

Christ Church CE (VA) Junior School



NEWSLETTER



SPRING TERM

Friday 3rd October 2025

Headteacher Update

As always, we've been busy in school with lots of amazing things going on!

We had our first visit this year from Dave who led our Skip 2B Fit sessions with his usual enthusiasm and energy which helped us all keep going and work hard. He will be back after Christmas but in the meantime... let's keep skipping!

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our coffee morning for Macmillan and our Art Open afternoon. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers in school and the classrooms were packed for the art afternoons. Thank you to all the parents who got stuck in and were creative alongside the children - clearly we have lots of talented families, judging from the artwork that was produced!

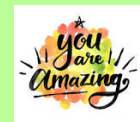
We have now appointed our new School Councillors for this year, who have been presented with their badge and certificate of congratulations. I am sure they will all do an amazing job at representing their classes and being a voice for their peers who have voted them in. Well done.

Upcoming Dates:

- 16.10.25 Harvest Festival service in church 9:30am
- 22.10.25 Y6 Height and Weight checks
- 24.10.25 School closes for half term
- 3.11.25 School re-opens

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD

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



James Brook

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

Photo Wall



Attendance

National Attendance Target = 96%

Well done everyone!!

Superb attendance.

Class	Attendance %		Number of lates (after 9.00am)
Maples	97.6	★	1
Chestnuts	96.7	★	1
Sycamores	96.0	★	0
Whole School	96.8	★	2



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

01422 831221

Clay Street, Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2RD

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



admin@tuelane.calderdale.sch.uk



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

CREATING FAMILY RULES FOR USING DEVICES

A set of family rules agreed on with children can promote the safe, responsible use of devices like tablets, smartphones, gaming consoles and computers. By developing rules around technology, it opens the conversation regarding boundaries and expectations, ensuring a healthy balance of screentime. This guide will help you to develop an age-appropriate family agreement to suit your household.

1 WORK TOGETHER

Collaborating with children when setting rules around the use of technology is a valuable task that can encourage them to take more ownership. It's important to make rules which reflect your family and are age appropriate. Think about what you all enjoy doing online and what apps, games or devices children use most frequently.

2 AGREE TIME LIMITS AND SUITABLE TIMES

Be realistic when setting screen time limits. These can vary depending on the child's age, whether it's a weekday or weekend, and what they're actually doing online. If they're conducting research for homework, that might require more time than if they were playing games. Consider when screen time begins: does it come after chores and homework? Agree times when technology and phones must be put away.

3 ENCOURAGE HONESTY

Family rules ensure that everyone can have fun with their devices and be safe while doing so. Nonetheless, children may make mistakes as they learn to navigate the online world. Emphasise that if they ever feel worried, unsafe or upset about something they've done, sent, said or received, they should tell you immediately so you can help them resolve the problem.

4 CHARGING AND OVERNIGHT STORAGE

To ensure children get the downtime they need overnight, it's important that devices – especially smartphones – are kept in a common space, where possible. This reduces the chance of pointless late-night scrolling or sleep being disturbed by calls, messages or notifications. There are charging boxes you can purchase, or all gadgets could be charged in the kitchen overnight to avoid distractions.

5 REVIEW RULES REGULARLY

Anything you agree on isn't set in stone. These rules will likely alter as children get older and the way they use technology changes. Take time to review these as a family; discuss what's working, and what isn't. Communication is key – so by doing this, you involve the child in their own online safety while promoting an open dialogue.

6 PROTECT PERSONAL INFO

Discuss and demonstrate the importance of protecting your personal information. Talk about what details you share online and who with. Use parental controls to block children from connecting with strangers, so that any information they do share is among their real friends. Ask a child's permission before posting any photos of them on social media, as this demonstrates positive online behaviour that they should learn and remember.

7 BE RESPECTFUL

Highlight the importance of showing respect to others when using technology. Encourage children to speak kindly to others online – such as on social media, when playing multiplayer games or in group chats (which can often lend themselves to teasing behaviour). Explain that if they aren't treating others considerately, they might be made to stay away from their devices for a while.

8 "NO TECH" ZONES

Designating spaces in the house where technology isn't allowed (for example: bedrooms, bathrooms and at the dinner table) lets you keep an eye on what children are viewing and who they're communicating with. It gives you some quality, screen-free time with them, too. It also helps reduce any impulses to potentially engage with inappropriate content, as they're unlikely to do so in a common space within the home.

9 AGREE ON CONSEQUENCES

As a family, discuss why the rules are important: to balance their screentime, to ensure everyone enjoys gaming or interacting online, and that they are safe when doing so. Therefore, if these rules are broken, there has to be a consequence. Discuss what would be fair for certain breaches of the rules, as this can prevent a disproportionate response in the future.

10 KNOW ALL PASSWORDS

To protect children from inappropriate content, parents should have access to all passwords. Parents should also make it clear that they will check children's devices, should they have any concerns about their use. Emphasise that this isn't due to a lack of trust but is an extra way of keeping them safe.

