



Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

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November 2024
Newsletter 3

Trying lots of new things!

Dear parents, carers and families,

Last month was a busy month including our 'Try Something New' week and 'Have your say' presentations – see lots of highlights below. Our recent visitors in school have included the Young Shakespeare Company for a brilliant performance of Macbeth for Y4-6 and a group of musicians from Apollo Music working with Years 4 and 5, plus our class assemblies for this term have also got underway with two super assemblies from Year 3 and Year 6.

It was great to see so many parents in school for our two parents' evenings before half term - teachers had lots of excellent progress to talk about already! Our next formal parents' evenings take place towards the end of the Spring term, so please remember that you are very welcome to make an appointment to talk to class teachers before then if you would like to. Teachers are always very happy to meet to update you on progress and how you can support at home.

Our whole school PSHE (personal, social and health education) week for this term is coming up this month and focuses on Positive Relationships and Diversity. Children will be celebrating how unique and special we all are and how our friends, family and building positive relationships are so important to us. We will also be taking part in Anti-Bullying Day, including training our Year 5 class to be Anti-Bullying Champions and giving our Year 6 class the opportunity to remind us all of important anti-bullying messages in a special assembly and workshops in classes.

Two key dates to look out for this month: Parent workshop on 'Supporting your Child with Anxiety, Stress and Change' (9-10am, 12th November) and our Art Exhibition (after school, 28th November) – more information and lots more dates below.

With all best wishes, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Our annual (and unique) **Try Something New week** is an opportunity for children to have a lot of fun trying lots of new activities! We know it is good for our mental health and well-being to stay curious and open to new things. We aim for children to overcome their anxieties over new experiences and find new skills and interests they never knew they had!

Welcome

A very warm welcome to Isaac who has joined our Year 4 class!

Dates November

w/b Monday 4th – KS2 spelling challenge this week (not Mon)

Tuesday 5th – individual photos

Wednesday 6th – Friends' non-uniform day – wear some 'bonfire brightness'!

Friday 8th – Friends' film night for KS2 classes

w/b Monday 11th – PSHE week: Positive relationships and diversity

Tuesday 12th, 9-10am – Parent workshop – helping children with stress, anxiety and change – all parents welcome. Workshop led by one of Camden's Mental Health advisers.

Thursday 14th – Odd sock day, Anti-Bullying Day

Tuesday 19th, after school – Christmas Jumper swap!

Thursday 28th, pm – Arts Project sharing event – Art Exhibition after school - all parents and family members welcome

Friday 29th – Non-uniform day – bring a toy and jar filled with sweets for the Christmas Fair

I TRIED SOMETHING NEW

marbling

comic drawing

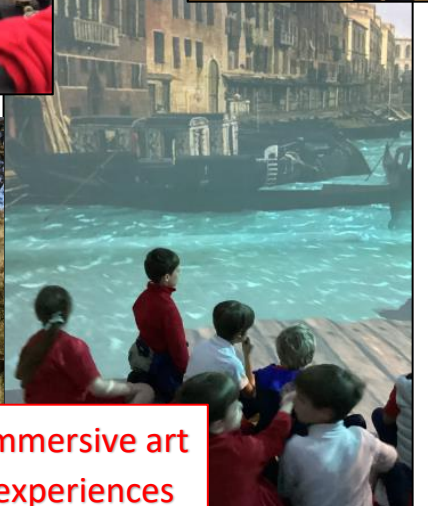
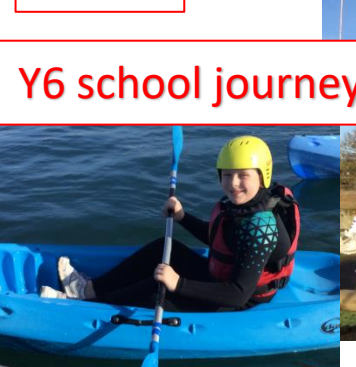
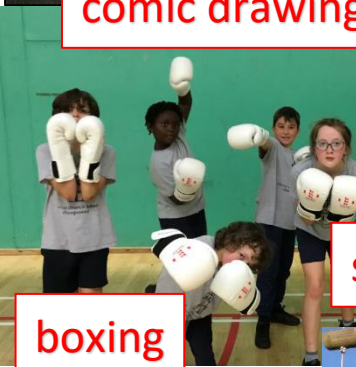
flamenco

skate boarding

boxing

Y6 school journey

immersive art experiences





Cross country success!

