



Christ Church School

Christchurch Hill, Hampstead, NW3 1JH

020 7435 1361

admin@cchurchnw3.camden.sch.uk

www.christchurchschool.co.uk

September 2018

Newsletter 1

Welcome back!

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to a new school year at Christ Church and a very warm welcome to all new children and families. I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and happy summer break – the children have certainly returned to school today excited and ready for the new school year!

We have plenty planned for this term including a wonderful Happiness Project focusing on what makes us and others happy. We ran a similar and very successful project two years ago which we will build on and develop this term. Look out for a separate letter explaining the project in more detail and how you can get involved.

Our Arts Project this term links to our Happiness work as we will be learning and singing Happy songs! If you have any suggestions of great songs that make you happy then please do let me know. We have some ideas but would love to include suggestions from parents, as well as children and staff, in our concert in November.

I am delighted to let parents know that the school achieved its Gold Rights Respecting Schools accreditation in July. It is wonderful to receive recognition from UNICEF for the hard work that children and staff continue to put into learning about children's rights and how we can work towards all children around the world receiving these rights. This is the fourth time the school has been accredited at the highest level by UNICEF and the report, written by the two UNICEF assessors who visited the school in July, highlights the following strengths:

- *an effective and systematic approach to ensuring that the school community learns about and understands the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*
- *a strong sense of community with mutually respectful and supportive relationships*
- *the importance placed on the safety and well-being of all, including mental and emotional health*

The full report is attached with this newsletter for parents to read – please do have a look as we are all very proud of it!

With very best wishes for the year ahead,

Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Welcomes!

A very warm welcome to our new members of staff: Mrs Lo who will be working in the school office, Miss Green who will be teaching alongside Mr Polidano in Year 2 and Miss McMillan Hind who will be teaching alongside Miss Parsons in Year 6. A very warm welcome back to Ms Miller who is returning to Christ Church to support across the school and with specific projects, starting with our Happiness Project this term.

Welcome to Jacob who is joining our Year 1 class, Dastan and Hugo who are joining Year 2, Shivika, Ilia, Aanya and Rahul who are joining Year 3 and Krish who is joining Year 4.

Welcome to Louay, Elena, Arabella, Talia, Aniyah, Enzo, Gabriel, Theo D, Laith, Ashot, Eric, Oscar, Ezequiel, Alicia, Sophia, Claire, Theo M, Nina, Teddy, Riley, Behrend, Jack, Federico, Everett, Flynn, Birdie, Effy and Ralph who are our new Reception class. A very warm welcome to all the new children and families joining our school this term!

Open classrooms for Y1-6

– Monday 10th September 3.20 – 4pm

If you can, please take the opportunity to come and see your child's new classroom straight after school on Monday 10th September. Your child can show you where they sit and introduce you to their new teacher! If you would like a longer chat with the teacher please do arrange a separate appointment.

Dates

September

Thursday 6th – Reception class start half days

Monday 10th, 3.20 – 4pm – Open classrooms for Years 1-6

Thursday 13th – after school clubs start

Thursday 13th, 6pm – Secondary Transfer meeting (Y4,5,6 parents) and school journey information for Y6 parents

Friday 14th, am – KS2 cross country trials

Monday 17th – Reception class in school morning and lunch this week

Thursday 20th, 6pm – Reception parent information meeting

Monday 24th – Reception class in full days from now on

Monday 24th – Harvest food collection this week

Friday 28th, am – Camden cross country competition

Sunday 30th, 11am – Children in Church, school choir singing - Harvest Festival

October

Wednesday 3rd – individual photos

Friday 5th – INSET day – no children in school

Monday 8th – Friday 12th – Y6 school journey this week

Information and reminders

Attendance

The school's full year attendance figure for last year was 96.1%, below our target of 96.5%. This was expected, given the chicken pox in the Spring term, but there were also a very large number of absences at the end of the summer term for either authorised or unauthorised family holidays. Please look out for a separate letter this week about how you can support your child by ensuring they have the highest possible attendance – this letter will also provide a full year attendance figure for your child for last year (updated from the end of year reports).

Term dates 2018-19

The term dates and INSET days for 2018-19 are attached with this newsletter. Please look at them carefully when booking your holidays, especially over the Easter break where term dates often differ between schools.

Children in Church services

Each term there are three specific 'children in church' services at Christ Church where the school choir sings and children take part in the service by reading and serving. All families are very warmly invited to these specific services and to services every Sunday as well – there is always a Sunday school for younger children.

