



Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

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December 2023

Build up to Christmas...!



Dear parents, carers and families,

It has been a busy half term already with an inspection, the second half of our Happiness Project, a lot of fantastic PSHE and anti-bullying work and a brilliant art exhibition!

The remaining three weeks of term will be packed with lots of Christmas events and I know that we rely on a lot of parental support at this time of year in particular to make Christmas in school a special time for the children. Please only donate or support if you can; we know that this won't be possible for everyone. Some of our Christmas events and traditions can also be a little bit of a mystery to new and newish parents. Please come and find me to ask or ask class teachers or in the office if you have any questions – we would all be happy to help!

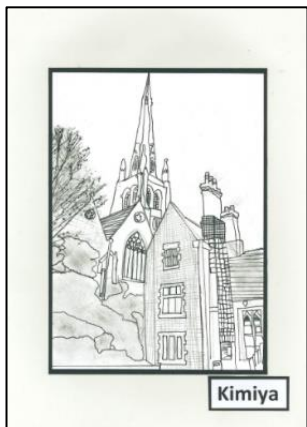
Thank you in advance for all your support with our Christmas and end of term events – we couldn't do it without you!

With very best wishes for a busy December,

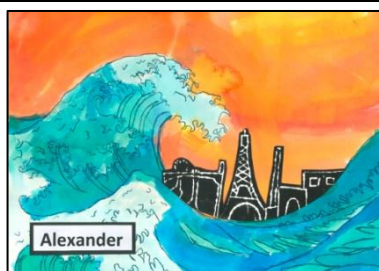
Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher



Kasper



Kimiya



Alexander



Leo



Caetano

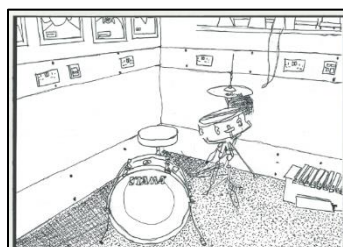
Amazing art!



Teddy



Lenochka



Thank you for coming to our CAP art exhibition – we loved sharing all our art work with parents and families! The framed art works will be coming home soon so that you can hang them straight on your walls!

Our art work focused on promoting the UN Global Goals and was inspired by a wide range of artists, from Eric Carle, Stephen Wiltshire, Wassily Kandinsky and Keith Haring to Andy Warhol, Helen Zughaib and Katsushika Hokusai.



Dates

December

Friday 1st – Non-uniform day – bring a toy and filled jar for the Fair

Sunday 3rd, 11am – Children in Church Service, school choir singing

Monday 4th – last day for children's Christmas Box donations to come into school

Week beginning Monday 4th – last after school clubs this week (*but there one last Camden music session on Wednesday 13th*)

Tuesday 5th, 3.20pm – Christmas Jumper sustainable swap – infant playground - **NEW**

Wednesday 6th, 2.40pm – Y4 and 6 informal music sharing for parents – in the hall - **NEW**

Thursday 7th – Flu nasal spray vaccination offered to all children

Friday 8th – non-uniform day – bring a bottle for the Fair

Sunday 10th, 12-2.30pm

Christmas Fair – tickets at this [link](#).

Santa's grotto, food, drink, games, stalls, carols and much more!

Everyone is very welcome. Thank you to everyone helping with the preparations or on the day.

Every child will be making a craft item to sell at the Fair – for the first hour of the Fair these will only be sold to the correct family, after that they can be bought by anyone – a great incentive to get to the Fair early!

Every pound raised will be matched by a generous parent donation to the school, too!

Thursday 14th, 10am

Infant Nativity Play for parents

-all of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Please wait outside the main Church door just before 10am – all family members very welcome!

Christmas charities

Thank you for your support of our Christmas children's gift box collection so far – these boxes will be distributed to local families and children in need.



At our Christmas events we will be collecting cash donations for

World Vision

our two Christmas charities. Money raised will be split between The Winch, a local children's and community charity in North Camden, and World Vision, who support children in poverty and areas of hardship around the world. We will be collecting at the infant Nativity play, at the KS2 carol singing on Hampstead High Street and on our Christmas Jumper Day.

Sustainable Christmas

Our children's eco team, the CREW, have been busy reminding us about how to make sure our school Christmas events are as eco-friendly as possible!

- ❖ We will be holding a Christmas Jumper swop event after school on Tuesday 5th December. If your child has outgrown their Christmas jumper, please donate it on Monday 4th or Tuesday 5th and we will have jumpers available to take after school on Tuesday in the infant playground. There is no charge, but we will be encouraging donations to our Christmas charities.
- ❖ Please make sure your rubbish goes in the correct bin at the Christmas Fair – we will be labelling bins for recycling (paper plates, cans, cardboard, glass bottles) and other bins for general waste, including food.
- ❖ Try to be sustainable in your choices of gifts to donate for the Fair and the Present Sale – donate good-quality second hand gifts if you can and limit single use plastic if possible.



What's special about me!



As part of the Celebrating Differences week of our Happiness Project, we heard each child in Years 1-6 share their 'What's special about me' presentation. There were some fascinating and deeply personal presentations about all sorts of things which make each one of us unique and special. Highlights included presentations about Japanese culture, Arabic heritage, living with coeliac disease, being a citizen of three different nations, being left-handed, being a twin, having an operation and how connections to particular family members are so important to us. It was a very special week – thank you to children for sharing and listening and to parents for supporting with the preparations.



Information and reminders

Applications for Reception 2024

The closing date for applications for the September 2024 Reception class is 15th January. If you are applying for a younger sibling, please remember that you need to complete both the online Camden application form and the Christ Church Supplementary Form (you can get this from the website or from the office).

Safety outside school

Please be safe and considerate as you arrive for school drop off or pick up. If you can walk or cycle to school, please do so, as this helps to reduce congestion outside school. Thank you if you always walk to school! If you need to drive, please park a distance away from school and please park safely and without obstructing local residents.

Christ Church Parents and Carers' Book Club

Monday 4th Dec, 8.15pm - Holly Bush Pub – Second half of 'Demon Copperhead' by Barbara Kingsolver
Everyone welcome!

December Dates - continued

Friday 15th, am

Friends Present Sale

This is the children's opportunity to buy some small secret Christmas gifts for family members! Please send in (on the day) seven small, unwrapped gifts, plus £5 in coins and a bag for your children to bring home the gifts they buy. It is also helpful if younger children have a list of family members to buy for. We wrap and label all the gifts in school during the day and the money raised goes to the Friends Association.

Friday 15th, 3pm – Y5 informal music sharing for parents – in the hall - **NEW**

Monday 18th – Christmas Jumper day (non-uniform) – anything Christmassy will do, bought or homemade!

Tuesday 19th, 2pm – KS2 carol singing in Hampstead

Tuesday 19th, 6pm

School Carol Service in Church

Years 5 and 6 will be singing two carols so we would like to encourage as many of these classes to attend as possible, in particular. All families very welcome – refreshments afterwards provided by the Friends.

Friday 22nd, 11.15am

Christmas Service in Church

All families very welcome.

Friday 22nd, midday – children home for Christmas holidays

Monday 8th January – back to school

Autumn Term Class Assemblies

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

Friday 1st December – Reception class assembly

Friday 8th December – Year 3 class assembly

There are lots of photos of the super class assemblies which have taken place already this term on the news page of our website [here](#).

There are also photos of recent trips, dance workshops, PSHE week and sports events!



I TRIED SOMETHING NEW

Happiness Project – review of our ten themes

Can your child remember each of the themes and something they have learnt from each one which can help to keep themselves and others happy?