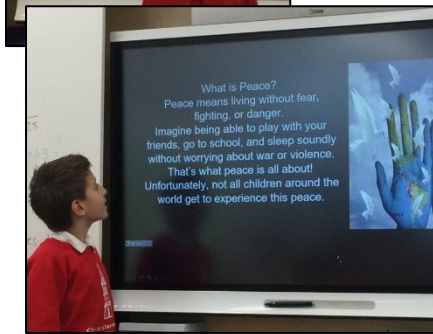
Congratulations to our cross country team who were the small schools champions at the Camden competition in October! They were presented with their trophy by the Mayor of Camden. A wonderful team effort where every single runner and every single point counted!



Have your say!

Each pupil in Years 1 - 6 had the opportunity to 'have their say', presenting to the rest of their class about a topic which is important to them. This supports Articles 12 and 13 in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which enable children to share their thoughts freely and have a say in matters which affect them. There were some fascinating

presentations on issues as wide-ranging as the importance of peace for all, protecting endangered species, LGBTQ+ rights in school, age restrictions on social media, fast fashion, how to recycle your plastics, gyms for children, homelessness, growing fruit and vegetables, the advantages and disadvantages of e-bikes and why therapy dogs are helpful.



Autumn term class assemblies

Our class assemblies take place at 10am in the hall – all family members are welcome! Please wait by the main gate.

Friday 8th November – Year 2 class assembly
Wednesday 20th November – Year 1 class assembly
Friday 22nd November – Year 5 class assembly
Friday 29th November – Reception class assembly
Friday 6th December – Year 4 class assembly

Information and reminders



Please be careful on our steps!

Please take care on our steps and around the school site as the weather gets wetter and colder and the leaves continue to fall.

Applications for 2025 Reception class

The application deadline for applying for Reception for 2025 is 15th January. If you are applying for a younger sibling, please make sure you complete the online application form on the Camden admissions website **and** return the school supplementary form to school. You can get a supplementary form from the school office or you can download a copy from the school website.

Admissions criteria consultation

The Governing Body is carrying out the school's periodic consultation on our Admissions Criteria and is proposing no substantive changes to the current over-subscription criteria for admission to the school. You can find more details about the consultation and how to respond on the admissions page of our website.

Regular donations to the school

Thank you very much to those parents who already donate regularly to the school. This supports us with extras such as our Arts Projects and Try Something New activities. You can set up a regular donation by scanning the QR code or clicking [here](#). Thank you for **all** the ways parents support our school.



Rights Respecting Schools – Article of the month

To remind parents and pupils that we are a UNICEF Rights Respecting School we are including a different article from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in each month's newsletter.



Article 16: Every child has the right to privacy. The law must protect children's privacy, family, home, communications and reputation (or good name) from any attack.

How do we ensure children receive this right at Christ Church?

Children learn about the importance of privacy – privacy of their bodies and privacy of information about themselves – including the importance of keeping information private and secure online. The school does not share any private information about children (unless it is absolutely necessary to keep them safe) and the school does not share information about children with other parents or families. We only share photos of children with parental consent.

December

w/b Monday 2nd – last after school clubs this week

Friday 6th – Non-uniform day – bring a bottle for the Christmas Fair

Sunday 8th, 12-2.30pm – Christmas Fair

Thursday 12th, 10am – Nativity Play – involving all Reception, Y1 and Y2

Friday 13th – Friends present sale

Monday 16th – Christmas Jumper Day – fundraising for our Christmas charities

Monday 16th, 2pm – KS2 carol singing in Hampstead High Street

Thursday 19th – Pantomime performance for all classes in school

Friday 20th, 11.15am – Christmas Service in Church tbc

Friday 20th, midday – children home for holidays

January

Monday 6th – children back to school for Spring term

Staff news

Welcome to Miss Nabi and Miss Appleby who joined our Teaching Assistant team last half term. We send our best wishes and thanks to Mme Pugalía who is moving out of London and therefore finishing her French teaching at the school later this half term. Merci beaucoup et bonne chance!