



Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

October 2026

Newsletter 2

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Dear parents, carers and families,

Thank you for all your amazing support over a very positive first month of the new school year, in particular your support with the fabulous Friends' Cake Sale last week and for coming to our Open Classrooms and various parent meetings and workshops so far. It was great to see so many keen and interested parents at our Secondary Transfer and Reception information meetings and at our Phonics workshop this week – thank you for your commitment to your child's learning and to finding out more about how you can support at home and work with us at school.

The month ahead will be busy as we squeeze in our 'Colours and Sparkles for Charlie' Day, raising money for Great Ormond Street Hospital; our Harvest food collection for Muswell Hill Soup Kitchen and Harvest Festival in Church; the first Music Assembly of the year; our residential school journey for Year 6; and our 'Try Something New' week! There are also plenty of trips taking place and our class assemblies start – see lots of dates below and look out for trip letters coming home, and please come and ask if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for all your support in a busy October ahead!

Best wishes, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Welcomes!

A very warm welcome to new children and families who have joined our school recently! Welcome to Adenola, who has joined Year 2; Max, who has joined Year 4; and to Jia, who has joined Year 5.

Also, welcome to new members of staff: welcome to Mr Wood and Mr Kay, who have joined our teaching assistant team, and to Mr Pitman, who has joined us as a school direct trainee teacher this year, working alongside Mr Polidano in Year 4.



Years 3, 5 and 6 have all been to Buckingham Palace, either to take a private tour of the spectacular State Rooms or to do landscape drawing in the gardens!



Year 4 went to the London Buddhist Centre to follow up on their RE learning about Buddhism last year and were able to take part in very calm meditation session.

September trips
Classes have already been very busy taking trips out of school to enrich the learning in the classroom!



A group from Year 6 took third place in a very tricky Maths Challenge Day.

Years 4 and 5 took part in a brilliant Camden Careers Event (organised by Christ Church's Mrs Pagnello and Mr Hollings) with children from lots of different local schools and found out about all sorts of jobs.



Just a tiny number of our team of 64 runners!



Cross country success!

After a super cross country trials event involving every child in KS2, which saw some remarkable performances as well as some amazing sportsmanship and resilience, we sent a large team to the Camden competition. There were some very impressive individual and team results and every point counted towards a brilliant performance against over twenty other schools and with over a thousand other children – congratulations to our whole team!

Dates for this term: **October**

Friday 2nd – Colours and Sparkles for Charlie Day – non uniform, wear anything bright or sparkly and bring a cash donation for Great Ormond Street Hospital please

Monday 5th – Friday 9th – Harvest collection – collecting non-perishable food for the Muswell Hill Soup Kitchen

Thursday 8th – Houses Day – wear house colour top (red, green, yellow, blue)

Friday 9th, 9.50am – Music assembly

Sunday 11th, 11am – Harvest Festival service in Church, school choir singing

wb Monday 12th – 'Try something new' week!

wb Monday 12th – Y6 school journey

wb 19th October – KS2 times table challenge this week

Wednesday 21st – Flu spray immunisation offered to all classes – consent form and information to come

Wednesday 21st, 3.40-7.30pm and Thursday 22nd, 3.40-6.00pm – Parents evenings – all classes

Monday 26th – Friday 30th – Half term

November

wb Monday 2nd – KS2 spelling challenge this week (not Monday)

Tuesday 3rd – individual photos

Sunday 8th, 10.45am – Remembrance Service in Church, school choir singing

wb Monday 9th – PSHE week: Positive relationships and celebrating difference

wb Monday 9th – Y1-6 individual presentations this week: Marvellous Me!

Thursday 12th – Odd socks day! Wear uniform with odd socks to celebrate our differences. We will be collecting donations for an anti-bullying charity.

Parent photos reminder

Please do not take your own photos on school trips either of your own child or of the wider group. School staff will take selected photos for use back in school and to create a 'photo page' which is shared on our [website](#) (and which only includes identifiable children where we have permission to use their photo). You can review the photo permissions you have given us at any time by contacting the school office.

If you are taking photos at class assemblies or other wider school events, [please use and share these wisely](#). Do not share them on social media or post them on the internet and please consider that some parents do not want photos of their children shared at all. Thank you for your support with this.

