

Christ Church CE (VA) Junior School



NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN TERM

Friday 5th December 2025

Headteacher Update

This week we welcomed Mr Stimpson from Nationwide to deliver sessions across all year groups about money. Children found out about methods of paying and earning money. This fits in with our PSHE sessions and recognizes the importance of developing financial awareness. There were lots of very interesting questions asked by the children—even one about tax! It was good to hear about the excellent discussions they had in class. Thanks for coming in, Mr Stimpson.

Also this week we were delighted to be awarded the Music Mark for our school. The Music Mark is assessed by Calderdale Music Trust, looking at schools that are showing dedication and improvement in music. It looks at what we as a school are doing in Music, as well as the links we are trying to create and the experiences that we provide the children in our school with. Thanks to Miss Larkin (our Music Lead) for driving this and helping us achieve the mark.

Have a lovely weekend!

Upcoming Dates:

- 10.12.25 Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
- 11.12.25 Maples Nativity Performance 2pm
- 12.12.25 Christmas Fair at school
- 15.12.25 Christmas Film Night
- 18.12.25 Christmas Carol Service at church
- 19.12.25 School closes for Christmas

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD

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



Sienna

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	90.3%	8
Chestnuts	97% ★	8
Sycamores	94.7%	3
Whole School	93.7%	19



Tuel Lane Infant School

Is your child due to start school in September 2026?

We would love you to be part of our school family! We are a thriving, happy and nurturing school—one where all children flourish! We pride ourselves on our inclusive, family-focused approach and would therefore like to extend an invitation to come and look round our school if you are thinking about a Reception place for September 2026.

"Children get a positive start to their education in the early years. Staff build warm, nurturing relationships with the children. The school provides a well-structured, ambitious curriculum. Staff promote early language development successfully." Ofsted, June 2025

Did you know...we also have limited space for either 15 or 30 hours of funding for Nursery age children? Please contact the office for more information.



Some of the things we offer:

- Friendly and supportive staff team
- Ambitious and aspirational curriculum
- Creativity at the heart of everything we do
- Recognition of the uniqueness of every child
- Wraparound Childcare at our Mighty Oaks provision

Please contact the school office if you would like to come and look round to see if we are the school for you!

CONTACT US

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Please follow the QR code
to book a place on one of
our Open Days.



admin@tuelane.calderdale.sch.uk



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert: potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

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Advice for Parents & Carers

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CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat. Instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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Term Dates: 2025-6

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

Year 3 Mornings:

We've had a wonderful and productive two weeks in Year 3 and we have show lots of curiosity and perseverance, especially during our assessment week. The children approached assessments with maturity and confidence, which was excellent to see. In Literacy, we have been focusing on comparing Prince Cinders and Cinderella, exploring their similarities and differences. The children enjoyed discussing how their personalities are created. In Maths, we have moved on to multiplying a 2-digit by a 1-digit number. It was great to see the children use their new times table knowledge to support them with their learning. In RE, we explored the Seder plate and learned about the symbolism and significance of each element in the context of the Jewish celebration of Passover. The children asked thoughtful questions and demonstrated great respect and interest in learning about the Jewish faith. In Science, we went outdoors to investigate what rocks can be found around our school. The children enjoyed examining different textures, colours and properties and were able to discuss how rocks are used in everyday structures and why some may be more suitable than other. Please join us in congratulating the children on their excellent determination and resilience this week—their positive attitudes have made us really proud. We have lots of exciting things on the horizon and can't wait to enjoy some Christmas cheer with the children. Miss Larkin and Mrs Mudd.

Year 4 Mornings:

In English, we wrapped up our dramatic *Iron Man* monologues with real flair and have now started exploring the magical world of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, which everyone is loving. In maths, we've been consolidating our place value learning and have now moved on to addition and subtraction, tackling challenges with confidence and enthusiasm.

Maples

We've had a busy and exciting time in class! Our nativity rehearsals are in full swing as we practise lines and songs ready for the big performance, and in PE we've been working hard on our fitness and ball skills, showing great teamwork and energy.

Mr Dow and Mrs Mudd.



Sycamores:

It has been another busy but very productive week in Sycamores. Children have been doing their assessments this week and it is lovely to see all the progress they have made in the 3 months they have been in Y6. We are all so proud of you Sycamores, keep it up! In literacy we have been reading Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'. We have been analysing the character of Ebenezer Scrooge and how he changes through the story. In Maths, we have continued our work with ratio; this week we have been enlarging shapes by specific scale factors and we have been looking at similar shapes. In History we have been looking at Victorian schools and children have been thinking about the differences between classrooms now and then. This week in Science we have planned and conducted our voltage investigations - we have been looking at the effects on a buzzer of using different voltages in a circuit. Next week, we will evaluate our investigations. Children also had their water safety lesson in swimming; children went in the pool with their clothes on and learnt how to float and get to the side safely, which is not always easy when you are wearing thick clothes. In DT we have continued making our slippers, starting with the soles then thinking carefully about how the uppers will be made. Have a restful weekend. Miss Mor and Miss Firth.



CHRIST CHURCH CE (VA) JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Chestnuts:

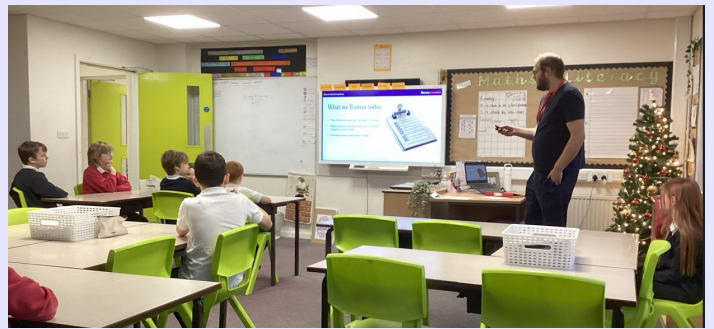
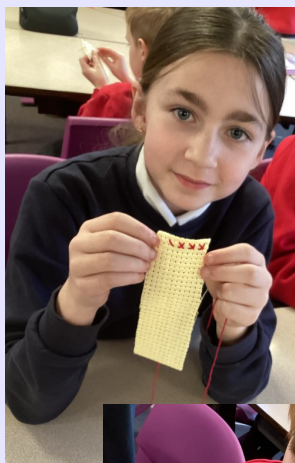
Over the past two weeks, Chestnuts have been extremely busy. Year 5 have started their journey with the street wardens, undertaking their first task. The children met with Jonny and PCSO Liz to discuss road safety before creating their own road safety posters. Everyone did a fabulous job. Year 4 and 5 met with Miss Cross from Phunky Foods to learn about what the company do and how the children can become ambassadors.



Thank you to everyone who took on board parents evening comments and have supported with reading at home and practicing spellings, we have noticed a huge difference - particularly with spelling scores. Thank you for your continued support. Now it's time for the festivities, we have lots of lovely things planned over the next couple of weeks.

Have a lovely weekend! - Miss Crawshaw, Miss Taylor and Mrs Clark.

Photo Wall...



Certificates

CERTIFICATE WINNERS

Y3: Riley and Oskah

Y4: Lyla and Riley

Y5: All of Chestnuts and Thomas

Y6: James and Morgan

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:

All of the children in Year 3

Manissa

Samuel

All of Sycamores

