



Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

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January 2021

Newsletter 5

Happy New Year –
back at home!



Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year! I hope all families managed a relaxing Christmas break, despite the restrictions and before the disruption of the last few weeks, and thank you from all staff members for the lovely cards, gifts and best wishes we received before Christmas.

None of us wanted to be back in this position, with the school closed to most children and children learning from home, but thank you for your help in getting used to our home learning systems and supporting your child's learning at home. Please do talk to your child

to find out their feedback about our home learning and take part in the survey (link in the email) – we really value your feedback about how our home learning is working for your children and for parents and carers at home, too.

We had a very busy end of term – thank you again for all your support of our Christmas activities – and we are still planning quite a bit for this term, whether from home or at school. There are details of some of our planned activities and events below and more will be sent out in our emails as the term goes on.

With very best wishes to all families for 2021 – let's hope that somewhere in the not too distant future there is a much calmer and more positive year ahead!

Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

PSHE week – keeping healthy and safe

1st – 5th February

We will be running our spring term whole school PSHE week, focused on keeping healthy and safe, as part of our home learning this year. Look out for whole school virtual 'wake and shake', an at-home fitness challenge and a whole school cooking session to keep our bodies healthy; yoga and mindfulness to support our mental well-being and a range of class activities and tasks to learn about keeping ourselves safe and healthy in all sorts of different situations. We will be running some additional class zoom workshops for some classes and some parent workshops over the week, as well. More details to come shortly.



Christmas charity fundraising:



Colours and sparkles for Charlie!

Our final total for all our Christmas fundraising was well over £6000. The generosity of the school community in raising such an amazing amount was quite overwhelming and your donations will go a very long way in funding the projects suggested by both the Palliative Care Team at Great Ormond Street Hospital and the Camden Community Nursing Team.

Thank you very much for your generous donations. We are all very proud to hand over these donations in Charlie's name.

Barnet Youth Foundation

Thank you, also, from the Barnet Youth Foundation for the Christmas gift boxes and toys. Mrs Maguire took several car loads to their centre in December! The boxes were distributed over the Christmas period via their food banks, community centres and local schools and will have made a lot of children very happy!



Dates

We are reviewing all our plans as the situation changes. Please keep checking back on future newsletters for any changes

January

Friday 29th – this is no longer an INSET day as planned – home learning will be set as usual

February

1st – 5th – PSHE week: Keeping Healthy and Safe – we will be running this as part of our home learning over this week

Wednesday 3rd, 2pm – Parent workshop online – how to help your child to sleep well

Thursday 4th, 2pm – Parent workshop online – building children's resilience and positive mental health

15th – 19th Half term

March

Thursday 4th - World Book Day – details of events to be confirmed nearer the time

Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th – Parents evenings: times and details to be confirmed nearer the time

April

Thursday 1st - last day of term

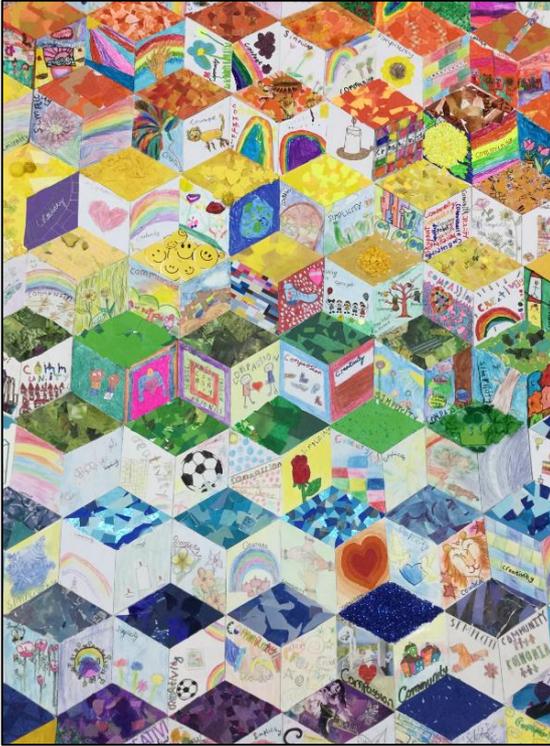
Monday 19th – summer term starts



New chromebooks in school

At the end of last term, our new chromebooks arrived in school and classes started to get to know how to use them. These have also been incredibly useful for our group of children who are accessing their home learning in school each day and for lending out to a few of our families who have limited access to devices. The chromebooks were funded by the Friends Association from your donations to the 5k summer term lockdown challenge – thank you!

Our whole school lockdown quilt!



Back in May, each pupil and staff member created a 'cube' design at home based on our school values and the colours of the rainbow. We've put them all together to create a wonderful rainbow 'quilt' design to frame and hang in the hall. Maybe you can spot your section?



Information and reminders

Temporary pavement widening on Christchurch Hill to support social distancing

Camden Council are consulting on carrying out temporary works to widen the pavement on Christchurch Hill outside the infant gate. These temporary measures are designed to support social distancing outside the school once we are all back at school. Thank you very much to the parent who has been following this up with Camden transport team since it was first suggested at the beginning of the year. The proposal is attached and parents can make comments and responses by Thursday 21st January.

Eligibility for Free School Meals – have your circumstances changed?

Families whose children are eligible for free school meals (due to income levels, not the universal infant free school meals) continue to receive support while schools are closed, in the form of weekly e-vouchers for food shopping. New applications for free school meals can also still be made. If your circumstances have changed, for example if you are now claiming benefits of some kind, please contact the school office by email and Mrs Connock will be able to explain how to apply.



Rights Respecting Schools – Article of the month

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

Article 12 Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.

Article 13 Every child must be free to say what they think and to seek and receive all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.

Parent workshops

We are planning three online parent workshops this term covering:

- Helping your child to sleep well (2pm, Weds 3rd February)
 - Helping your child build resilience and positive mental health (2pm, Thursday 4th February)
 - Online safety (date tbc)
- Please look out for joining details in parent emails soon.

Website updates

We are frequently updating our website with photos and information about our news and events.

Have a look at what we did in the Autumn term!

<https://christchurchschool.co.uk/events-autumn-2020/>

And some of our super home learning work, so far!

<https://christchurchschool.co.uk/home-learning-news-spring-week-1-week-2/>

Important documents about school closure and home learning

We are collecting all the key documents for parents about our provision at the moment on one page of our website. This includes the updated Annex to our Safeguarding Policy and our current Risk assessment.

<https://christchurchschool.co.uk/home-learning-2/>

Information about online clubs and activities

Online cookery club with Miss Willmer:

www.timetocook.uk

Online languages classes from 'speak like a native':

- <https://www.speaklikeanative.com/find-a-class>

Online Tech club:

www.stem-school.co.uk