

The Christ Church News



6th March 2026

Our value this term is: **COURAGE**

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RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE COURAGE FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

Children have enjoyed visiting the library this week. We hope this will encourage those who haven't to use this valuable resource – for free! We also enjoyed seeing everyone dressed up as a word for World Book Day!

A reminder that parents must **stay and supervise their children in the morning until 8.40am** when they are handed to school staff. The exception to this is when children have written permission to walk to school themselves (usually year 6). School staff will only assume responsibility when school starts at 8.40am.

Best wishes.

Mrs Pope

Diary Dates 25-26

Date	Event
9 th March	Y5 Experience lent – information to follow – volunteers needed
10 th March	Y3 & Y4 Experience Lent - information to follow – volunteers needed (contact teacher)
12 th March	Y4 'In the Net' - Y6 Experience lent – information to follow – volunteers needed (contact teacher)
20 th March	Red Nose Day
24 th March	Y2 lead Easter Service at Church 10am start Parents' Evening – booking in Arbor
25 th March	Rock Steady concert 2.30pm Parents' Evening – booking in Arbor
26 th March	Y2 Sandfield Farm trip – information in letter –No more volunteers needed

27 th March	Last day – school finishes at normal time
13 th April	Children back to school
27 th – 29 th April	Y4 Residential trip
4 th May	Bank Holiday – school closed
6 th May	Class photos
11 th - 15 th May	Y6 SATs week
18 th -22 nd May	Readathon Week – information to follow
19 th May	Y6 Residential meeting 3.30pm
21 st May	Y2 Slimbridge trip – no more volunteers needed thanks
22 nd May	Last Day – School finishes at normal time
1 st June	Children back to school
2 nd June	Y2 Science Festival trip – information to follow
3 rd June	Y5 & Y6 Science Festival trip – information to follow
10 th June	Y6 Leavers' service Gloucester Cathedral – children only
16 th June	Sports Day
17 th June	Y4 Robinswood Trip – information to follow
20 th June	PTA Summer Picnic (note change of date)
23 rd June	Reserve Sports Day
8 th – 10 th July	Y6 Residential trip
15 th July	Rock Steady concert 2.30pm
17 th July	Y6 Leavers' Service 2pm Last day - School finishes at normal time

OPAL Play

Thank you to Mrs Jaynes and Mrs Slee, who gave up a day of their holiday in half term to tidy and organise the OPAL shed and equipment, as well as the playground. We really appreciate their hard work and generosity. They epitomise our motto 'always be kind!'



We are in need of more toys and tools to further enhance our OPAL provision and would really appreciate any donations. If you have any of the following that you would be happy to donate to school, please drop these off at the school office. It is appreciated, thank you in advance.

- **Loose parts and construction:** plastic milk crates, wooden pallets, cable drums/reels, large cardboard boxes
- **Role play and imagination:** dressing up clothes, dolls, cars, small world figures (animals/dinosaurs), old wagons, play buggies/strollers, suitcases (no locks)
- **Mud kitchen and sensory:** old pots, pans, metal bowls, ladles, spatulas, wooden spoons, large buckets, containers.
- **Active play:** tarpaulin, noodles (swimming pool type), fabric/sheets
- **Small items:** bottle tops
- **Sand Pit:** Buckets, spades etc to play with in the sand



Here are a few photos of what we get up to at lunch!



Gloucestershire Wildlife Quiz

Our Y6 nature team took part in the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust Quiz at St Marks Junior School on Tuesday. They showcased impressive knowledge about British wildlife and nature! We were really proud of them for coming second out of three teams.



Library Visits

We were so fortunate to take ALL our classes to Cheltenham Children's Library this week for visits to enjoy books, make bookmarks and fortune tellers to share our book recommendations. Thank you to all our helpers.

Don't forget it is free to sign up for a library card and you can visit anytime you happen to be in town. It's a great resource we don't want to lose in our area. The children absolutely loved being there exploring so many lovely books.



World Book Day

This year we had great fun dressing up as a word! We could choose ANYTHING!



Year 2 Performance Poetry

We have been practising performance poetry in our English lessons and will be writing our own kenning poems next week. This has used our oracy skills, projecting our voice, using expression and actions to make it entertaining for our audience.



Construction Club





Construction club had a great session this week using new materials. They used spaghetti and jelly tots to build towers. They are yet to decide whether these materials would be strong enough to build a house!

MOVE MORE NEWS

Rest and Rise Week 2

This week we are talking about **sleep hygiene** and all the things that we need to do to make sure that we are setting children (and ourselves) up for success when it comes to good quality sleep. We are considering the **impact of environment** on sleep and also **how screens affect sleep**.

I have included two activities to do with children: "**The Brain Fog Maze**" to illustrate how screens at bedtime impact brains and "**The Energy Battery**" to help children realise the importance of sleep hygiene.

