



Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

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November 2021
Newsletter 4



Christmas!

Dear parents and carers,

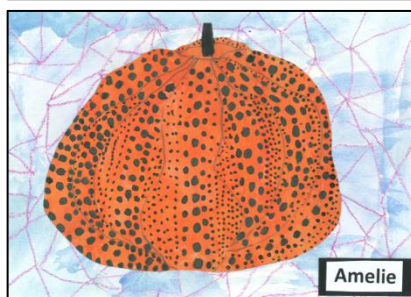
It has been another very busy few weeks in school with lots of trips, more Happiness Project activities, plenty of sporting events, two very successful whole school PSHE weeks and the opportunity to share everyone's masterpieces in our Art Exhibition! Our ambition at the beginning of this term was to reintroduce our enrichment activities (such as trips, clubs, projects, whole school events, competitions etc) to a level even higher than we had running before the COVID restrictions – and we have certainly done just that this term!

The next three weeks until the end of term are filled with lots of Christmas events, too. We wouldn't be able to make Christmas in school such a special time for all the children without the kind and generous support of parents and families for our many activities. Thank you in advance for whatever support you are able to give to the school and Friends Christmas events.

There are lots of dates, times and information about how families can get involved in the Christmas events below, but please also check the weekly email in case there are any updates. We are aiming and hoping for everything to go ahead as planned but we will continue to risk assess and review in light of any new COVID restrictions.

With best wishes and many thanks for your support in the run up to Christmas,
Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Happiness Project Art Exhibition



Thank you to all the parents and family members who came to our exhibition last week – it was wonderful to see children proudly talking about their own art work and admiring everyone else's. The framed art work will make its way home very soon and we hope it can be displayed at home!

Children were inspired for their pieces by one of the themes in our Happiness Project supporting positive mental well-being and by the work of artists from around the world and from different time periods. Children looked at the work of Piet Mondrian (Rec), Georgia O'Keeffe (Y1), Yayoi Kusama (Y2), Faith Ringgold (Y3), John Constable and Robert Duncanson (Y4), Jim Dine and Frank Bowling (Y5) and Emory Douglas (Y6).

Welcomes

Welcome to two trainee teachers who have joined our team: welcome to Mr Smith who is working alongside Mrs Pagnello in Year 5 and to Miss McDonald who is working with Miss Brenta in Year 4.

Breakfast club

Our breakfast club runs from 7.50am to 8.50am every day of term, with breakfast provided and activities for children of all ages. You can book in advance at a cost of £8 per day (the booking letter for next term will come home to parents very soon) or you can just drop in (for a slightly higher rate). We know many parents' working patterns have changed but there are spaces available so contact the office if this might support your family.

Charity collections

Thank you for your support of our recent collections for the Poppy Appeal for the Royal British Legion and for Childline on our Odd Socks Day.

Chain of Kindness!

As part of our PSHE week and our work on Anti-Bullying, we created a fantastic Chain of Kindness! Children and adults in the school wrote or drew on a paper chain link about each kind word or deed that they received over the two weeks. We joined all the links together and our chain reached right around the school! It's now hanging up in our corridor by the library to remind us all of the power of just 'one kind word'.



Thank you – parent donations

We have received several generous parent donations to the school over the last few months: some from leaving Year 6 families at the end of last term and some from other families throughout the school. These donations have enabled us to fund our Happiness Project, paying for the workshops and resources in school and the trips out, and have also paid for our new reading books for the infant classes, to support our new Little Wandle phonics scheme. Thank you very much for these donations – they make a real difference to what we can provide for all the children.

Christmas charities

School council, which is made up of representatives from classes throughout the school, has chosen our Christmas charities to support this year. They have chosen Toilet Twinning, Great Ormond Street Hospital and Choose Love, a charity which supports refugees.

We will be collecting donations for these charities after our Nativity Play, at our Carol Singing and on our Christmas Jumper Day. Please support generously if you can. Thank you.



Information and reminders



Building works almost finished!

The repairs to the stonework and windows are nearly finished and the final areas of the scaffolding should come down at the end of term. Two stonemasons have spent the last couple of months at the top of the scaffolding on the Christchurch Hill end of the school creating the beautiful new gable ends for the roof. Take a look next time you are walking past!

Please take care on our steps

Please take care on our steps and in our playgrounds as the weather gets wetter and colder.

Applications for Reception 2022

Application forms for younger siblings for Reception 2022 must be received by 15th January. Please remember that you need to complete both the e-admissions Common Application Form online **and** hand a supplementary information form to the school office.

Photos on our website

There are lots of photos of this term's activities on our website news page [here](#). This page will be updated through the term.

Term dates for 2022/2023

Governors have recently agreed the term dates for next academic year. The term dates for 22/23 are attached to this newsletter – please look carefully at them if you are booking holidays.

Updated policies

Staff and governors have recently reviewed the following policies:

- Equalities Policy and Plan
- Online Safety Policy

All our policies are available on our website or you can ask for a paper copy from the school office.

Dates Please check back in each newsletter for any updates or additions

December

Friday 3rd – non-uniform day – bring a bottle for the Fair

Sunday 5th 12-2pm - Christmas Fair. Please wear masks inside.

Tuesday 7th – KS2 carol singing – We have adapted our original plan and we will now be singing for parents in the playground from 2.45pm. Please come and listen, join in and donate to our charities!

Wednesday 8th – last after school music session (this is an additional one to make up for the one missed for parents evenings)

Thursday 9th, 10am – Infant Nativity Play for parents. Please wait outside the main entrance to the Church. Please do not press the Nursery buzzer – school staff will come out to let parents in at 10am. Please wear a mask.

Friday 10th – Friends Christmas Present Sale. Bring your seven presents (unwrapped), £5 in coins and a shopping bag. Shopping lists of who to buy for are also helpful for younger children.

Friday 10th – all children will be watching a fun online Panto performance. Our Panto is funded by the Friends each year - thank you!

Tuesday 14th, 6pm – School Carol Service in Church with the choir singing. All families very welcome and refreshments afterwards are provided by the Friends.

Wednesday 15th – Christmas Jumper Day! Donations for our Christmas charities

Friday 17th, 11.15am – Christmas Service in Church – all families welcome. Please wait by the main entrance for school staff to open the gate.

Friday 17th December, midday – Children home for Christmas holidays

January

Tuesday 4th – Children back to school for Spring term



Christ Church Primary School

2022/23 Term Dates

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

Autumn term 2022

INSET days: Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September

First day of Autumn term: Monday 5th September

Half term: Monday 24th - Friday 28th October

Last day of Autumn term: Friday 16th December

Spring term 2023

First day of Spring term: Tuesday 3rd January

Half term: Monday 13th - Friday 17th February

Last day of Spring term: **Thursday 6th April**

Summer term 2023

First day of Summer term: Monday 24th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May

Half term: Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June

Last day of Summer term: Friday 21st July

INSET day: Monday 24th July

N.B.

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

There are two remaining INSET days to be set. These will be set before the end of the 21/22 academic year.