on Thursday 18th December 9.15am start. Year 4 will lead the service with pupils in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 performing a song. YR and Y1 will join us but as they have their own nativity, they will be in the audience for this service. We anticipate the service to last no longer than 1 hour but it is difficult to predict timings at this stage. Pupils will come to school as normal at 8.40am wearing their school uniform. We will register them then walk to the church with their class in the morning. We hope you can join us for this special celebration.

Nativity Show

Well done to all the pupils and staff in Reception and Year 1 who performed their nativity show “Hey Ewe” this week.



Year 2 “Live from Antarctica Assembly”

Our Year 2 pupils are part of the 2041 Antarctic Project and are polar ambassadors. Did you know the Antarctica Treaty ends in 2041? This treaty ensures that everyone is responsible for Antarctica and there can never be war there. Our children are the future, so we make sure every year, Year 2 pupils learn about this special continent and last week we had a live assembly from Antarctica listening to Robert Swan OBE who was the first man to walk to both the North and South poles unaided. It was fantastic and each week we have weekly emails from scientists there who tell us what they are learning.



Here Robert Swan is showing us his “teddy” - the first one to travel to both north and south poles with him in his pocket!

Thank you for becoming a Champion of Antarctica and helping to protect the last great wilderness on Earth.

2041 SCHOOL
CHAMPIONS OF ANTARCTICA

Supported by **ODDIZZI**

Congratulations on making a piece of Antarctic history!

This certificate is proudly presented to

Year 2 pupils at Christ Church Primary

Thank you for attending the first ever live assembly from Union Glacier, Antarctica on 5th December 2025.

Hosted by Picture News, 2041 School, and special guest Robert Swan OBE, this historic event brought together children from around the world to learn why Antarctica is special and why we all need to help protect it.

Joining the assembly was Teddy, the first teddy in history to visit both the North Pole and the South Pole in Rob's pocket, inspiring us all with his spirit of exploration.

"Congratulations on joining the first ever live assembly from Union Glacier, Antarctica. By becoming Champions of Antarctica, you are helping to protect one of the most magical and fragile places on Earth. Your commitment truly matters."

Dame Joanna Lumley DBE FRGS – The Voice of Antarctica

"Thank you all for making a part of history and promising to protect Antarctica, a place very close to my heart. I am so proud of you all for becoming Champions of Antarctica. Your enthusiasm, curiosity and commitment give me great hope for the future. Together, we can continue to protect this extraordinary continent for generations to come."

RC Swan
Robert Swan OBE, FRGS

Hosted by: **Picture News**

To view our award-winning films on Antarctica, please visit: www.2041School.com

Year 4 Reverse Advent Calendar Idea

Year 4 pupils suggested we could collect items for the local food bank again this year.

Here is a list – even if each class organised to bring in one item from this calendar – we would be making a huge difference to our community. Hand in items to the main office and we will deliver them to the food bank on the last day of term. We love how our pupils want to take action and make a difference to others.

If your child ever has an idea they are passionate about, please speak to Mrs Proctor.

1 Tinned soup	2 Shampoo	3 Variety tins or boxes	4 Tinned tomatoes	5 Rice	6 Deodorant
7 Box of biscuits or 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 mash 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

Year 3 / 4 Art Club

Children from Year 3/4 art club have been busy making Christmas candle holders. They used salt dough to create the candle holders and then carefully painted them.



Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper Day 2025





Look Who's Talking is back for 2026!

Once again Christ Church is taking part in the “Look Who’s Talking” oracy competition

LOOK WHO'S TALKING! 2026

An Oracy Competition for Gloucestershire's Infant, Junior and Primary Schools

Our school is very excited to be taking part in the ‘Look Who’s Talking!’ competition, along with lots of other schools in Gloucestershire!

WHAT IS ORACY AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

Oracy is the ability to express ourselves clearly and communicate with others effectively, through spoken language.

By teaching our children to become more effective speakers and listeners, we are all helping to give them the tools they need to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them.

HOW WILL THE COMPETITION WORK?

Your child will get the chance to talk to their class for two minutes, about any subject that they choose and then a ‘Star Speaker’ will be chosen. Star Speakers from every class will then get to talk in front of the whole school. Those winners will then go on to the next stage and will represent our school in the competition, with lots of other local schools! The grand final will be on 17.04.26, which you can come to, if your child is a representative for our locality.

