Christ Church School, Hampstead

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

Christchurch Hill, Hampstead, NW3 1JH 020 7435 1361
admin@cchurchnw3.camden.sch.uk www.christchurchschool.co.uk

November 2026
Newsletter 3

Dear parents, carers and families,

Welcome back to the second half of term! After a busy 'Try Something New' week last month (see below for lots of highlights), the next whole school event is our PSHE week on Positive Relationships and Celebrating Differences. We teach our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) in two distinct, but connected, ways at Christ Church:

- teachers regularly make time for 'in the moment' or one-off PSHE lessons or discussions to respond to the needs of the children at the time. This might be responding to friendship issues in the class, a particular game in the playground, the need to talk about privacy or hygiene or responding to something that has taken place in the wider community or world. We also build the key skills associated with PSHE (e.g. team work and cooperation, setting and achieving goals, making good decisions) throughout our curriculum and wider activities every day.
- the main part of our curriculum content for PSHE is taught through a termly PSHE week: Autumn - Positive Relationships and Celebrating Differences; Spring - Keeping Healthy and Safe; and Summer - Living in the Wider World. These whole school weeks enable us to bring classes together for workshops or whole school activities, to create a 'buzz' around PSHE learning and get families involved too. Many schools struggle to fit PSHE lessons into the busy curriculum but we think these topics are so important that we dedicate a whole week each term to making sure that high quality teaching takes place and enough time is given to discussion and learning.

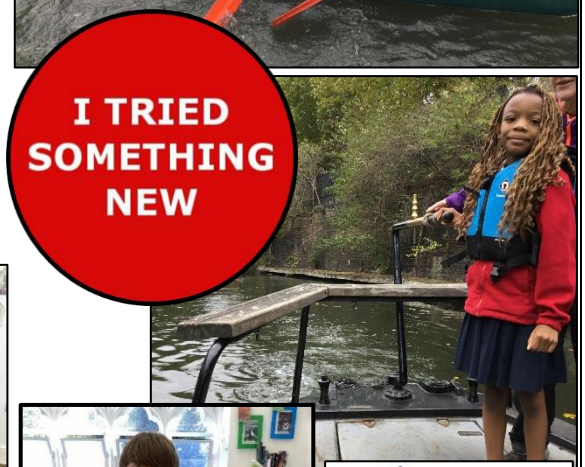
This term's PSHE week is coming up this month. See below for a preview of some of our key whole school activities, including making friendship bracelets to swop with a new friend, our 'Marvellous me!' presentations in Y1-6 and our Anti-Bullying work and Odd Socks Day. I know that parents will be getting involved by supporting with presentations and talking to their children about their important learning over the week – thank you!

Best wishes, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

Try Something New week!

What a brilliant week of trying new things! Children overcame their nerves and their fear of the unknown to pull on a life jacket to try kayaking or steer a canal boat. Everyone had to learn a new skill to have a go at Kurling or show resilience to attempt some of our new creative activities. And children got an immense sense of satisfaction from sharing the freshly-baked focaccia or soda bread they had made from scratch. It was also wonderful to hear about lots of children trying new things at home! A big thank you to Ms Miller for all her organising of the week.















Welcomes!

Welcome to Miia who is joining our Year 6 class. A very warm welcome to Miia and her family!

Dates for this 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: Marvellous Me!

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

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 – families very welcome

wb 30th – last after school clubs this week





Year 6 School Journey!

Year 6 enjoyed a wonderful week away at a PGL Activity centre in Dorset, trying lots and lots of new things! Well done to Year 6 for their teamwork, resilience and independence and an enormous thank you to the staff members who went with them: Mrs Pagnello, Mrs Maguire and Mr Dunbar.





PSHE week preview – Positive Relationships and Celebrating Differences

We are looking forward to learning more about every child in Years 1-6 through their **'Marvellous me!' presentations** and celebrating the differences between us. Perhaps we will learn something brilliant about children's family background or heritage, their particular traditions or cultural festivals, their skills, hobbies or collections, or anything else that makes each one of us special!

Each child in the school will be making a **friendship bracelet** and we swop these with a new friend in a different class in a special playtime, building friendships across the school.



Year 5 will be training as **Anti-Bullying Champions** and Year 6, who were trained last year, will be supporting our Anti-Bullying work and reminders in all the other classes as well as leading an assembly.

Learning in classes will focus on making and building healthy friendships, identifying and expressing our feelings, practical strategies to support our own and others' well-being (with lots of reminders of our Happiness Project themes from last year) and understanding, respecting and celebrating the differences between us all.

House colours day!





We all learnt lots about the people behind the names of our four Houses on our House Colours Day last month, as well as spending time in our House teams creating our new bunting and thinking about the importance of 'belonging to something bigger'.

Information and reminders

Punctuality reminder

Learning starts straight away at 8.50am. **Please make sure your child is in the playground before the bell rings** – don't just aim for before gates close, your child is late and missing out on morning work and important beginning of the day information if they are arriving at this time.

Website reminders

You can find lots of photos of recent events on the news page of our website here and you can also find copies of newsletters and class leaflets, as well as plenty of other information about the school.

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 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

Dates for this term continued:

December

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

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

Thank you!

Thank you very much for your donations for Great Ormond Street Hospital on our Colours and Sparkles for Charlie day last month – we were able to donate an impressive £985 towards their new children's cancer centre.

Thank you also for your generous donations for our Harvest Festival food collection for Camden Foodbank, who told us that the donations are '*urgently required and will be used to fill the emergency food parcels we provide for local adults and children living in food poverty*'.

Thank you to all families for making a difference to others with your donations, which shows that our aspiration for 'life in all its fullness' doesn't just stop at our own Christ Church community.

GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL CHARITY

Camden Foodbank



Remembrance

The whole school will go to Church for a Remembrance Service on 11th November and all families are invited to the Remembrance Sunday service on 8th November at 10.45am. We will also be running our usual Poppy collection (with donations for the Royal British Legion) in our playgrounds and from the front office.