



# Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

Christchurch Hill, Hampstead, NW3 1JH  
[admin@cchurchnw3.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cchurchnw3.camden.sch.uk)

020 7435 1361  
[www.christchurchschool.co.uk](http://www.christchurchschool.co.uk)

December 2024  
Newsletter 4

Build up to Christmas!

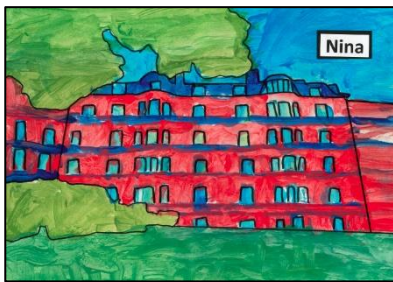


Dear parents, carers and families,

It has already been a busy second half of term with a super Art Exhibition last week and a fantastic PSHE week including our annual Friendship Bracelet swop and the creation of a whole school kindness chain (made up of individual acts of kindness) which we are hoping will stretch around the whole school!

As we move into the even busier build up to Christmas over these last few weeks of term I want to say an enormous thank you to parents and families for all their help and support with our Christmas events – we couldn't do it without you! Thank you for sending things in if you can, supporting our charity appeals and, most importantly, coming to our events. If you are new or newish to the school, some of our Christmas traditions and events can be a bit of mystery so please ask me, class teachers or in the office if you have any questions – we would be very happy to help!

Thank you in advance for all your support with our Christmas events and all best wishes for a busy December,  
Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher



Nina



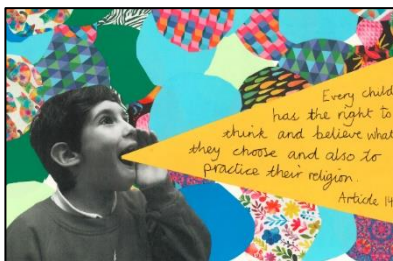
Beautiful  
art work  
promoting  
children's  
rights



Vitalija



Elliot



Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practice their religion. Article 14



Mia



Effy



Asher



Thank you very much for coming to our Art Exhibition! It was wonderful to see the children so proud of their masterpieces and talking so confidently about the inspiration behind their art work – both the artist and the Article in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Not only have the children developed their art skills and techniques *and* learnt about the life and work of an inspirational artist, they have also been thinking about how they can make a difference to children, here or abroad, who are not able to enjoy all their rights. Look out for information about each class's 'making a difference' action next term.

Dates - **December**

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

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> – last day for children's Christmas Box donations to come in

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – Non-uniform day – bring a bottle for the Christmas Fair

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>, 12-2.30pm

**Christmas Fair** 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 is busy 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!

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>, 10am – **Nativity Play** starring all of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Please wait outside the main Church door just before 10am – all family members very welcome!

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> **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 13<sup>th</sup>, 2.45pm – Year 3 and Year 6 informal music sharing for parents in the hall - **NEW**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Jumper Day – fundraising for our Christmas charities – anything Christmassy will do, bought or homemade.

## Christmas Charities

As usual, our School Council, made up of pupil representatives from across the school, has chosen our two Christmas Charities this year. They wanted to choose a charity who support children in areas where there is conflict at the moment; so, they selected **World Vision**, who support children in areas of crisis across the globe. They also wanted to choose a charity who help people to be warm at Christmas; therefore, they selected **the Salvation Army** who support families and individuals locally with basic shelter and food. Two very good choices – well done, School Council!

We will be collecting cash donations for these charities after our Nativity Play, at our KS2 carol singing and on our Christmas Jumper Day – please give generously, if you are able to. Thank you.



Monday 16<sup>th</sup>, 2pm – **KS2 carol singing** in Hampstead High Street – all Y3, 4, 5 and 6 families very welcome to come to support us and help us raise money for our charities.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> – Pantomime performance for all classes in school – funded by the Friends Association

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>, 11.15am – **Christmas Service in Church**  
All families very welcome.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>, midday – children home for holidays**

## January

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – children back to school for Spring term**

## Staff news

A warm welcome to Mr Sherrington who joined our Teaching Assistant team earlier this term.



## Winter reading challenge

Local libraries are running the Mini Winter Reading Challenge, encouraging reading over the Christmas period. The challenge runs from 1<sup>st</sup> December to 20<sup>th</sup> February and children are able to collect stickers and rewards for each book they read. You can sign up in any Camden library!

## Autumn term class assemblies

One last class assembly for this term, please wait by the main gate just before 10am.  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Year 4 class assembly

## Information and reminders

### Healthy School Street traffic restrictions update

Parents will remember that there was a Camden Council consultation on a proposed Healthy School Street scheme around the school last Spring. Camden Council have now approved the scheme – the decision and supporting documentation has been published on their website [here](#).

An 18 month 'trial scheme' will begin in the summer term, closing the surrounding streets to traffic between 8.30-9.15am and 3-4pm. At the link above there is a plan setting out details of the streets where restrictions will apply and we will share any information we receive from the council with parents next term.

As always, we encourage all children to walk, scoot, cycle or take public transport to school.

However, for various reasons, we know that this isn't always possible and that these restrictions will impact on several of our families in the coming months.

### Applications for 2025 Reception class

The application deadline for applying for Reception for 2025 is 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 2025-2026 term dates

Governors have now agreed the term dates for *next academic year*. They are attached at the end of this newsletter – please look carefully if you are booking holidays ahead. There are still three additional INSET days to be set (when children are not in school) and these will be shared with parents later this year.



### School Council Takeover Day!

Our Y5 and Y6 school council representatives took part in Camden's Takeover Challenge at the Town Hall. They presented their ideas about how to make Camden a safer, healthier and happier place to live, asked questions of the other school councils and even met the Mayor of Camden and other local councillors. They did a brilliant job representing 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 27:** Children have the right to food, clothing and safe place to live so they can develop in the best possible way. The government should help families and children who cannot afford this.

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

Children learn about the importance of a healthy diet and we provide healthy school meals and fruit for all children each day. We also support with second-hand (or free) uniform where needed and have a uniform policy which means that families do not have to buy branded items, but can buy items more cheaply from supermarkets instead.

### How do we support *other* children to receive this right?

We teach about and support a number of local, national and international charities over the year who provide these basic needs for children and families. This includes our support of the Salvation Army and Camden Food Bank with children's Christmas boxes, our Harvest collection for the Muswell Hill Community Kitchen and support for global charities such as World Vision who provide basic shelter, clothing and food in areas of conflict and crisis across the world.



## Christ Church Primary School

# 2025/26 Term Dates

Please look carefully at these dates for the year, especially when you are booking holidays!

### Autumn term 2025

INSET day: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September

First day of Autumn term: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Half term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Last day of Autumn term: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

### Spring term 2026

First day of Spring term: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Half term: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Last day of Spring term: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

### Summer term 2026

First day of Summer term: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April

Bank Holiday: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Half term: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

Last day of Summer term: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

INSET day: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July

N.B.

There are still an additional three INSET days to be set. These will be shared with parents later this year.

Children are not in school for INSET days - these are used for staff training.