WHAT CAN YOUR CHILD TALK ABOUT?

Children can talk about absolutely anything that they choose to, for up to two-minutes. They can use any props that they wish to, which will help with their talk, but just cannot use any technology, so no Powerpoint slide shows please.

HOW CAN YOU HELP THEM AT HOME?

- ★ First of all, please help them to think about what they would like to talk about. The more interested they are in the subject, the more passionate their talk will be! What are they interested in? What excites them? It might be a toy, their pet, a book, something they have seen on TV, their favourite sports team, something they have learned about from you at home - or anything else! It really can be anything at all!
- ★ They will need to plan and rehearse their speech, so please listen to them practice and give them lots of encouragement!
- ★ Make sure they are speaking with big voices, nice and clearly, so everyone can hear their talk and learn about their chosen topic.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Class heats will begin in when we return to school in January. School winners will be selected by 16th January. Please do chat to your child about the topic of their choice. We will be encouraging as many pupils as possible to have a go. Great topics that we have had previously are those really personal to the children from their pet dog to what makes them unique and all of the bits in between. If you could please spend some time with your child over the holidays (in between charades) chatting through their topics of interest and then preparing them for their class heats in the first week back, this will ensure they are confident and raring to go. Having chatted to some year groups, I know this is already underway in a few households!

Attendance

Is my child too ill for school? NHS Advice

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [health protection and managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason. If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore, let their teacher know.

What to do about other conditions

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 bullying, friendship problems, school work or sensory problems. You can also work with the school to find ways to help them.

If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, it might be good to talk to your GP or school nurse.

[Find information and advice about how to help children with anxiety](#)

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with slight [cough](#) or [common cold](#) symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.

But if they have a high temperature, keep them off school until the temperature has gone.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

Community Notices

A blue poster for an 'All Together Service'. The title 'ALL TOGETHER SERVICE' is in large, bold, white letters. Below it, 'Church for all the family!' is written in a smaller, white, italicized font. The date 'Sunday 14th December' is in large, bold, yellow letters. Below that, 'Festive Refreshments from 10am, service starts at 10:30!' is in white. At the bottom left is the 'CHRIST CHURCH CHELTENHAM' logo. At the bottom right are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. The background features a graphic of several hands of different colors (red, yellow, brown, green) stacked together in a circle.

ALL TOGETHER SERVICE

Church for all the family!

Sunday 14th December

Festive Refreshments from 10am, service starts at 10:30!

CHRIST CHURCH CHELTENHAM

f X @ y

Christmas Treecycling



Recycle your real Christmas tree this January.

Our reliable and friendly team of volunteers will collect your real Christmas tree directly from your front door, front garden or driveway.

Search **Sue Ryder Christmas Treecycling** to reserve your collection today
Reservations close 6th January 2026.

We'll be collecting from 12th to 16th January 2026 from the following postcodes: GL2 0, GL2 8, GL2 9, GL3 1, GL3 2, GL20 5, GL20 6, GL20 7, GL20 8, GL50, GL51, GL52, GL53, GL54 1, GL54 2, GL54 4, GL54 5, GL55 6, GL56 0
With an optional donation, your Christmas tree could become the gift of expert care and support for seriously ill people and their loved ones.

For more information:
email: leckhampton.fundraising@sueyder.org
call: 01242 246 270

Kindly supported by:



The Children's Society

Christmas Youth Group

Ages- 10-18

Let's Celebrate Christmas Together
Food, Games, Arts and Sport

Tewkesbury Youth Centre
22 December- 3.30-5pm

Whaddon Youth Centre
23 December- 3.30-5pm

Whaddon youth Centre, Dart Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5QW
Tewkesbury Youth Centre, Link road, Tewkesbury, GL20 5JQ

ctyh@childrenssociety.org.uk

07521429300

The Children's Society



NEW YEAR Youth Group

FOOD, GAMES, ARTS AND SPORT
AGES- 10-18

Tewkesbury Youth Centre
29 December- 3.30-5

Whaddon Youth Centre
30 December- 3.30-5

Whaddon youth Centre, Dart Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5QW
Tewkesbury Youth Centre, Link road, Tewkesbury, GL20 5JQ

ctyh@childrenssociety.org.uk

07521429300