End of key stage 2 results 2026

Well done and congratulations to last year's pupils and staff for another excellent set of attainment results at the end of last year. The school's Year 6 results and comparisons with provisional local and national data (where available) are included below. Previous years' data and comparisons are on our website [here](#).

Year 6 – 2026 – % of children reaching expected standard (scaled score 100+)

	Reading	Writing	Maths	RWM combined
Christ Church	100%	100%	100%	100%
Camden	84%	80%	84%	76%
National	75%	73%	75%	63%

Year 6 – 2026 – % of children reaching higher standard (scaled score 110+)

	Reading	Writing (greater depth)	Maths	RWM combined
Christ Church	75%	54%	79%	46%
Camden	40%	22%	38%	16%
National	31%	13%	27%	9%

Year 6 – 2026 – average scaled score

	Reading	No scaled score for writing	Maths	Grammar, punctuation and spelling
Christ Church	112.7		113.1	114.1
Camden	108.0		107.5	108.2
National	106		105	105

Year 6 – 2026 – progress score

(a measure of progress between Year 2 and Year 6, with scores usually ranging between -5 to +5)

	Reading	Writing	Maths
Christ Church	+3.7	+4.4	+4.9
Camden	+1.3	+1.2	+1.6
National	nya	nya	nya

You can find our Year 4 multiplication check data, our EYFS (Reception) data and Year 1 phonics check data on our website [here](#).

Information and reminders

School Policies

Staff and governors have recently reviewed the following school policies:

- Allergy Safety Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Policy on children missing or absent from education

You can access all our policies on the website [here](#) or you can ask for paper copies from the office.

Free school meals – expanded criteria

The national criteria for eligibility for Free School Meals have changed from the beginning of September to include all families eligible for Universal Credit. Going forward, there will be two types of eligibility:

• **Targeted FSM:** for households in receipt of universal credit earning £7,400 or less (includes free meals and additional support such as pupil premium). Other educational entitlements such as the Holiday Activities and Food programme will also continue to be based on targeted FSM.

• **Expanded FSM:** households in receipt of universal credit earning above £7,400 (free meals only)

You can check your eligibility here: [Free school meals - Camden Council](#) or ask Mrs Connock for more information. Please note that **all** primary school meals continue to be free in London at the moment in any case, but we do encourage all families who are eligible for Universal Credit to sign up.

Autumn term class assemblies

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

Friday 23rd October – Y6 school journey assembly
 Friday 6th November – Y2 class assembly
 Wednesday 18th November – Y3 class assembly
 Friday 20th November – Y1 class assembly
 Friday 27th November – Reception class assembly
 Wednesday 2nd December – Y5 class assembly
 Friday 4th December – Y4 class assembly

November dates continued

Thursday 26th, 3.20 – 5pm – Christ Church Arts Project whole school art exhibition after school

Friday 27th – non uniform day – bring a second-hand toy and jar filled with sweets/mini toys as a donation for the Fair

Friday 27th, 2.50pm – Y3 and Y5 informal music sharing

wb 30th – last after school clubs this week

December

Wednesday 2nd, 2.50pm – Y4 and Y6 informal music sharing

Friday 4th – non-uniform day – bring a bottle donation for the Fair

Sunday 6th, 12-2.30pm – Christmas Fair

Thursday 10th, 10am – Nativity performance for families (all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children)

Friday 11th – Friends Present Sale

Monday 14th – Christmas Jumper Day – non-uniform day

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

Wednesday 16th, 6pm – School Carol Service in Church

Friday 18th, 11.15pm End of term Christmas Service in Church

Friday 18th, midday – children collected for the holidays

Monday 4th January – children back to school for Spring term



A big thank you to the Friends!

The Friends are funding plenty of enrichment and 'extras' this term, including all the new water bottles, a contribution towards our 'Try Something New' week activities, an upgrade to some of our wifi and the Christmas Pantomime performance! This is all on top of their regular support towards our specialist teaching, the break time fruit and the arts project. Thank you so much for all your support of their events!

Christ Church Hampstead

'Children in Church' services

These are two Sundays each term when our school choir sings in Christ Church for the 11am service, children help with the readings and all families are particularly invited to attend. Of course, all families are very welcome at Christ Church any other Sundays, too!

For the Autumn term 2026, the Sundays are 11th October (Harvest Festival) and 8th November (Remembrance – service starts earlier at 10.45am)