



Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

June 2023
Newsletter 10

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Dear parents, carers and families,

As we start the final half term of the year, we will be building up to all our usual end of year routines and events. For example, teachers and governors are looking forward to reading and judging all the writing competition entries, which will also be on display for parents at our Open Afternoon; Year 6 are starting rehearsals for their production; teachers are beginning to get started on writing end of year reports as well as thinking about this year's recipients of our annual Charlie Chesser awards for friendship and kindness; Mr Spadaccini is preparing for our Sports Day as well as coaching teams for all the remaining sports competitions this term; and the Friends Committee and class reps are getting set for a wonderful Summer Fair.

Alongside all these annual end of year events, there are also a few more unusual or one-off events to fit in:

- all classes will get the opportunity to take part in a workshop or assembly with an organist from St Paul's Cathedral who is somehow bringing a (mini) organ to school for a day;
- our well-being champions team will spend the day at London Zoo with other well-being teams from across Camden sharing this year's work;
- scientists from the Francis Crick Institute will be working with all classes on practical science enquiries and skills for a fascinating day of science learning;
- the Bishop of Edmonton will be holding a confirmation service in Christ Church on 18th June where several current and former pupils will be confirmed. The school choir will be singing and everyone is very welcome as always.

A busy and exciting few weeks ahead! With best wishes for the final half term of the year, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Staff news

We will be sending our thanks and best wishes to two members of our teaching staff team at the end of this term, as they move on from their roles at Christ Church. Miss Vitow is moving on to a teaching role in another local school next year and Miss Grossschaedl is returning to Austria to complete her masters course in teaching there. Thank you very much to both teachers for their hard work and commitment at Christ Church and we will all be wishing them well for the next steps in their teaching careers.

This means that Governors and staff have been busy recruiting excellent new members of the staff team for next year. Information about class teachers for next year will be shared with children and parents in mid-July and there will also be an opportunity for children to meet and spend time with their class teacher for next year in the final week of term.



Year 5 and 6 careers event

As part of their PSHE learning about living in the wider community and being an active citizen, Years 5 and 6 have been hearing about a wide range of different careers and jobs. The children heard from, amongst others, a software engineer, a member of the Google sales team, a barrister and



judge, construction workers and engineers. The classes even heard from the creator of the Rodocodo children's coding platform which we use in our computing lessons! Year 6 have also been writing CVs, taking part in interviews and writing job applications!



Year 5 and 6 athletics competition

Our Year 5 and 6 athletics team had some brilliant individual performances and were the runners up in the small schools Camden competition - congratulations!

Presenting our
Coronation mug to
the Mayor in our
special Church
Service →



Coronation crowns!



Supporting three local charities in PSHE week

Gardening and entertainment at
Henderson Court Age UK centre



Supporting conservation work on
Hampstead Heath with Heath
Hands



Thank you cards for
staff and birthday
cards for patients at
Royal Free Hospital



Dates

June

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

Friday 9th – non-uniform (wear pink or purple if you can) – bring a donation for the Royal Free Hospital Charity and cake sale after school!

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. Meet us at 12.35 at school or 1pm on the sports pitch area of the Heath. All parents and family members very welcome for our afternoon of fun sports activities in mixed year group teams! **Children should wear sports kit to school with a t-shirt in their house colour.**

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

Tuesday 18th – 'meet new teachers' session

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

Don't forget School Council's non-uniform day and cake sale in support of the Royal Free Hospital Charity on Friday 9th June. Wear something **pink** or **purple** and donate something to our charity buckets, if you can. Bring in some individual cakes in the morning and enjoy a sweet treat after school from the cake sale in the junior playground!

ROYAL FREE CHARITY

Information and reminders

Attendance – what is good attendance?

When annual reports come home to parents in July, these will include each child's attendance record for the year, setting out the percentage of the year they have been present so far. But what do these percentages mean and what is good (or poor) attendance?

Our target is for all children to be in school for *at least* 96.5% of the year (this allows for only 8 days absence for any reason over the year) and many, many children will achieve this target this year. Currently, just over 100 children have been in school over 96.5% of the year!

At the end of the spring term, emails were sent to parents of all children who had been in school for under 93% of the year, making parents aware of this and offering support to improve attendance. The vast majority of these pupils have now been in school much more regularly – thank you. Attendance of under 90% is very low attendance and means a child has missed the equivalent of half a day each week or at least 19 days in total over a full year. In the end of year reports, teachers will highlight the level of attendance as in the box above. If you have any questions or would like to know your child's current attendance level, then please ask in the school office.

If children are well, they should be in school learning and playing with their friends. This is where they make good progress and make and maintain friendships. **Even the last week of term is important** as children meet their new teachers, mark the end of the year in their current year group and with their current class teacher and take part in all our special end of term celebrations and fun!

Good attendance (and good punctuality) means that children are in school learning, making good progress and building friendships with their classmates.

Attendance:

98% or above = Excellent
96.5% - 98% = Good
94% - 96.5% = Satisfactory
90% - 94% = Low
Under 90% = Very low

Summer Term Class Assemblies

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

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

Policies

Staff and governors have recently reviewed the following school policies:

- Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time policy
 - Policy on Physical Contact with Children
 - SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Policy and Information Report
- Policies are all available on our website [here](#) or you can request a paper copy from the school office.

Children leaving Christ Church

If your child is leaving Christ Church at the end of

this year (or if this is a possibility) please let us know by emailing or speaking to Mrs Forsdyke. Letting us know as soon as you can, really helps us to offer places in good time to families on our waiting lists. Thank you.