Services take place at 11am each Sunday and the 'children in church' Sundays are 30th September for Harvest Festival, 4th November and 9th December.

Advance notice – we will be holding a special **School Remembrance Service** at 2.30pm on Friday 9th November as part of our marking of the centenary of the end of the First World War. All parents and families are invited.

Parent workshops this year

We will again be running a programme of parent workshops this year to give parents and carers the opportunity to learn more about an area of the curriculum and how they can support their children's learning at home.

The dates for the workshops for the academic year are given below so that parents can plan ahead to attend. The workshops start at 9am, mostly before class assemblies. There will be other whole school parent workshops offered, for example related to our Happiness/well-being work and e-safety, and these dates will be added throughout the year.

Friday 12th October – Y2 workshop – maths

Friday 2nd November – Y1 workshop – reading

Friday 16th November - Rec workshop–phonics

Friday 30th November – Y4 workshop – maths

Friday 1st March – Y3 workshop – writing

Friday 10th May – Y5 workshop – RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)

Camden Moving on to Secondary School event – Year 5 and 6 parents

The Camden Moving on to Secondary School event takes place at Haverstock Secondary School on Thursday 20th September from 4pm – 6.30pm. This is an opportunity to

- find out more about what Camden Secondary schools have to offer
- receive advice on how to apply from the Camden Admissions Team
- speak with head teachers, student ambassadors and staff from each of the Camden Secondary Schools

Register for free tickets at www.eventbrite.co.uk - search for Camden Moving On.

Rights Respecting Schools – Article of the month

To remind parents and pupils that we are a UNICEF Rights Respecting School we continue to include a different article from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in each month's newsletter.

Article 6

Every child has the right to life. Governments must do all they can to make sure that children survive and develop to their full potential.



October continued

Monday 15th – KS2 Times tables challenge this week

Wednesday 17th, 3.45 – 7.30pm – Parents evening

Thursday 18th, 3.45 – 6.00pm – Parents evening

Thursday 18th – Nasal flu vaccinations Rec– Y5

Monday 22nd – Friday 26th – Half term

November

Sunday 4th, 11am – Children in church, school choir singing

Monday 5th – KS2 spelling challenge this week

Tuesday 6th – Music assembly

Friday 9th, 2.30pm - School Remembrance Service – all families invited

Thursday 15th – Odd Sock Day! / Anti-bullying day

Friday 23rd, pm – 'Happy Songs' concert – all families invited – more details to follow

December

Monday 3rd – Last after school clubs this week

Sunday 9th, 11am – Children in church, school choir singing

Monday 10th, 10am – Street dance

performance - Y2,3,5

Thursday 13th, 10am – Infant Nativity Play in Church

Friday 14th, am – Friends Present Sale

Tuesday 18th, pm – KS2 Carol Singing in Hampstead

Tuesday 18th, 6pm – School Carol Service in Church

Wednesday 19th – Christmas Jumper Day!

Friday 21st, 11.15am – Christmas Service in Church – all families invited

Friday 21st, midday – all children home for Christmas holiday

January

Monday 7th – Children back to school for Spring term

Class assemblies

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

Friday 12th October – Year 2 class assembly (parent workshop beforehand at 9am)

Friday 19th October – Year 6 school journey assembly

Friday 2nd November – Year 1 class assembly (parent workshop beforehand at 9am)

Tuesday 6th November – music assembly

Tuesday 13th November – Year 5 class assembly

Friday 16th November – Reception class assembly (parent workshop beforehand at 9am)

Friday 30th November – Year 4 class assembly (parent workshop beforehand at 9am)

Friday 7th December – Year 3 class assembly

Monday 10th December – Year 2, 3 and 5 Street dance performance (in church tbc)



Christ Church Primary School

2018/19

Term Dates

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

Autumn term 2018

INSET day: Monday 3rd September

First day of Autumn term: Tuesday 4th September

INSET day: Friday 5th October

Half term: Monday 22nd - Friday 26th October

Last day of Autumn term: Friday 21st December

Spring term 2019

First day of Spring term: Monday 7th January

Half term: Monday 18th - Friday 22nd February

INSET day: Friday 22nd March

Last day of Spring term: Friday 12th April

Summer term 2019

First day of Summer term: Monday 29th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May

Half term: Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

INSET day: Friday 21st June

Last day of Summer term: Friday 19th July

INSET day: Monday 22nd July

N.B.

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