



Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

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May 2023
Newsletter 9

**A busy start to
the summer term!**

Dear parents, carers and families,
 Welcome back to the summer term at Christ Church! We are looking ahead to a busy and sunny term spending time outside and making the most of when the weather finally improves! It has already been a busy start to the term with the mini marathon before term even started and the Camden Music Festival at the Royal Albert Hall, a visit from an adventurer, Coronation dancing workshops for all classes and the swimming gala in our first week back!
 In the coming half term, our main event is our PSHE week focused on Living in the Wider World and this year we have combined this with our Eco Week, too. During PSHE week, classes will be learning all about topics connected to being an effective citizen, such as how our democratic system works (Y5 will visit the Houses of Parliament), how charities support the local community (we will have visits from both Heath Hands and Royal Free Charities) and how to look after our money (with workshops from Metro bank). There will also be opportunities over the week for lots of classes to visit Henderson Court, which is a local AgeUK centre, to work with their visitors or to improve the centre's environment. Our connection with Henderson Court has been strong now for a number of years, with lots of volunteering activities taking place, but this was understandably restricted by COVID, so it is great to be building this back in to our curriculum this term. We will also be running lots of Eco Week activities over the week – lots more details below. Thank you to Ms Miller for all her organisation of a busy week of learning about supporting others and our environment.
 With very best wishes for the summer term, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Highlights of the beginning of the summer term!



58 Christ Church children, from Reception to Year 6, took part in the Mini London Marathon and proudly received a Marathon Medal!



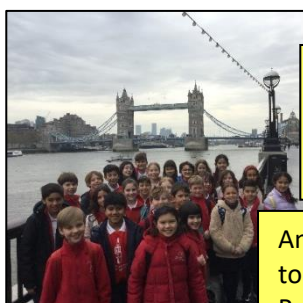
We were all inspired by a visit from explorer, Nick Carter. He told us about his adventures climbing Mt Everest, swimming the Channel and running in the Sahara Desert! Wow!



Every class took part in a Commonwealth Dance workshop – here is Y6's New Zealand Haka!



Our choir sang with over 1800 other young singers and musicians from Camden schools at the Camden Music Festival at the Royal Albert Hall. A memory to treasure for ever!



Our swimming team came third and all came back with medals from the Camden swimming gala!

And we have already had a Y5 trip to Tower Bridge and a Y3 trip to Regent's Park Mosque!



Staff news

We all send congratulations and very best wishes to Miss Innes on the birth of her daughter! Many congratulations to Vicky, Tom and to little baby Thea!

Welcome back!

A warm welcome back to Mrs Manning-Bennett who returns from her maternity leave to take over teaching in Reception class this term.

Punctuality please!

School and learning starts at 8.50am each day. Thank you to everyone who is in our playgrounds ready for when the bells ring at 8.50am each day.

If you are one of the families regularly arriving after the bell, still coming in the gate when all the other parents are coming out or coming in after the gates are closed, then your child is arriving late and missing learning time every day. Please make changes to your morning routine and timings to make sure your child is on time. There are always unavoidable and understandable reasons why children arrive late on rare occasions – these should be the only children signing in late, not families regularly arriving at five to nine, nine o'clock or even five past nine. Please do everything you can to help your child be on time!



Eco week events and eco reminders

Bike checking and fixing – Thursday 18th May, am

Camden's bike team will be in school on the morning of Thursday 18th May and will be checking



and fixing (if they can) any children's or adults' bikes you bring in, free of charge.

Helping the environment with our food choices:

We will be learning about how our food choices can have an impact on the planet, including by learning about the resources used in food production, food packaging, food miles and food waste.

Vegetarian food options all week – just for this week, there will be all vegetarian food offered for school lunches. There will be two vegetarian options each day (as well as plenty of the usual rice/potatoes/pasta and salad and bread) to encourage children to try something new and taste some of the vegetarian dishes on offer on the Caterlink menu. We already do this on 'meat free Mondays.' Our focus will, as always, be about teaching about the importance of a balanced and healthy diet for growing children as well as how great it is to 'try something new!'

