



Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year! Welcome back to the new term at school!

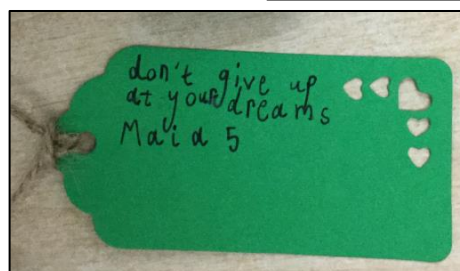
The children have been full of stories about fun and excitement over Christmas and I hope all families managed a happy Christmas break and were able to spend time with friends and family. Thank you, from me and from all staff members, to families for their very generous gifts, cards and best wishes before Christmas – your kindness is much appreciated.

We are aiming for this to be a *slightly* quieter and less busy term, but, nonetheless, there will be class assemblies, lots of sports competitions, a music assembly, a PSHE week about keeping healthy and safe, a virtual Camden choir festival, World Book Day and lots of trips to look forward to! There are plenty of dates below to add to your diaries, including class assembly dates, and more will be added throughout the term.

With very best wishes to all families for a healthy and happy 2022,
Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Happiness Stones!

It was great to celebrate the end of our Happiness Project and spread a little happiness to others by leaving our painted stones to be found by others over the Christmas break. We have started to share in assembly some of the replies sent in by people who have found our stones. Miss Brenta's stone was found on the top of the Arthur's Seat mountain in Edinburgh! Hopefully, the children's messages will have brightened a few people's days!



Welcomes

Welcome to Chloe who has joined our Reception class and to Alexander who has joined Year 2. A warm welcome to both new pupils and their families!

Staff news

Mr Taylor will not be returning to Christ Church in order to pursue other opportunities. Thank you very much to Mr Taylor for all his hard work with his Year 3 classes and we all wish him well for the future. Miss Vitow will continue the great job she has been doing as Y3 class teacher for the rest of this year.

A warm welcome to Miss Stables and Miss Rahman who both joined our teaching assistant team last term.

COVID reminders

Please continue to help to keep everyone healthy by

- keeping your child at home if they are unwell and booking a PCR test if they have any COVID symptoms
- letting us know by email if your child will not be in school for any reason
- doing daily LFD testing for your child for seven days if anyone in your household tests positive for COVID (your child should still come to school as long as they test negative each day)

Christmas Charities - thank you very much

Thank you very much to families for their generous donations to our Christmas charity appeals. We raised just over a thousand pounds in total and the money has gone towards these three causes, chosen by school council:



- twinning another five of our toilets, providing money for safe and hygienic toilets in five more locations around the world. This means we have now twinned all our school toilets over the past four years.



- buying five 'new start for a child' packages from Choose Love refugee charity. The packages include warm clothing, toys and educational materials.



- donating another £400 to children's cancer research projects and support at Great Ormond Street Hospital.
Thank you!

A lovely thank you note for our 138 gift boxes for refugee children in Camden – these were distributed to families at a Christmas party event.

To all the children, families, and staff at Christ Church Primary School

I wanted to say a big thank you for the Christmas boxes you have donated to refugee children in Camden.

You have put so much effort, love and thought into making the boxes and I am sure the children who receive your gifts will love them.

I was looking at your school values today and your Christmas boxes really do show how much compassion, creativity, courage, and community spirit you all have at Christ Church.

I am very grateful to you all for this lovely gesture. I hope you have a peaceful winter rest and wishing you a very happy 2022.

Yours sincerely

Becca

Becca Dove
Head of Family Early Help



Spring Term Class Assemblies

It was wonderful to welcome parents back to class assemblies last term. Dates for this term's class assemblies are below – they are all at 10am in the school hall.

Friday 28th January – Year 6 class assembly
Friday 4th February – Year 2 class assembly
Friday 11th February – Year 1 class assembly
Friday 25th February – Year 4 class assembly
Friday 4th March – Year 3 class assembly
Thursday 17th March – Year 5 class assembly
Friday 25th March – Reception class assembly

Punctuality please!

Please make it your new year's resolution to make sure your child is in the playground at 8.50am every day. Learning starts straight away and lateness is embarrassing for the child who arrives late and disruptive for other children and staff. There are a small number of families who are consistently arriving late between 8.55 and 9am – school starts at 8.50am, please!

Information and reminders

School meals costs

Caterlink have recently increased the cost of school meals by 5p per meal – this increases the price to £2.40 per meal. Infant school meals continue to be free for all pupils. If you think you may meet the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals as a result of your income level or eligibility for other benefits, please contact the school office and we can support you with an application.

Safety around school

Please don't park on the yellow lines around school – this helps to keep children and families safe. Please walk around the church car park on the pavements – do not let your children play in the car park area where there are often cars moving around

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.

Dates

January

Week beginning 10th – After school clubs and booster sessions start this week

Wednesday 26th, 9.50am – Music assembly

Sunday 30th, 11am – Children in Church service – school choir singing

Monday 31st – Friday 4th February – PSHE week: Keeping healthy and safe

February

Friday 4th, eve – Friends disco tbc

Week beginning 7th – KS2 times table challenge this week

Wednesday 9th – Online Safety Day

Monday 14th – Friday 18th – Half term

Monday 21st – KS2 spelling challenge this week

Sunday 27th, 11am – Children in Church service – school choir singing

March

Thursday 3rd – World Book Day, including second hand book sale tbc

Monday 14th, eve – Choir Festival event – details tbc

Friday 18th – INSET day – no children in school

Week beginning Monday 21st – last clubs and booster sessions this week

Wednesday 23rd, 3.30 – 7.30pm – Parents evening

Thursday 24th, 3.30 – 6pm – Parents evening

Sunday 27th, 11am – Children in Church service – school choir singing

April

Friday 1st, 11.15am – end of term service in Church – all welcome

Friday 1st, midday – children home for holidays

Tuesday 19th – all children back to school for summer term