



Christ Church School, Hampstead

A village school in London inspiring *life in all its fullness*

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September 2019
Newsletter 1

Welcome back!

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome or welcome back to Christ Church School for a new term and new year! I hope all families enjoyed a relaxing and happy summer holiday. It is great to be back and we have lots planned for the term ahead! It has been quite a busy summer holiday for the school building with air conditioning fitted in the infant classrooms and the school building let out to various local children's clubs and activities and to a film company who were filming nearby. It's good to have our own Christ Church children and adults back in the building this week!

Please take a look at all the dates in this newsletter – dates for class assemblies, parent workshops and school and church events are included – and there will be more details about specific events in later newsletters.

We are expecting our SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection this term. This inspection looks at our effectiveness as a Church School and how our Christian vision of inspiring *life in all its fullness* for all influences and permeates everything we do. Given the recent announcement about changes for outstanding schools, we are also possibly expecting an Ofsted inspection, too. For both inspections parents will be an important part of the process and involved in talking with inspectors and giving their views about the school – when we receive notice of an inspection we will let parents know. Thank you very much in advance for your help with this.

With very best wishes for the year ahead, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Welcomes

A very warm welcome to all the children and families who are joining our school this term. Welcome to Lily (Y2), Ben (Y3), Rufus (Y5), Connor (Y6) and Bella (Y6) and to Christopher, Margot, Amelie, Hartley, Nina, Blanca, Victoria, Jude, James, Eliot, Alexis, Asher, Chloe, Emilia, Freddie, Lydia, Advait, Carlotta, Aava, Alexander, Santiago, James, Arkady, Pablo, Larkin, Max, Daisy and Minnie who are our new Reception class!

A warm welcome to new staff members, too: welcome to Miss Dalton (Y1 teacher), Mr Taylor (Y3 teacher), Miss Bolton and Miss Melling (trainee teachers), Ms James (music teacher) and Miss Heaton (teaching assistant).

Open classrooms – Tuesday 10th September, 3.20 – 4pm, Y1-6

Come and take a look at your child's new classroom after school on Tuesday 10th September. Your child can show you where they sit and you can say hello to their new class teacher. There will also be sets of children's books from last year for parents to have a look at. This isn't the chance for an in depth discussion with class teachers so if you would like to make an appointment to meet with your child's new teacher, please do arrange this separately.

School Games Award – Gold!

We were delighted to receive confirmation of our Gold School Games Award over the summer. This government-led award scheme recognises schools for commitment towards competition in sports in their own schools and in their communities. There are four aspects to the award: participation, competitions, pupils leading sports activities and links with clubs. A Gold Award for a school as small as ours is unusual and demonstrates how committed we are to providing excellent PE and to taking part in as many sports competitions as we can possibly fit in. Thank you to Mrs Pagnello, Mr Spadaccini and Mrs Maguire for all their hard work on our sports and PE over the last year!



PSHE week – positive relationships and diversity

This term's PSHE week takes place at the end of September and we will be thinking about celebrating difference and diversity and about positive relationships including anti-bullying. Amongst many other things, we will be making and swapping friendship bracelets with a new friend in the school, reminding everyone about the anti-bullying message and how we can be upstanders if something is going wrong, wearing odd socks as part of celebrating the brilliant differences we have in our school and community and taking part in visits from Kidscape anti-bullying charity and Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children. Look out for more information from class teachers.

Dates

September

Thursday 5th – Reception class start, half days

Tuesday 10th, 3.20 – 4pm – Y1-6 Open classrooms

Thursday 12th, 6pm – Secondary transfer information meeting (Y4-6 parents welcome) and School Journey information for Y6 parents

Friday 13th, am – KS2 cross country trials on the Heath

Friday 13th, 3.20 – Friends cake sale
Week beginning Monday 16th – after school clubs start

Thursday 19th, 6pm – Reception parent information meeting

Monday 23rd – Reception class start full time

Monday 23rd – Harvest food collection this week

Sunday 29th, 11am – Children in church, Harvest festival, school choir singing

Week beginning 30th – PSHE week: Relationships and diversity week

October

Tuesday 1st – Anti-bullying day, wear odd socks!

Friday 4th – INSET day, no children in school

Week beginning 7th – Try something new week!

Week beginning 7th – Y6 school journey

Week beginning 14th – KS2 times tables challenge this week

Parent workshops this academic year

We will again be running a series of parent workshops this year explaining how we teach different areas of the curriculum and how parents can support at home. Many of the workshops take place before class assemblies as we have found this is good time to ensure that a large number of parents can attend. We have decided to run almost all of our class parent workshops in the Autumn term this year so that parents can begin to support at home earlier in the year – we hope this is helpful. A full list of the class workshops and topics is set out below and there will be further whole school workshops, on topics such as online safety and the importance of good sleep, to add later in the year. Workshops usually take place in the classroom. If you would like to attend a workshop for a class younger than your own child, that you have missed or would like to repeat, please just come along. But please don't come to workshops for classes older than your child. We look forward to seeing lots of parents at our workshops this year!

