



# Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

October 2023  
Newsletter 2

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**A busy start to the term!**

Dear parents, carers and families,

It has been a busy start to the year with a super Friends cake sale, four amazing trips to Buckingham Palace, some very impressive cross country running and an incredibly generous harvest food collection and donations to Great Ormond Street Hospital! Alongside this, all our new pupils and staff have settled in brilliantly to our school community. Photos below and lots more on the [Autumn term news](#) page of the website.

Our Happiness Project is also in full swing: we have all **aimed high and set ourselves goals** for the year ahead, thinking about the fact that setting goals (big and small) helps our well-being, and we have all learnt about how **giving to others increases our own and others' happiness**, with a particular focus on giving things which don't cost any money (a smile, a compliment, our time, our friendship, our respect). This month's themes are set out at the end of this newsletter.

October is a busy month, too, with lots of trips and other opportunities planned to enrich our teaching and learning in the classrooms. Year 6 will be off for the week on their school journey to Dorset while we have our annual 'Try Something New' week in school (including kayaking, circus skills, canal boat trips and macramé, amongst other things!); we will all be starting to work on our masterpieces for this term's Arts Project and our six weeks of specialist dance workshops for Y2-6 will begin too. An exciting month ahead!

With very best wishes and many thanks for your support in a smooth start to the year, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

## Beginning of term highlights!

Young Shakespeare performance of Romeo and Juliet



Colours and sparkles for Charlie Day!



Camden Cross Country champions!



KS2 trips to Buckingham Palace



## Welcomes!

Welcome to Lila who has joined our Reception class, to Stefania who has joined Year 3 and to Morgan who has joined Year 5. A warm welcome to these new children and their families!

Welcome, also, to Mr Warren and Miss Beese who have joined our Teaching Assistant team and welcome back to Miss Ellis, too!

## Dates October

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wake and Shake every day this week

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9am – Parent workshop on phonics for Rec and Y1 parents

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – INSET day – children not in school

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 school journey week and 'Try something new' week at school

Week beginning Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – KS2 times table challenge

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>, 9-10am – Parent workshop – Building resilience

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, 9.50am – Music assembly

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, 3.40 – 7.30pm – Parents evening

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, 3.40 – 6pm – Parents evening

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – Half term

Week beginning Monday 30<sup>th</sup> – KS2 spelling challenge this week

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> – Individual photos – **new date**

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup>, 9-10am – Parent workshop – Emotions: Big and Little feelings

## Information and reminders

### Policy reviews

Governors and staff have recently reviewed the following school policies. You can find them on our website or ask for a copy at the school office:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection policy
- Equalities information annual review
- Online safety policy

### Attendance – thank you!

Thank you for your support with a good start to the term for attendance. We have had 97% attendance over all so far this year. Let's keep this up!

### Christ Church Parents Book Club - first Monday of every month

Next one: Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 8.15pm, Holly Bush Pub, Hampstead. Our book is 'Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow' by Gabrielle Zevin. Everyone welcome.

### Pick up arrangements

Thank you for letting us know by email if someone different is picking up your child from school. If you could let us know by midday that would really help us make sure the information gets to class teachers.

## Every School Day Counts



Don't let your child miss out - every school day counts

## Eligibility for Free School Meals and other benefits

If you are in receipt of any government benefits, your child may be eligible for Free Schools Meals status. You can check [here](#). Even though all children are receiving free meals this year, eligible children can also access free local holiday clubs and reductions on after school provision. Applying if you are eligible also means the school receives pupil premium funding for your child so it supports the school too. If you have any questions about free school meals applications, please ask in the school office.

## End of key stage attainment and progress results 2023

Well done and congratulations to last year's pupils and staff for another excellent set of attainment results at the end of last year. The school's results and comparisons with local and national data (where available) are included below. Previous years' data and comparisons are on our website [here](#).

### Year 6 – 2023 – % of children reaching expected standard (scaled score 100+)

	Reading	Writing	Maths	RWM combined
<b>Christ Church</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>82%</b>
Camden	81%	78%	80%	70%
National	73%	71%	73%	59%

### Year 6 – 2023 – % of children reaching higher standard (scaled score 110+)

	Reading	Writing (greater depth)	Maths	RWM combined
<b>Christ Church</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>32%</b>
Camden	37%	22%	29%	14%
National	29%	13%	24%	8%

### Year 6 – 2023 – average scaled score

	Reading	No scaled score for writing	Maths	Grammar, punctuation and spelling
<b>Christ Church</b>	<b>110.0</b>		<b>107.9</b>	<b>110.1</b>
Camden	106.8		105.5	106.9
National	105		104	105

### Year 6 – 2023 – progress scores (comparing progress of our pupils through KS2 against all similar pupils nationally)

	Reading	Writing	Maths
<b>Christ Church</b>	<b>+3.8</b>	<b>+5.6</b>	<b>+3.0</b>
Camden	+2.4	+2.6	+2.1
National	0	0	0

### Year 2 – 2023 – % of children reaching expected standard

	Reading	Writing	Maths	RWM combined
<b>Christ Church</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>86%</b>
Camden	72%	65%	74%	Not available
National (2022)	67%	58%	68%	Not available

### Year 2 – 2023 - % of children working at greater depth

	Reading	Writing	Maths	RWM combined
<b>Christ Church</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>18%</b>
Camden	23%	12%	21%	Not available
National (2022)	18%	8%	15%	Not available

### Year 1 – 2023 phonics check – % passing phonics check

<b>Christ Church</b>	<b>96%</b>
Camden	81%
National (2022)	75%

## Happiness Project – October's themes



Maintaining a **healthy body** helps our mental well-being, too, and builds resilience so we are better able to cope in trickier times.

When we **try something new** we can build our confidence, increase our resilience and keep our minds interested and engaged.



**Resilience and bouncing back:** we will be learning about how to build resilience when times are tough, and when we need to ask for help.

We all experience different **emotions** all the time. Learning about how to identify and talk about our emotions helps us feel well, as does focusing on the good things!



## November

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Friends non-uniform day

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>, 9-10am – Parent workshop – Healthy friendships

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>, 11am – Remembrance Service – school choir singing, all families very welcome

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> – Odd sock day: Focus on Anti-Bullying

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>, pm – Art Exhibition, details tbc

## December

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> – Non-uniform day – bring a donation for the Fair

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11am – Children in Church Service, school choir singing

Week beginning Monday 4<sup>th</sup> – last after school clubs this week

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – Flu nasal spray vaccination offered to all children

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> – non-uniform day – bring a bottle for the Fair

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>, 12-2.30pm – Christmas Fair

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>, 10am, Church – Infant Nativity Play for parents

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>, am – Friends Present Sale

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Jumper day (non-uniform)

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>, pm – KS2 carol singing in Hampstead – **new date**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>, 6pm – School carol service in Church

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11.15am – Christmas Service in Church

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>, midday – children home for Christmas holidays**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January – back to school**

### Autumn 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 13<sup>th</sup> October – Year 4 class assembly

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Year 6 class assembly

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Year 2 class assembly

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Year 1 class assembly

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November - Year 5 class assembly

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Reception class assembly

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Year 3 class assembly



Thank you for your donations to our Harvest Collection for Muswell Hill Baptist Church soup kitchen.