

Christ Church CE (VA) Junior School



NEWSLETTER



SUMMER TERM

Friday 2nd May 2025

Headteacher Update

What a lovely week we have all had this week. It has been so nice to see so much sunshine! The children have certainly enjoyed it this week and have made the most of being outside.

Last week, Chestnuts enjoyed a spot of metal detecting, embedding their previous history learning about Sutton Hoo. The children really enjoyed using Mr Dow's metal detector to explore any exciting finds on the field. Unfortunately, no priceless treasure was found, but great fun was had by all!

Note on Girls' Uniform: we are seeing an increase in the number of girls wearing shorts—which is absolutely fine, as long as they are appropriate. Unfortunately, some of the shorts are the shortest of short and are not appropriate for school uniform. Cycling shorts should only be worn for PE, and should cover the majority of the upper leg. Grey school shorts or navy or red gingham playsuits are fine, but please do not send children in cycling/sports shorts for daily uniform. If children continue to wear inappropriate length shorts, we will provide something else for them to wear during the day. Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter. Also, please do not send children in Crocs. These are not part of school uniform and can be dangerous if children are running at speed.

Thank you and have a lovely weekend.



Upcoming Dates:

- WC 12.5.25 Year 6 SATs Week
- 21.5.25 –23.5.25 Year 6 Residential to Robinwood
- 23.5.25 Break up for Summer half-term
- 2.6.25 School Reopens
- WC 2.6.25 Y4 Multiplication Checks
- 12.6.25 Mr Crabtree in to lead worship
- 19.6.25 Skip2bFit Family Day

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD

Well done this week to our Headteacher's Award winner this week!

Gracie Langdon



Thank you for everything you have done to earn the HT Award this week!

Photo Wall



Attendance

National Attendance Target = 96%

Class	Attendance %	Number of lates (after 9.00am)
Maples	96.2	0
Chestnuts	97.5	1
Sycamores	91.7	1
Whole School	95.1	2

Our Online Safety Information this week:

With grateful thanks to the National Online Safety team (www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



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Term Dates: 2025-26

Please note that these dates are for both Christ Church and Tuel Lane.



Tuel Lane Infant School
and
Christ Church CE (VA) Junior School



Term Dates 2025-26

Autumn Term	Re-open	Wednesday 3 rd September
	Half-term	Friday 24 th October
	Re-open	Monday 3 rd November
	Christmas holiday	Friday 19 th December
Spring Term	Re-open	Tuesday 6 th January
	Half-term	Friday 13 th February
	Re-open	Monday 23 rd February
	Easter holiday	Friday 27 th March
Summer Term	Re-open	Monday 13 th April
	May bank holiday	Monday 4 th May
	Half-term	Friday 22 nd May
	Re-open	Monday 1 st June
	Summer holiday	Friday 17 th July
	INSET Days	Monday 1 st September Tuesday 2 nd September Monday 5 th January Friday 1 st May Monday 20 th July

CHRIST CHURCH CE (VA) JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Maples:

What a wonderfully warm week! In Literacy this week, we have finished writing our newspaper reports, based on the book 'Escape From Pompeii.' The children were able to successfully include eyewitness accounts, punctuating direct speech correctly and challenging themselves to include reported speech. This resulted in incredibly effective reports. In Maths, we have continued to look at shape - considering whether lines are parallel and perpendicular, horizontal or vertical. The children have really taken to this maths unit and are enjoying their new learning. In Art, we have tried our hand at wax Batik as we looked at the work of Yinka Shonibare. We were able to use PVA glue to mimic Batik mixture and we will peel this off and dye our fabrics next week. We have been developing our cricket skills during PE and have even tried to play 'invisible cricket.' Have a lovely, restful weekend. Miss Larkin, Mrs Page, Mrs Clark and Miss Knowles.

Year 4 Mornings:

This week in Year 4 mornings, we have begun a new topic of work in Literacy. We have been finding out about Patience and Fortitude who are the stone lion statues outside the New York Public Library. We have then looked at their adventures as told in the story The Lions At Night. Who knew they enjoyed pizza and rollercoasters? Our writing outcome for this is a newspaper report with shocked eye witnesses detailing what they have seen a pair of lions get up to at night on Coney Island. In Maths we have been continuing our work on decimals, comparing them and ordering them as well as finding out about equivalents for half and quarters. We continue to work on our arithmetic skills and see consistently good scores in our Friday tests. In RE we have been finding out about which religions are found in our local area. In Science we have started a unit of work on Living Things and their Habitats where we have defined what a habitat is and different types of habitats. We have also been exploring our environment to find living things. We used Google lens to identify more types of plants in our grounds and discovered a wide range of species. Have a lovely weekend.

Chestnuts:

Awesome week this week -Chestnuts have really embraced our literacy topic - The Piano. We have learnt and experimented with new vocabulary such as 'nostalgia' and have discussed how flashbacks can add weight to a narrative. In Science we have been looking at the reproduction cycle of plants and in maths we have continued looking at angles - measuring angles and working out missing angles around a point. In PE, we began our Rounders topic - we looked at batting technique - stance and swing and then practised with some good results!



Excellent start to lunchtime football club - well done to those girls who came - same time and place next Wednesday!



Sycamores:

We have had another fabulous week and the beautiful warm weather has made the week even better, so we may have enjoyed some longer afternoon breaks to enjoy the sun. In Literacy this week, we have been doing some poetry; we started reading the poem 'If' by Rudyard Kipling where a father is giving advice to his son on how to be a good person around others and how to cope with the difficulties of life. We first broke down the poem in smaller chunks and thought carefully about what each verse said. Using this poem as inspiration, children wrote a list of advice they'd like to give others and then wrote their own version of the poem which they then recited in front of others. In Maths, we have been looking at circles and we learnt about their parts, we also looked at nets of 3D shapes and finally children had a go at drawing shapes and angles accurately using a ruler and protractors. We have now covered the whole maths curriculum so from next week we will do some general revision to get us ready for SATs and once those are done, we will be getting ready for Y7. This week we have started our new RE unit, 'How and why are Jewish festivals celebrated today? We have learnt about Shabbat, Hannukah and Pesach and why these festivals are important to Jewish people. Have a lovely and restful long weekend and enjoy the bank holiday. Miss Mor and Mrs Smart



CERTIFICATE WINNERS

MAPLES: Charlie Doyle & Isla-Mae Smythe

CHESTNUTS: Ol Martin & Ruby Liddle

SYCAMORES: Jacob Houseby & Hayley Har-

Christian Values Certificates

Each week, we choose one person from each class who has exemplified one of our Christian Values throughout the week.

The winners this week are:

Ilsa Lawrence

Grace Khulumula

Luca Lee