Parent food tasting session – Tuesday 16th May, 2.50 – 3.15pm

We would also like parents to have the opportunity to try some of the vegetarian dishes on offer for school lunches, so there will be a parent tasting session run by Caterlink just before the end of school on Tuesday 16th. This is for parents/carers and will finish before the end of the day so you can pick up your children as usual.

Unfortunately, we can't keep the tasting session going for parents who are picking up after clubs, but everyone is very welcome to come at 2.50pm, leaving their children at school for clubs as usual.

Uniform and shoe swop – Tuesday 16th May 3.15pm and 4.15pm

After school on Tuesday 16th May, we will be running a non-branded uniform and shoe swop event. If you have any good-quality, second-hand uniform pieces to donate, please bring them in at any point up until Monday 15th May. Uniform with the Christ Church symbol will be kept for a separate (cheap!) second hand sale later in May but anything non-branded will be available free at the uniform swop on Tuesday 16th. If you need any second-hand branded uniform in the meantime, please just get in touch with Mrs Connock in the school office.



Eco reminders: Batteries for books and Walking Wednesdays!

Our CREW children's eco team continue to collect used batteries in the collection box in the front office. We have already sent off one big box full and will receive book vouchers in return, but our collection continues. It is a safe and environmentally-friendly way to dispose of your used batteries.

Don't forget **Walking Wednesdays**, too! We encourage everyone to walk, scoot or cycle to school every day but on Wednesdays we count up these numbers and, each week, our Walking Wednesday trophy goes to the class with the most children travelling in a sustainable way. If you have to drive, why not try parking a distance away from the school and walking the last bit? This would really help the congestion, pollution and safety on Christchurch Hill.



Summer Term Class Assemblies

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

- Wednesday 24th May – Year 3 class assembly
- Friday 26th May – Year 1 class assembly
- Friday 9th June – Year 6 class assembly
- Wednesday 14th June – Year 4 class assembly
- Friday 16th June – Year 2 class assembly
- Wednesday 21st June – Rec class assembly
- Friday 30th June – Year 5 class assembly
- Friday 14th July – Year 6 memories assembly

Coronation celebrations!

We are looking forward to welcoming the Mayor of Camden to our Church Service celebrating the King's Coronation on Friday 5th May. Families are very welcome to join us in Church at 10.50am. We are also looking forward to our party in the playground in the afternoon, with crowns, cakes, strawberries, games and dancing!



Dates

May

Week beginning Tuesday 2nd – after school clubs start this week

Friday 5th, 11am – Church service celebrating the Coronation, attended by the Mayor of Camden – all families very welcome – please arrive by 10.50am

Monday 8th - Bank holiday – school closed

Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th – Year 6 SATs tests this week

Week beginning Monday 15th – PSHE week (Living in the Wider World) and Eco week – lots of events planned

Tuesday 16th, 2.50-3.15pm – Parent food tasting

Tuesday 16th, 3.15pm and 4.15pm – Uniform and shoe swop

Thursday 18th, 8.50am – Bike check

Friday 19th, eve – Friends Quiz Night

Sunday 21st, 11am – school choir singing in Church

Week beginning Monday 22nd - KS2 times table challenge this week

Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June – Half term

June

Week beginning 5th – KS2 spelling challenge this week (not Monday)

Monday 12th – class photos

Sunday 18th, 11am – Confirmation Service in Christ Church – school choir singing

Thursday 22nd – non-uniform day, bring a donation for the Summer Fair

Friday 23rd June – INSET day – no children in school

Friday 30th – non-uniform day, bring a bottle for the Summer Fair

July

Sunday 2nd – Summer Fair

Week beginning 3rd – last after school clubs this week

Monday 3rd, pm – Sports Day on the Heath – whole school

Tuesday 4th – reserve sports day for rain

Thursday 6th pm – Open afternoon

Thursday 6th 6pm – Summer Serenade

Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th, 6pm – Year 6 production

Friday 14th – Annual reports home to parents

Sunday 16th, 11am – school choir singing in church

Friday 21st, 11.15am – Leavers and end of term service – all welcome

Friday 21st, midday – all children collected for the holidays

Tuesday 5th September – children back to school for the Autumn term