

The Christ Church News



13th March 2026

Our value this term is: **COURAGE**

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RESPECT COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE COURAGE FRIENDSHIP

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another busy week at school. Many classes have visited Christ Church for 'Experience Lent' - pictures from this will be in the next newsletter.

A reminder that children must be supervised on the playground until 8.40am unless we have written permission that the children walk themselves to school.

We are excited that the author Andy Seed is visiting next week – see later in the newsletter for information, as well as the email sent previously.

You should also receive an email about Red Nose Day. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Mrs Pope

Diary Dates 25-26

Date	Event
19 th March	Author Andy Seed visiting – Books available to order for signing. Information sent out 11 th March
20 th March	Red Nose Day – donations can be made in Arbor in the shop or cash on the 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
23 rd April	7pm PTA meeting – all welcome
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 - KS1 morning
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
30 th June	2pm & 5.30pm Y6 Performance – ticket information to follow
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

Breaktime Healthy Snacks

Reminder that breaktime snacks should be healthy ie fruit, cheese, rice cakes. Children should not be eating chocolate and crisps at breaktime.



Red Nose Day – Friday 20th March

We're looking forward to celebrating Red Nose Day and would love everyone to join in the fun! Children are invited to come to school wearing funny or silly red accessories—this could be anything from red hats and socks to Red Nose Day-themed items. *Please still wear school uniform.* We are asking for a £1 donation for dressing up, which will go directly to supporting the charity.

In addition, children can bring along a joke to share with their class on the day. If they would like to take part in our "Tell a Joke" Activity, we ask for a further 50p donation. They can either write their own joke or bring in a favourite one they've found.

Donations can be made in cash or online via Arbor (in the shop), whichever is easiest for you.

Thank you for helping us support this fantastic cause—and for joining in the fun and laughter!

Year 6

Y6 had a fantastic time visiting SkillZONE last week where they learnt lots about health and safety in real-life scenarios. The children gained lots from this learning experience and will be sure to apply their learning in the real world.



Year 5 & 6 Mock trial

A group of Y5 and Y6 children took part in a Mock Trial at The University of Gloucestershire on Monday. This gave them the chance of experiencing a real court room. The children took on a variety of important roles and showcased their carefully prepared arguments, thoughtful questions and listened closely to the evidence presented. Throughout the trial, the children demonstrated excellent teamwork, speaking skills and critical thinking. This experience helped the children to understand the importance of fairness, evidence and respectful debate. It was fantastic to see them taking their roles so seriously and representing Christ Church so well. To top off a brilliant experience, Christ Church actually won! An extra special thank you to Mrs Jaynes for preparing the team so brilliantly, and also to the parent helpers who transported the children to and from the venue - this amazing opportunity would not have been possible without you all!



Year 5

Year 5 have been learning about how to deal with emergency situations as part of their PSHE lessons. They practised putting casualties into the recovery position in order to protect their airway. We also discussed how to make a 999 call and the information that they would need to pass on to the emergency services.

We would like to suggest that all families help their children to learn their home address and postcode should they ever be in the unfortunate situation that they need to call for help.



Cross Country

Well done to all the pupils who took part in the March round of cross-Country races competing against all the local schools. We are so proud of your perseverance and effort you put into your runs. We love how the taking part and representing our school in these events and trying to improve your result each time is much more important than winning! Thank you to the parents and staff who gave up their time to make this possible.



Spring Bulbs

We are delighted to see the beautiful spring flowers blossoming in our playground planters thanks to the PTA who organised planting bulbs back in the autumn.

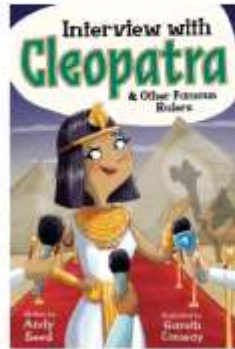
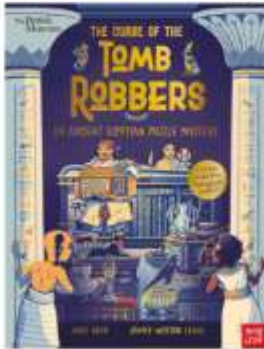
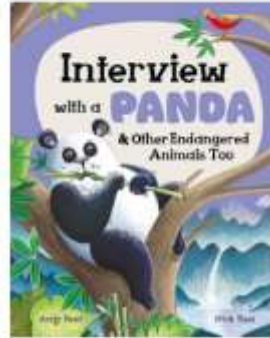
The children have been so respectful by not picking them and instead, enjoying their beauty as one of life's WOW moments! We hope they cheer you up too.



