



Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

April 2026
Newsletter 8

Christchurch Hill, Hampstead, NW3 1JH
admin@cchurchnw3.camden.sch.uk

020 7435 1361
www.christchurchschool.co.uk

Summer term dates

Dear parents, carers and families,

Welcome back! I hope all families had a wonderful Easter break and that children have come back to school refreshed and ready for the Summer Term! We had a wonderfully busy few weeks in the run up to the Easter break – there are lots of highlights of Poetry, World Book Day, Dancing, Day of Sport and more below, as well as all the many summer term events and dates for your diaries.

In amongst all of the busyness and excitement, one of the other areas we have been focusing on as a staff and governor team is how we support children's (and adults') **spiritual development**, too. We have reviewed our Spirituality documentation and definition, thinking about the importance of:

- **looking outwards** to appreciate and cherish the awe and wonder of the world;
- **looking inwards** to reflect on our experiences and to explore life's big questions; and
- **looking onwards** to discover the meaning and impact of our lives for others and the world around us and how we 'belong to something bigger'

We recognise that we do quite a bit of enabling spiritual development at Christ Church: some of it deliberately planned, for example our high-quality RE teaching, our assemblies and times of reflection, our trips to amazing places which inspire awe and wonder and our time spent working towards the same goals together or making a difference to others. And some of it more spontaneous, where we seize the opportunity when it arises – the moments spent in stillness and silence on the Heath listening for birds, the time outside in the falling snow, the unplanned whole class joyous dancing on the beach on school journey or the immense feeling of togetherness when we sing as a whole school. Staff and governors reflected that enabling spiritual development is an important, though perhaps less celebrated, aspect of our school – a vital part of our aim to support children's personal as well as academic growth and to inspire life in all its fullness.

With all best wishes for the summer term, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Dazzling dancing!

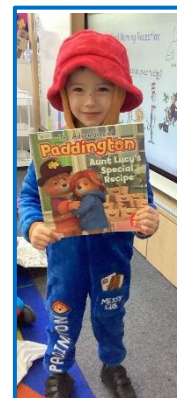
We had a wonderful time sharing our dance routines with parents and families in our Arts Project dance performance!

And the audience participation routines were brilliant – thank you for joining in!



Wonderful World Book Day!

There were some very imaginative costumes on display for World Book Day this year, with the BFG, Harry Potter, Cruella de Vil and many more familiar characters taking part in our annual second-hand book sale!



Welcomes!

Welcome to Sasha who is joining our Year 1 class this term – a very warm welcome to Sasha and her family! Also, a slightly belated welcome to Mr Bien who has joined our Teaching Assistant team and to Miss Coupland who has joined us to complete her teacher training this year, working alongside Miss Lewsey with Year 1.

Dates

April

Week beginning Monday 13th – after school clubs start

Thursday 16th – Maths Day!

Saturday 25th – Mini London Marathon

Wednesday 29th – KS2 Camden Choir festival

May

Monday 4th – Bank Holiday - school closed

Monday 11th – Thursday 14th – Year 6 tests this week

Sunday 17th, 11am – School choir singing in Church

Week beginning Monday 18th – PSHE week – Living in the wider world

Week beginning Monday 18th – Times tables challenge this week



Thank you – Day of Sport and ‘Wear a Hat’ day!

Thank you for your very generous support of our two charity events at the end of the spring term. School council did a great job of suggesting and planning our Day of Sport, raising money for UNICEF Soccer Aid and for sports equipment for school. We ran over 17,000 laps of the playground between us over the whole day, a total distance of nearly 700 miles! So far our sponsorship money and donations have raised just over £1000 – thank you – and we are still collecting at the school office. We also had great fun on ‘Wear a Hat’ day raising over £350 for Brain Tumour Research Charity – thank you for your support of this important charity too.



Powerful Poetry performances

As part of our World Book Day and reading celebrations, each child in Years 1 – 6 selected and performed a poem to their class, followed by a special assembly sharing some with the whole school.

We heard poems written by the children themselves and by poets as diverse as Allan Ahlberg, Robert Burns, A. A. Milne and Spike Milligan and with topics ranging from cats, Australia and the Scottish Highlands to dreams, seasons and school!



Recent trips



Y5 group meeting faith leaders at the Camden interfaith event



Y4 and Y5 at Tate Britain to see the Turner and Constable exhibition



Y4 at the Neasden Hindu Mandir

Information and reminders

Children leaving

If your child is leaving Christ Church at the end of the year, or if you are even considering this at this stage, please let us know as soon as possible. Letting us know as soon in advance helps us to offer the place to another family in good time.

Policies

The following school policies have recently been reviewed by Governors and school staff:

- Complaints Policy
- Spirituality Document

You can see all our policies on the school website or you can ask for a paper copy from the office.

Summer term class assemblies

These are dates for the class assemblies this term which all start at 10am; all family members are welcome; please wait by the main gate.

Friday 24th April – Year 4 class assembly

Thursday 30th April – Year 1 class assembly

Friday 1st May – Year 2 class assembly

Friday 22nd May – Year 5 class assembly

Friday 5th June – Year 6 class assembly

Friday 12th June – Reception class assembly

Friday 26th June – Year 3 class assembly

Friday 10th July – Year 6 leavers’ speeches assembly

May dates continued

Wednesday 19th – Class photos

Monday 25th – Friday 29th – Half term

June

Week beginning Monday 1st – KS2 Spelling Challenge this week

Sunday 14th, 11am – School choir singing in Church

Wednesday 17th – Whole school photo – we only do this every two years so it would be great to have every child in school to be part of this!

Thursday 18th – non-uniform day – bring a toy and filled jar for the Summer Fair

Friday 19th – INSET Day – no children in school

Tuesday 23rd, pm – New Reception children and parents in school

Friday 26th – non-uniform day – bring a bottle for the Summer Fair

Sunday 28th, 12-2.30pm – Summer Fair

Week beginning 29th – Last after school clubs this week

Monday 29th, pm – Sports Day on the Heath – whole school (reserve for rain: Monday 6th July)

July

Wednesday 1st, pm – Music Performance in the Playground – whole school (reserve for rain: Friday 3rd July)

Thursday 2nd, 2-5pm – Open afternoon

Thursday 2nd, 6pm – Summer Serenade

Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th, 6pm – Year 6 production

Wednesday 8th – information home to parents about classes and staffing for next year

Friday 10th – annual reports sent home to parents

Thursday 16th – Talent show – children only!

Friday 17th, 11.15am – Leavers and End of Year Service – all families warmly invited

Friday 17th, midday – children picked up for the summer holiday!

Wednesday 2nd September – new Years 1-6 back to school



World Happiness Day!