Meet Our Expert

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



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/tips-for-creating-family-rules-for-using-devices

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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:

What a fantastic 2 weeks we've had in class! Here's a little look at what we've been busy learning!

In Literacy, we explored the story of Hansel and Gretel by Anthony Browne. We focused on setting descriptions and learned how to use prepositions to make our writing more vivid and descriptive. The children created some fantastic pieces, imagining the dark, twisted forest. We then worked on short narrative retells, using our own words to retell the story with detail and creativity. The children are becoming such confident storytellers! In Maths, we began our work on addition and subtraction, using our place value knowledge to support us. We tackled the challenge of crossing 10s and 100s, which was tricky at first, but everyone showed brilliant perseverance. We're so proud of how the children are building their resilience and applying their understanding to solve problems. In RE, our focus was on the Bible. We talked about how it can be viewed as a book of guidelines or a manual from God to help people live their lives. The children had thoughtful discussions and asked great questions, showing maturity and respect for what people believe.

Year 4 Mornings:

Our writing has been inspired by the beautiful picture book *Float* by Daniel Miyares. The children have been working hard to craft vivid setting descriptions using a range of figurative language, including similes and personification. They've also explored how to use dialogue and "show, don't tell" techniques to bring their sentences to life and deepen the reader's understanding of character emotions.

We've now begun a new writing unit based on Disney's short animation *Feast*. The children are building effective sentences and developing their narrative skills as they work towards retelling the story from a unique perspective. It's been a brilliant way to explore character development and emotional storytelling.

In RE, we've been studying religious artwork, focusing on pieces by Verrocchio and Bonnell that depict the Baptism of Jesus. The children reflected on how these artworks represent the Trinity and then created their own visual interpretations of the Baptism Story. Their thoughtful and expressive pieces show a growing understanding of Christian beliefs and symbolism.

In our Fundamentals PE unit, we've been developing skills in attacking and defending within team games. The children have shown great enthusiasm and teamwork as they learn how to find space, evade a marker and pass and move.

Maples

In Art, we were inspired by the abstract works of Joan Miró and Wassily Kandinsky. We continued to learn about the key features of abstract art and explored how artists use shapes, lines, and colours to express feelings and ideas. The highlight was creating our very own 3D sculptures, taking inspiration from Miró's playful and imaginative style. The classroom is now full of colourful, eye-catching creations!



We participated in Skip2BFit last week and it was amazing to see the children really push themselves at every station, making sure they gave the session their all whilst displaying excellent teamwork and friendship.

Please could we ask that you try to read with your child on an evening, it really does help them with all aspects of learning. As always, thank you for your continued support. Miss Larkin and Mrs Mudd.

Sycamores:



We have had another busy but very productive week in Sycamores. In literacy we have started our new book 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. We started by researching what life was like in ancient China, especially for girls, as this is where our story is set. We had a look at images of an ancient Chinese village and we used these to create a word bank which we then used to write a setting description. In Maths, we have been focusing on division. Children revised short division (Bus Stop method) and then we had a go at long division. This is a new method for children and it can be a little bit tricky to start with, however, they all worked very hard and gave it a good go. We are very impressed at how well they have coped with it and we will carry on doing some work on it for the next few weeks to consolidate this learning. In Science we have continued to look at living things, this week, we have been sorting organisms in different groups. This week we also had the 'Get to know you Open Classroom' art afternoon, it was lovely to see those that could make it and as always, we are very grateful and appreciative of your support. Miss Firth and Mor.

CHRIST CHURCH CE (VA) JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Chestnuts:

Chestnuts are fully settled into their new routines now and it is really lovely to see such a calm atmosphere in the classroom. We have continued focussing on our Christian Values in Worship, so far, we have covered friendship, trust and wisdom and the children have offered fantastic reflections throughout. Our new pupil leadership responsibilities have started for some of our Year 5 friends, who have become amazing play leaders, setting up a variety of games and ensuring nobody feels left out during play times. During our afternoons, we have continued to be very busy with music and ukuleles, swimming, PE and outdoor learning with Mrs Piggot. The children are receiving wonderful opportunities to learn new skills, persevere and demonstrate our Christian Values with pride and a smile on their face. We have had a visit from Dave at Skip 2B Fit and the children were super impressed with themselves for their excellent skipping skills and their level of fitness during Box 2B Fit, everybody gave every activity 100% and looked like they were having a brilliant time. On Thursday, we welcomed you into the classroom for our open art afternoon, and we hope you enjoyed getting a feel for what it is like in Chestnuts - thank you for coming in and participating. Polite reminder: it is our school expectation that children read at home for at least 15 minutes, please do try find the time to do this with your child as it is vital in their development of reading. If you are reading at home, please sign your child's reading record so we are aware. Thank you! - Miss Crawshaw, Miss Taylor and Mrs Clark



Photo Wall...



Certificates

CERTIFICATE WINNERS

Y3: William & Olivia

Y4: Charlie C & Manissa

Y5: Edison & Charlotte

Y6: Sienna & Eddie

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:

India-Rose

Ellie

Paton

Millicent