All of this is explained in the document sent separately and it can also be accessed via this YouTube video:
<https://youtu.be/R5fGCo6dIFo>

Move More – Webinar 4

We are well into Term 4 now which means that Webinar 4 is coming up!

This will happen on the 18th of March at 1pm and the topic will be: "Coping with Change and Transitions"

We will explore; -What do we consider to be changes and transitions- day to day and bigger events. -What do our children need during times of change, to ease their experience. -How we can meet those needs and help strengthen their resilience through simple, practical strategies. Our aim is to build a deeper understanding of how children experience daily change— and to feel confident in supporting them through it with warmth, clarity, and connection. We will send more information in a separate email

To access both the live session and the recording of it, all parents/carers need to do is sign up by following this link:
<https://www.move-more.org/events/webinar-change-transitions/>

PTA Wine Tasting

Thank you to the PTA for a hosting a wonderful wine tasting event last Friday evening, in conjunction with local company, D'Arcy's Wine. We really appreciate the time and effort that goes into organising such a range of events - please let the PTA know if you would be interested in joining them or volunteering your time. All of the money raised goes towards providing a further range of enriching experiences and resources for children in school!



Sleep tips



Attendance

What sort of start is your child getting?

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly <u>Half a year</u>
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 mins per week	Over 2.5 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 year</u>
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 and a Half years</u>
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 Weeks per year	Over <u>2 and a Half years</u>

Did you know your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That's when every minute counts the most!!

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

PTA

HAPPY WORLD BOOK DAY

THIS YEAR THE PTA THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A WONDERFUL IDEA FOR THE SCHOOL TO CREATE A WHOLE SCHOOL BOOK.

THIS WEEK THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL PIECE OF WORK IN SCHOOL WITH THE THEME OF PETS.

THE CHILDREN'S WORK WILL ALL BE PUT INTO AN EBOOK WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE FOR £4.

THE MONEY RAISED GO TOWARDS THE PTA FUND AS WELL AS THE CHILDREN'S VOTED CHARITY, THE CHELTENHAM ANIMAL SANCTUARY.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT AMAZING WORKS THE CHILDREN CREATE. HAPPY READING!



Community Notices

ALL TOGETHER SERVICE
Church for all the family

Sunday 8th March

Coffee and pastries from 10am, service begins at 10:30am

Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter icons.

The poster features a nautical theme with a rope, a red starfish, a wooden boat, and a beach scene with a yellow starfish and a beach ball. The background is a light blue gradient.

**SIR THOMAS RICH'S
GLOUCESTER**



OPEN MORNINGS
21 April and 22 April

"The culture here is one of belonging and community. As a result, pupils flourish. The personal development of pupils threads alongside the academic learning. Pupils thrive through a wide range of established opportunities designed for their personal growth!" Ofsted 2026

We warmly invite prospective parents and pupils to visit Sir Thomas Rich's School for our April Open Mornings. These events are primarily aimed at Year 5 boys planning to sit the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools' Admissions Test this September, although pupils from other year groups and their families are very welcome to attend. Register online, or for enquiries email the school on admissions@strs.org.uk.



www.strschool.co.uk


Pate's Grammar School

Open Morning for Year 7 Entry
Tuesday 17 March 2026
9.15am - 11.00am
Headteacher's Welcome: 9.15am
Tours start from 10.00am

Please join us for our Spring Open Morning. Come and explore our school and meet our students and staff team who will be delighted to share Pate's life with you and answer all your questions about joining us in Year 7.

[Book now](#)

Please note: No parking is available on site. Please use Corntonion Square Car Park, GL51 7HG.

01242 523 169
pates.org

Princess Elizabeth Way
Cheltenham GL51 0HG

COLOUR UP FOR KIDS

Prices from **£10**

Saturday 9th May 2026
Plock Court, Gloucester

Get ready for a splash of colour, bubbles, music, and inflatables!

Run, walk, or skip through this fun-filled family event while supporting local children facing childhood cancer, life-limiting and life-threatening conditions.



www.colourupforkids.co.uk

Just by taking part you'll be supporting 2 fantastic local charities that help support children facing childhood cancer, life-limiting and life-threatening conditions.

10 years of Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust
Reg. Number 1187983

Childhood cancer is one of the most common causes of death in children in the UK. Every year, just over 4,000 children and young adults receive this life-changing diagnosis.

The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust is working hard to raise awareness of childhood cancer signs and symptoms. We produce educational resources for parents and clinicians, provide support to families and fund research into rare cancers of childhood.

JAMES HOPKINS TRUST
Reg. Number 1183110

James Hopkins Trust believe that every child deserves to experience joy, laughter and love, regardless of their complex medical needs, diagnosis or condition.

