



Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

May 2022
Newsletter 9

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Dear parents and carers,

It has already been a busy start to the summer term over the past two weeks, though without any summery weather yet! There have already been a number of trips out of school with Y5 visiting the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, as part of their Science learning, and Reception taking their exciting first trip on the Tube to the City Learning Centre (CLC) to explore all sorts of technology. Y1 and Y6 took a joint walk to the Heath to collect leaves to classify and to identify different trees, and a KS2 team had a very successful day at the Camden swimming gala. We have been busy!

One of our post-COVID recovery aims at the beginning of the year was to ensure we brought back even more trips than took place before COVID and we are certainly on track to do this. Trips out of school enrich learning in the classroom, providing real life experiences, access to a wider range of resources and making learning memorable and fun! There are lots more trips to come this term with highlights including Y3's trip to the Regents Park Mosque, Y5 and 6's visit to the Houses of Parliament and Reception's visit to the Postal Museum, plus plenty to trips out to the Heath Education Centre and our visits to the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace for all classes to celebrate the Jubilee. We live in a city with access to world class museums, galleries and sites and it's fantastic that these opportunities are now back as a regular part of our curriculum. **Thank you to parents who offer to help on our trips – we couldn't run them without you!**

You will have received this term's class leaflet last week, setting out our curriculum and detail about what children will learn this term. They are also on our website [here](#). If you have any questions about the curriculum, please ask class teachers who would be happy to provide further information.

Best wishes, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher



Jubilee Christ Church Arts Project

Our Christ Church Arts Project over the last term has involved using our art skills to create beautiful coasters to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Classes have been working with Miss Foster to collage, embroider, stencil, print and much more to create some stunning designs. All the coasters will be on display in Church on Friday 27th May, after our Jubilee Service, and then children will be able to take them home as a lasting memory of the Jubilee. We hope families will come to the Service and to see our work on the 27th but we would also like to share a preview of some of them here, too!



Jubilee Church Service

Friday 27th May, 11am, in Church – please wait by the main entrance before 11am.

All families warmly invited!

Children will be sharing their Jubilee learning as part of the service and their work will also be on display afterwards.

Welcome!

A warm welcome to Tulana who has joined our Year 5 class and to Islay who rejoins our Year 4 class this month! Welcome, also, to Miss Sims who has joined our staff team as a teaching assistant this term.

Good luck to Year 6

Year 6 have been working very hard in preparation for the KS2 SATS tests later this month – we know they will all do brilliantly! Well done and good luck, Year 6!

Dates

May

Sunday 8th, 11am – School choir singing in Church

Monday 9th – Thursday 12th – Year 6 SATs tests this week

Monday 16th – Friday 20th – PSHE week: Living in the wider world

Week beginning Monday 23rd – KS2 times table challenge this week

Friday 27th, 11am – Platinum Jubilee Service in Church – all families very welcome

Friday 27th, pm – Jubilee parties!



Music fundraising

Look out for the launch of the Friends' Music fundraising campaign later this month – they will be raising money for the school to buy more instruments and equipment to support our music curriculum and performances. Our school is full of fantastic musicians and Mr Oliver, our music teacher, has been doing a wonderful job of supporting all children to compose, improvise and perform together and has grand plans to do even more in the future! The Friends have offered to help us raise the money for, amongst other things, amps, microphones, guitars and keyboards. Look out for more information to come and please support their campaign, if you can – thank you.

Summer term sports!

Well done to the KS2 team who took part in the Camden swimming gala at the end of April – they showed some super swimming skills and represented the school brilliantly, winning nine medals!

There are lots of sports opportunities coming up this term – it is great to have a full programme of tournaments and competitions back up and running this year! Year 3 and 4 teams will be playing football with other local schools, KS2 teams will take part in two different athletics competitions, plus our Y5/6 rounders team will play in a Camden tournament, too. All of KS2 will spend a morning at Parliament Hill athletics track for our athletics trials later this month and we will continue our regular sports sessions on the Heath for KS2, with Year 2 starting to join in this term too. Our fun Sports Day for the whole school will be back on the Heath for the first time in three years on Monday 4th July (reserve for rain: Tuesday 5th) – all parents are very welcome to come and join us, hopefully in the sunshine, and we will send more details nearer the time.