Andy Seed – Author visit 19th March

SIGNED BOOKS FROM AUTHOR ANDY SEED

Available to buy in school on Thurs **19th March**



If you would like to order a book to be signed by the author, please see email sent on 11th March with order form – Form and payment in a named envelope should be handed in to the office.

British Science Week

British Science Week started on Friday with this year's question 'Curiosity: what's your question?'

Pupils in Years 2-3 joined a live webinar called "To the Moon and Back" about space travel and it was great fun and interactive with pupils learning about astronauts. We were able to take part in interactive voting too with other schools in the UK.





We learned how astronauts are people just like you or me who have similar interests as us! We could one day grow up and become an astronaut!

In Year 3 we tried to answer the question: What's the best design for a paper aeroplane?



Worship Team Service

This week, some of the year 6 Worship Team led a service as part of our "Artist's View of God" series looking at artwork this time to make us think about "in God's image." We explored this beautiful piece by Eloise Hopkins and considered how each of us is made in the image of God.



In God's Image by Eloise Hopkins



British Values – Respect Service

Mrs Paterson led a British Values service this week, teaching the children about one of our school value's Respect. She told the story of the chopsticks and Alfie, our PSHE Ambassador, helped retell the story of how people feasting showed respect by helping feed each other instead of themselves.



Year 2 Planting Potatoes

It's that time of year again when Year 2 enter the "Grow your own potato" competition. We have chitted our potatoes for two weeks and now they are ready to plant! This week, we had to plant them in our planter so they can start to grow tubers now they have chitted. We have two varieties to grow – Cristina and Casablanca. We can't wait to see how many they produce when we harvest them in June!



Litter Pick

Litter pick on the Honeybourne Line - Sat 21 March. Below is a message received from the organisers:

Dear friends and litterpickers, this year we are once again holding a litterpick in Cheltenham on the Honeybourne Line in memory of our son Ben, and as a service to the community. This will be our 20th year! If you would like to support the event on Sat 21 March, we will meet at 11am at 'Ben's Bench' near Malvern Road bridge. Please do join us after the litterpick for a soup lunch at St Marks Methodist Hall, Gloucester Road, and feel free to forward this invitation to anyone you know who may be interested in supporting this event. Warmest wishes, Jenny & Martin Lockwood.

Easter Egg Decorating Competition

Reminder to check your emails for details of our Easter Egg Decorating competition. Entries can be brought into school from Wednesday 18th March. We can't wait to see your creative talents and egg characters.



Attendance

Should I keep my child off school?



Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days, from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>

Move More News

Rest and Rise Week 3

Week 3 is all about tips and tools to help adults with children who struggle with independent settling and need an adult present at bedtime.

Parents and carers can access this information in the document attached and via this video link:

<https://youtu.be/I5PNq4Bk3W0>

If parents/carers would like to ask any questions or give us some feedback, please either use this form [Rest & Rise Feedback and Questions Form – Fill in form](#) or contact me on marijana@move-more.org.

Move More Webinar

Reminder for our upcoming Webinar "Coping with Change and Transitions" taking place on Wednesday March 18th at 1pm.

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/>



COPING WITH CHANGE AND TRANSITIONS



WEBINAR

FREE WEBINAR

When: Wednesday 18th March at 1pm
Duration: Approximately 60 minutes

Transitions and change are a natural part of everyday life, and children experience them constantly—often in small but meaningful ways. Even though these shifts happen regularly, they can still feel challenging. Children rely on predictability and routine to feel safe, so when something disrupts that sense of stability—whether it's a different morning routine, a new adult doing school pick-up, a change in their day, or moving from one activity to the next—it can feel unsettling.

Some children adapt quickly to these day-to-day transitions, while others may need more guidance to understand what they're feeling and to develop tools that help them learn and develop coping strategies and skills.

That's why our upcoming session will explore how everyday transitions and changes impact children, and what we as adults can do to support them.

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.

How to Register:

[Click here to sign up: WEBINAR: Coping with change and transitions](#)

I've signed up: what happens next?

Once you complete our short registration form, you will be registered for the online session. You will automatically receive an invitation for the zoom session. If you don't hear from us by the 17th of March, please contact Jen at Jen@move-more.org (and check your spam/junk folder).

Bonus: The webinar will be recorded! All registered participants will receive the recording, accessible on any device within 48 hours of the webinar taking place.

WWW.MOVE-MORE.ORG/FAMILY-ZONE



Community Notices

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](#)

FREE OF CHARGE

PROVIDING A GUIDED TOUR

FOR ALL YEAR 7 ENTRANTS

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

01242 523 169
patesgs.org

Princess Elizabeth Way
Cheltenham GL51 0HG