- Friday 1st November, 9-10am – Y2 parent workshop – maths
- Friday 8th November, 9-10am – Y4 parent workshop – maths
- Wednesday 13th November, 9-10am – Reception parent workshop – phonics
- Friday 15th November, 9-10am – Year 1 parent workshop – reading
- Friday 29th November, 9-10am – Y3 parent workshop – writing
- Friday 5th June, 9-10am – Y5 parent workshop – Relationships and Sex Education

Information and reminders

Children in Church services

Each term there are three Sunday Eucharist services at Christ Church which are special 'children in church' services, where our school choir sings and children take part in the service by reading and serving. All families in the school are especially invited to attend these services, but are, of course, always very welcome on any other Sundays as well. The dates for this term's children in church services are 11am on 29th September (our Harvest Festival), 3rd November and 24th November.



Fundraising in the summer term – thank you!

Thank you for your donations and support of our summer term charity and social action projects. We have now been able to total up the last two fundraising projects – Year 2 raised £222 for UNICEF

to buy a 'school in a box' to provide access to education for 40 children somewhere else in the world and Year 6 ran their businesses and put on their production raising well over £500 for WaterAid (as well as funding their end of year trips!). Thank you for your support!



Term dates

Term dates for the full year are attached to this newsletter and available on the school website – please look carefully when you are booking holidays.

Attendance

Attendance for last year for the whole school was improved with a total of **97.12%**. **Thank you!** Attendance remains a focus for the school this year and we are widening our focus to improve punctuality too. Look out for the separate letter coming home about attendance next week.

New End Healthy School Street closure

Despite a number of concerns being raised about the proposals to set up road closures around New End School to limit school-run traffic, Camden transport department decided in July to trial a Healthy School Street scheme for this academic year. The information about the scheme and the street closures is again attached with this newsletter. Please look carefully if you travel from this direction to school and, if you possibly can, walk to school instead!

Our school's Christian vision – a reminder

We were asked to summarise our school's Christian vision in under 50 words and this is what we came up with:

Jesus, The Good Shepherd, promises 'life in all its fullness'. (JOHN 10:10)

At Christ Church we believe every child and adult in our school should be able both to experience life in all its fullness now and to aspire to life in all its fullness in the future.



Tuesday 15th – Nasal flu vaccinations (Rec-Y6)

Wednesday 16th – Individual photos

Wednesday 16th, 3.30 – 7.30pm –

Parents evening

Thursday 17th, 3.30 – 6.00pm –

Parents evening

Monday 21st – Friday 25th – Half term

Week beginning 28th – KS2 spelling challenge this week

November

Sunday 3rd, 11am – Children in church, school choir singing

Wednesday 6th, 9.50am – Music assembly

Friday 15th, pm – CAP art exhibition – more details to come

Friday 22nd – Non uniform day, bring a toy for the Christmas Fair

Sunday 24th, 11am – Children in church, school choir singing

Friday 29th – non uniform day – bring a bottle for the Christmas Fair

December

Sunday 1st, 12-2pm – Christmas Fair

Week beginning Monday 2nd – Last after school clubs

Thursday 12th, 10am – Infant nativity play in Church

Friday 13th, am – Friends Present Sale

Tuesday 17th, pm – KS2 carol singing in Hampstead

Tuesday 17th, 6pm – School carol service in church –all families welcome

Wednesday 18th – Christmas Jumper Day!

Friday 20th, 11.15am – Christmas service in church – everyone welcome

Friday 20th, midday – all children home for the holidays

Monday 6th January – all children back to school for the Spring term

Autumn term class assemblies – all at 10am in the school hall

Friday 18th October–Y6 class assembly

Friday 1st November –Y2 class assembly (with parent workshop beforehand at 9am)

Friday 8th November – Y4 class assembly (with parent workshop beforehand at 9am)

Wednesday 13th November–Reception class assembly (with parent workshop beforehand at 9am)

Friday 15th November – Y1 class assembly (with parent workshop beforehand at 9am)

Friday 29th November – Y3 class assembly (with parent workshop beforehand at 9am)

Friday 6th December – Y5 class assembly



Christ Church Primary School

2019/20

Term Dates

Please look carefully at these dates for the year, especially when you are booking holidays!

Autumn term 2019

INSET day: Monday 2nd September

First day of Autumn term: Tuesday 3rd September

INSET day: Friday 4th October

Half term: Monday 21st - Friday 25th October

Last day of Autumn term: Friday 20th December

Spring term 2020

First day of Spring term: Monday 6th January

Half term: Monday 17th - Friday 21st February

Last day of Spring term: Thursday 9th April

Summer term 2020

First day of Summer term: Monday 27th April

Bank Holiday: Friday 8th May

Half term: Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May

INSET day: Friday 19th June

Last day of Summer term: Friday 17th July

INSET days: Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July

Children are not in school for INSET days - these are used for staff training.