



# Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

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October 2025  
Newsletter 2

**A busy start to the year!**

Dear parents, carers and families,

Over the past month we have all quickly got ourselves back in the busy school routine – it is great to see the after school clubs up and running, our sports teams starting to represent the school and trips out of the classroom starting up. Trips are a very important part of our school life and add a great deal to the teaching in the classroom. This term, we have class trips planned to Buckingham Palace, the Natural History Museum, the British Museum, the Florence Nightingale Museum, Camden's Junior Citizen event and the Globe Theatre, alongside our regular trips to Hampstead Heath and Year 6's residential school journey. Thank you very much to parents and family members for all their help with trips – we couldn't provide so many valuable opportunities to learn outside the classroom without your support!

In school, we have added a new element to the professional development and training we provide for our teachers this term. Teachers are regularly meeting in groups to observe learning and teaching in the classrooms together and to learn from each other's excellent practice. These groups are in addition to the whole staff training sessions, local networks and external courses our teachers participate in, and will be a great opportunity to learn from and work with others on our team. As always, there is lots going on!

Best wishes, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

## Thank you – Giving week

Thank you very much for your generous support of the two charity events in our Giving week. They were both a super example of how our Christ Church community can work together to make a difference.

We collected an enormous pile of tins and packets for the Muswell Hill Baptist Church Soup Kitchen, which will be used to support families and individuals who don't have the facilities or funds to cook hot meals. Martin, from the soup kitchen visited us in assembly to thank everyone for their donations and explain how the soup kitchen works.

Thank you also for your donations on our **Colours and Sparkles** for Charlie Day. We all had a very sparkly day, raising a total of £1070 which will go to Great Ormond Street Hospital's children's cancer centre project.



## Happiness Project – a super start!

We started our Happiness Project in September with a brilliant week of learning about those who have set themselves goals and achieved them, and with setting our own goals for the year ahead – remembering to aim high! We then moved on to our Giving week, thinking about how giving to others makes us feel happier too and talking about things we can give which don't cost anything – a smile, a compliment, respect or help.

Our third theme in September was Belonging, where we learnt all about the value of community and 'belonging to something bigger' with a particular focus on our House teams (see below).

In October, look out for our Try Something New week (including sushi making, fencing and drumming among many other new activities!), our week learning about the importance of celebrating differences and our Healthy Body week. Keep up to date with our Happiness Project and how you can support at home by looking at Ms Miller's updates sent out each week.



### Dates October

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Our Christ Church Rights Respecting School Day

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> – INSET day – no children in school**

Week beginning Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Y6 school journey this week

Week beginning Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Try Something New week!

Week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> – PSHE week celebrating difference– including Y1-6 individual presentations

Friday 17<sup>th</sup>, 9-10am – Parent workshop,

Supporting your children with their feelings and emotions, led by Camden Educational Psychology Service

Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> – KS2 Times table challenge this week

Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> – Healthy Body week – wake and shake every morning!

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9.50am- Music assembly

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, 3.40 – 7.30pm and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3.40 – 6pm – Parents evenings

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> – Half term**

### November

Week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> – KS2 spelling challenge this week (not Monday)

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> – individual photos

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Bonfire brightness non-uniform day – wear something bright and bring a donation for the Friends Association

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>, 11am – Remembrance Sunday service in Church, school choir singing



### Belonging to something bigger!

In our Belonging week, we thought about how belonging to groups, clubs, teams and our communities helps to bring us happiness. We had a wonderful time in our House groups: **Du Maurier**, **Bliss**, **Constable** and **Stevenson**, creating a whole school jigsaw art project – showing how we belong both to our House teams, as well as to the wider Christ Church School community.

### Cross country success!

All of Key Stage 2 had a brilliant morning on the Heath at our cross country trials event. There were some very close races, some magnificent sprints at the end of a long race and some wonderful perseverance on display. It was also great to see the support given to every single runner by the rest of the children. Thank you very much to the parents who came to support.



Our team then enjoyed a very successful day at the Camden cross country competition, winning the title against 19 other schools! The team demonstrated lots of fabulous individual performances and magnificent support for each other. Well done to everyone!

### Information and reminders



#### Take care on our steps!

As the weather changes and the leaves start to fall, please take care on our steps and around our school site.

#### Healthy School Street scheme

Remember that the Healthy School Street traffic restrictions around the school start straight after half term on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Traffic restrictions on Christchurch Hill outside the infant gate and on surrounding roads will apply from 8.30-9.15 and from 3.00-4.00 every week day during term time. **The streets will not be completely car-free so please still take care when crossing roads around school.**

#### School policies

The following school policies have recently been reviewed by staff and governors. You can find all our policies on the school website or you can request a paper copy from the school office.

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Online Safety Policy

### Autumn term class assemblies

Class assemblies start at 10am; all family members are welcome; please wait by the main gate.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Y6 school journey assembly

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Y2 class assembly

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Y4 class assembly

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Y1 class assembly

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Reception class assembly

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November – Y3 class assembly

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Y5 class assembly

### November dates continued

Week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> – PSHE week – focused on positive relationships

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> – Anti bullying day, Odd socks day!

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>, 3.20 – 5pm – Art Exhibition after school

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> – non-uniform day – bring a toy and filled jar for the Christmas Fair

### December

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Flu spray vaccination offered to all classes in school – information and link to consent forms has been sent to parents. Please ask the school office if you need the email and links resent.

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> – non-uniform day – bring a bottle for the Christmas Fair

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>, 12-2.30pm – Christmas Fair

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>, 10am – Nativity performance for parents (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes)

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friends Present Sale

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Jumper Day!

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>, pm – KS2 carol singing in Hampstead

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>, 6pm – School Carol service in Church – all families very welcome! School choir singing.

Friday 19<sup>th</sup>, 11.15am – Christmas Service in Church

Friday 19<sup>th</sup>, midday – all children collected for the holidays

### January

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – all children back for the spring term

### Year 5 at Buckingham Palace!

Year 5 spent a sunny morning taking part in a landscape drawing workshop on the lawn at the back of Buckingham Palace- what a special treat!



### Happiness Project – October's themes



**Trying something new** keeps us curious, interested and enables us to find new skills, talents and activities we enjoy. Overcoming a little anxiety about new experiences helps us to manage bigger challenges in the future.

**A healthy body** helps us to have a healthy and happy mind. Getting enough sleep, water and exercise and eating a healthy diet supports a healthy lifestyle which helps to build our resilience.



**Celebrating differences:** we all have different skills and talents as well as different things we find more difficult – understanding ourselves and accepting ourselves and others for the unique individuals we are helps us have a positive outlook.