Supporting your child to stay safe online

Thank you to the parents who joined our zoom online safety parent workshop last month - we hope you found it helpful. The key points for all parents from the workshop were:

- *Try to keep up-to-date with new technology, platforms, sites and games – not always easy to do!*
- *Be aware and interested in what your child is doing online – be interested in their games, ask them about the sites they visit or videos they watch and keep up an open discussion about their behaviour online.*



There is more information about online safety and tips for parents on our website [here](#).

Information and reminders

School policies

School staff and governors have recently reviewed the following policies; you can find them on our website or you can ask for a paper copy from the school office:

- Mental Health and Well-being Policy

If children are leaving...

If families are moving or considering a move for their children at the end of this school year, please let us know as soon as possible as this helps us offer places for next year in good time. Please get in contact with the school office if this is the case or even if this is a possibility at this stage. Thank you.

Second hand uniform

If you need any second hand uniform, please contact the school office with what you need and the approximate size. We have quite a bit stored in school and will be happy to help if we can.

Punctuality reminders

Thank you to the many, many families who are always in the playground waiting for the bells to ring at 8.50am. Please remember our gates open at about 8.35am so you can be here early, but that there is no supervision in our playgrounds before the bells ring, so children should remain with their adults. Aiming to be in the playground at 8.45am everyday would be ideal!

Summer Term Class Assemblies

Dates for this term's class assemblies are below – they are all at 10am in the school hall and parents and family members are very welcome!

- Friday 20th May – Y3 class assembly
- Wednesday 25th May – Reception class assembly
- Friday 10th June – Y4 class assembly
- Wednesday 15th June – Y5 class assembly
- Friday 17th June – Y1 class assembly
- Monday 20th June – Y6 class assembly
- Friday 8th July – Y2 class assembly
- Friday 15th July – Y6 memories assembly

There are some super photos of the class assemblies which have already taken place on our [news page](#).

Monday 30th May – Monday 6th June – half term

June

Tuesday 7th – back to school

Week beginning Tuesday 7th – KS2 spelling challenge this week

Wednesday 8th – class photos

Monday 13th – Friday 17th – Eco week

Sunday 19th, 11am – School choir singing in Church

Thursday 23rd – Whole school photo

Friday 24th – INSET day – no children in school

Monday 27th – non uniform day – bring a donation for the Summer Fair – details tbc

July

Friday 1st – non uniform day – bring a bottle for the Summer Fair – tbc

Friday 1st, 2.15pm – informal music performance/sharing for parents in the playground - tbc

Sunday 3rd, 11am – School choir singing in Church

Sunday 3rd – Summer Fair tbc

Week beginning Monday 4th – last after school clubs this week

Monday 4th, pm – Sports Day – whole school (reserve for rain: Tuesday 5th)

Thursday 7th, 2pm – Open afternoon

Thursday 7th, 6pm – Summer Serenade

Wednesday 13th, 6pm – Year 6 production

Thursday 14th, 6pm – Year 6 production

Friday 15th – Annual reports sent home to parents

Friday 22nd, 11.15am – Leavers/End of year service in Church – all families very welcome

Friday 22nd, midday – all children home for the holidays

September

Monday 5th – Years 1-6 back to school

Helping children remember what they learn! We have been thinking about how we can help ourselves to remember what we learn. We thought it might be helpful to share with parents one tip for helping us learn and remember new facts and skills in each of the next few newsletters:

Memory tip number 5

In order to remember what we learn in the long term, it is important to keep retrieving and recalling that information at regular intervals. For example, even though the main body of our History and Geography learning takes place in the first half of the year, we have deliberately planned in opportunities for children to recall this learning and keep the skills from these subjects fresh in their minds. For instance, children will be using their History skills when learning about the Jubilee and the Queen's reign and will be using their Geography skills as part of a world-wide pen pals activity linked to our PSHE work this term.