For over 30 years, we have been dedicated to providing unwavering support to children in Gloucestershire who are life-limited or life-threatened, empowering them to live life to the fullest and make magic memories.

Sign up today and together we can help support local children

Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust
Covenden Hall, Covenden,
Upton Lovell, Gloucester,
Gloucestershire, GL51 4JG
Tel: 01905 888777
Email: fundraising@gkccct.org
Website: www.gkccct.org
Registered charity number: 1187983

James Hopkins Trust
Eden Court, North Upton Lane,
Gloucester GL4 2TH
Tel: 01452 812238
Email: fundraising@jameshopkinstrust.org.uk
Website: www.jameshopkinstrust.org.uk
Registered charity number: 1183110

 Registered with the FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

EASTER CAMPS 2026

Everyday at Tech Camp is an adventure with hands-on tech fun, **fast creativity**, and **take-home inventions!**

Example camp activities

Camp runs 9 am - 1 pm

ROBOT LAB	Engineering	ELECTRIC INVENTIONS	3D CREATIONS	VIRTUAL REALITY
COOL GADGETS	VIDEO GAME DESIGN	MOVIE MAKING	NIMBLE LIFE REDSTONE	NIMBLE LIFE MALES

WHAT TO EXPECT:

At Next Thing Education, our goal is to inspire curiosity, **fast creativity**, and empower young minds **to be the future**.

Through hands-on coding & STEM experiences, we inspire the next generation of inventors, creators, and tech leaders. Led by ONS checked, friendly and supportive educators, kids will explore IT/DT through exciting activities and challenges.

★★★★★

"The best camp we've tried! A perfect mix of fun and learning!"

★★★★★

"My child loved every minute - already asking to come back!"

★★★★★

"Fun, engaging, and educational - highly recommend!"

HALF DAY CAMPS THIS EASTER 9 AM - 1 PM Starts to book

£25 PER DAY or 4 days for just **£90**

LIMITED SPACES, BOOK NOW!
E: info@nextthing.education T: 01442 873150

30TH MARCH - 17TH APRIL: LIMITED SPACES!

WEDNESDAY DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FROM 2025! £25 PER HALF DAY
AGES 5-11, 9 AM - 1 PM DAILY

www.nextthing.education

TOP 100 CHILDREN'S CHOICE AWARDS 2025

RAE FUNDS APPROVED

GET SET FOR ULTIMATE EASTER & SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN!

ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMPS

Exceptional activity camps for children aged 4 to 14 at **Dean Close Prep School, Cheltenham**

ULTIMATEACTIVITY.CO.UK

EARLY BOOKING OFFER NOW ON!




Make this March a month of matchdays! Cheltenham Town Women are hosting three thrilling Sunday home games – and **Christ Church CofE Primary School** families are warmly invited to be part of the action.

Cheltenham Town Women, proudly known as *The Robinesses*, compete in the **FA Women's National League Southern Premier**, the highest level of semi-professional women's football in England and just one step below the Women's Super League 2. That means top-quality, fast-paced, competitive football right here on your doorstep!

Sunday matchdays at Kayte Lane are fantastic for families. They're friendly, welcoming, affordable and full of atmosphere. It's the perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon together while supporting local women's sport.

March Home Fixtures

 Kayte Lane Stadium, GL52 3PD

 Kick-off 2:00pm | Gates open 12:30pm

- **Sunday 8 March** vs AFC Bournemouth Women
- **Sunday 15 March** vs Bristol City Women Academy
- **Sunday 22 March** vs AFC Wimbledon Women



Tickets available now:

 <https://app.fanbaseclub.com/club/cheltenham-town-women-fc>

Come along to cheer on the Robinesses – a brilliant family day out and a great way to support women's football in our community!

A promotional poster for 'Hockey Heroes' featuring two children on a green field. One child is in a red and blue jersey, the other in a red jersey. They are using hockey sticks to play with a yellow ball. The background shows a fence and trees under a blue sky.

HOCKEY HEROES

Come try HOCKEY

An 8-week programme delivered by Cheltenham Junior Hockey Club

CJHC

ALL 5-8 YEAR OLDS

Starts 18th April
Venue: CLC Health & Fitness Centre
Time: 08:30-09:30am

Come try HOCKEY

Cheltenham Junior Hockey Club is running an 8-week programme from 18th April 2026 aimed at 5-8 year olds.

Whether your child is a complete beginner ready for "Hockey Heroes" or has a little experience for our "Saturday Squad", it's a fantastic way for them to get active, gain confidence, and catch the hockey bug.

When: Starts 18th April

Time: 08:30-09:30am

Where: Venue: CLC Health & Fitness Centre

Cost: £48

Sign up your child here: <https://bit.ly/4ueye5p>