



# Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

April 2025  
Newsletter 8



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Dear parents, carers and families,

As we come to the end of a busy second half of the Spring term, it has been great to hear about the progress children have been making in their learning so far this year. Each individual child is discussed in a termly 'pupil progress' meeting for each class where class teachers, Mr Hollings and I talk about how to provide further support or additional challenge where needed and where we review children's assessments and track their progress towards our ambitious end of year targets. It has also been great for teachers to be able to share progress with parents in our recent parents' evenings – thank you very much for coming to these last week. Our next formal reporting point for parents will be our annual written reports which we share towards the end of the summer term, but please remember that you can always ask to meet with the class teacher to review progress at any other point in the year – you are very welcome to arrange an appointment to meet or a phone call.

We have also squeezed in a very successful readathon (more details below) and eleven further days with our film makers this half term! Children have had the opportunity to work with time lapse photography and stop motion animation as well as more conventional cameras and sound equipment. We have had a lot of fun and we have also all learnt that it takes at least twelve photos to create just one second of stop motion film – we have taken a lot of photos! We are now almost in the editing stage and are looking forward to seeing the final films, sharing all about the school's vision and values, on the big screen on the 20<sup>th</sup> May! An enormous thank you to Mr Hollings who has been coordinating the whole project this term, fitting this in alongside everything else he does to support children, staff and families. I've included the summer term dates and events in the list below so you can plan ahead and make sure our end of year events are in your diaries. Please note that the end of the summer term is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July and children should be in school right up until the end of term, please.

With best wishes for a sunny Easter break and thank you for all your support this term, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

## Readathon - thank you!

Thank you to all children, parents and families for their magnificent support of our readathon last month, including raising over £3000 which will go towards our computer fundraising campaign. Some of our reading highlights included:

- a very enjoyable reading hour with biscuits and fruit
- an impressive poetry sharing assembly including poem performances which made us think and made us laugh!

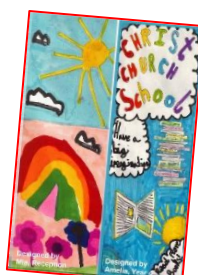


- some super dancing sessions based around book themes – lots of great photos [here](#) on our website
- book sharing, swapping and recommendations in classes
- fabulous, funny book spoons and a great second-hand book sale
- inspirational visits from an author and poet and a brilliant performance of Wind in the Willows for the whole school



- parents sharing their favourite books and chapters in class – a great inspiration to keep reading!

As part of our readathon, Year 6 have revamped our 'little library' book swap box which lives out on Christ Church Passage for the local community to donate and swap books, plus we have spruced up our book sharing trolley and boxes in the infant playground – please use them to borrow books to share at home. Congratulations to our bookmark designers, extreme reading, book spoon and class readathon winners!



### Dates

#### April

Friday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11.15am – end of term service in Church

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> – children collected at midday for the Easter Holidays**

#### Summer term dates

#### April

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – all children back to school for the Summer term**

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – after school clubs start

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> – Choir singing at Camden music festival at Royal Albert Hall - NO AFTER SCHOOL MUSIC

#### May

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Bank Holiday – school closed**

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>, 10.40am – school choir singing in church

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> – Y6 tests this week

wb Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – PSHE week – Living in the Wider world

wb Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Times table challenge Y2-Y6

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> – Film premiere event

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Half term**

#### June

Wb 2<sup>nd</sup> June – KS2 spelling challenge

## Great gymnastics!



Congratulations to our KS2 gymnasts who showed super skills and excellent team work to come third in both the Y3/4 and Y5/6 Camden competitions!

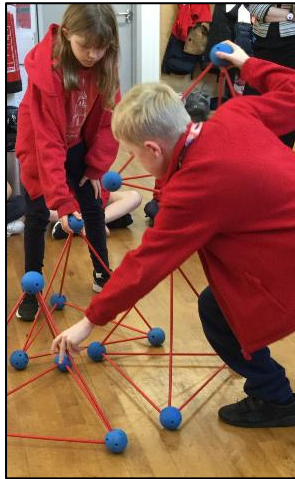
## Fantastic dancing!



We loved our book-themed dance workshops – dancing about The Three Little Pigs, Matilda and the Jungle Book!

## Maths day!

We celebrated world maths day with a day filled with numbers, shapes and problem solving! Each class took part in a shape workshop building two- and three-dimensional shapes, enjoyed a day full of number games and problems and then shared their learning in a special assembly.



## Poetry performances!



Children from across the school shared some brilliant poetry performances with the rest of their classes and the school.

## Information and reminders

### Children leaving Christ Church

Please let us know as soon as you can if your child is leaving Christ Church (or even if this is a possibility). This really helps us to plan ahead and to offer places for next year where we can.

### Buildings maintenance scheme donation – final reminder

A final reminder about the £40 payment on the online payment system – this is a voluntary contribution per child towards the London Diocesan Board for Schools Buildings Maintenance Scheme, which supports with the upkeep of Church school buildings. The school pays a sum towards this scheme every year from our school budget and the more we raise from the voluntary parent donations, the less we contribute from our core budget. Lots and lots of parents have already made this donation over the course of the year (and, if you have, it will have disappeared from the payment system) – thank you.

### Summer term class assemblies

Please wait by the main gate just before 10am.

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Y2 class assembly

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Y3 class assembly

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Y4 class assembly

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Y6 class assembly

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Y5 class assembly

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June – Reception class assembly

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June – Y1 class assembly

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Y6 memories/speeches assembly

## June dates continued

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> – class photos

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>, 10.40am – school choir singing in church

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>, 9-10am – Parent workshop – online safety – all parents welcome

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> – Non-uniform day – bring a toy and filled jar for the summer fair

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – INSET day – no children in school**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>, pm – Music performance in the playground – all classes

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – non-uniform day, bring a bottle for the Summer Fair

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> – 12-2.30 – Summer Fair

Wb 30<sup>th</sup> – last after school clubs this week

Monday 30<sup>th</sup>, pm – Sports Day – all classes

## July

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>, pm – Sports Day (reserve date in case of rain)

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2pm onwards – Open afternoon

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6pm – Summer Serenade

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>, 6pm – Y6 production

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> – information home to parents about classes for next year

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> – annual reports home to parents

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> tbc – meet new class teachers session

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> – Talent show

Friday 18<sup>th</sup>, 11.15 – Leavers service in church

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup>, midday – all children collected for the summer holidays**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – all children back to school for the Autumn term**

## 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.



14

FREEDOM OF  
THOUGHT AND  
RELIGION

**Article 14: Children can choose their own thoughts, opinions and religion, but this should not stop other people from enjoying their rights. Parents can guide children so that as they grow up they learn to properly use this right.**

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

Children learn about a wide range of religions and world views through our Religious Education (RE) curriculum.

This includes visits to the places of worship of different world faiths and asking families to share about their beliefs and practices to enrich our learning. Our assemblies and collective worship, which are in the tradition of the

Church of England, are inclusive and children of all faiths show respect to others. Children often share their wide-ranging religious beliefs and practices as part of our individual presentations each year and we gain a lot from learning from each other in this way.

