



Our **Vision** is to be a...

**Caring Community,  
Courageously Learning,  
Inspired to Live Life to the Full.**



@CCIDownend

*Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life and have it to the full." | (John 10:10)*

## CCI NEWS #13

## 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025

[www.christchurchinfants.co.uk](http://www.christchurchinfants.co.uk)

[christchurchinfants@gmail.org.uk](mailto:christchurchinfants@gmail.org.uk)

### Dates for Term 2

- Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 9am** – CCI tour for current Y2 parents
- W/B: 8<sup>th</sup> Dec** – KS1 Nativities (Mon Peng/Tue Zeb/Wed Cheet/Thu Croc/Fri Gir) Friends Christmas Wrap, Worship at CCD
- Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Dec** – 2.30pm Choir concert
- Tue 16<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Theatre trip for Y1 & Friends Father Christmas visit
- Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Theatre trip for Y2, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Lunch, 9am EYFS singalong
- Thu 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 9am** - Parent Council meeting & 2.30pm Rocksteady concert
- Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Last day of T2, Christmas Parties, non-uniform & Hot Choc. awards
- T3 starts on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January (no Inset Day)**
- Tue 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 9-10am** -Sleep workshop with school nurse
- Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 3.45-5.15pm** - Zebra throwing & catching festival
- Tue 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 9-10am** - Skills connect coffee morning – (details to follow)
- Thu 29<sup>th</sup> Jan & Tue 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 3.30-6.30pm** – Parent/Teacher meetings
- Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Inset Day (no school for children)
- 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Wonder Week including Jungle Jonathan, Explorer Dome and an Art Gallery at CD 3.30-4.30pm on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb for families

### Weekly update from Anna Martin

What a wonderful week it has been in school! We began with a truly special moment during worship on Monday, where every child had the chance to hang their own handmade Christmas decoration on our school tree. The care and creativity that went into each decoration made the tree absolutely shine and seeing the children so proud of their contributions set a very positive tone for the week ahead.



Our Year 1 children also enjoyed a memorable visit to the church for Experience Christmas. During their time there, the children moved in small groups around beautifully prepared stations, each one telling a different part of the Christmas story.

Through hands-on activities, thoughtful reflection, and gentle guidance, the children were able to explore the events leading up to Christmas in a meaningful and engaging way. They later gathered together as a whole class for the final station, bringing all the elements of the experience together.



### Christ Church Schools' Partnership



Last week, CCJ welcomed Mrs Martin and Mr Jones into classrooms across the school so that the infants could see how older children learn across the wider curriculum and understand the expectations for pupils in Key Stage 2.

This collaboration will help leaders from both schools reflect on how learning varies depending on age and need, and identify which aspects of provision could be adjusted to make transition even stronger.

Y3 families at CCJ have also been invited to complete a transition survey so that both schools and their governing bodies can reflect on what is working well and what, if anything, could be improved.

## Collective Worship

**Monday** – Each child decorated the Christmas tree to mark the start of advent.

**Tuesday** – We welcomed David Bowden (Amira's father) and his Puppet Team in today to act out the Nativity story.

**Wednesday** – Worship was cancelled due to the EYFS theatre performance.

**Thursday** – The children thought about showing courage to care, exploring the story of Moses and how he wouldn't have survived if Pharaoh's daughter had not show compassion.

**Friday** – The children learnt about spirituality in the context of the world. They heard the story of Clair Cline and his violin and how he made one to play whilst he was a prisoner of war in Germany in World War 2.

## EYFS Theatre Performance

Our EYFS children loved the Bristol Old Vic travelling performance of 'Once upon a Winter' today, generously funded by the Friends. The story gently explored neurodiversity through a magical journey, showing children that their differences aren't obstacles but special strengths that make them who they are. Huge thank you to Miss Robbins for organising and the Friends team for making it possible.



## Living the Values



**This week's school children's award** goes to Jasper in Penguins, who brought in £1 of his own money to put into the Christingle collection.

**The staff award** goes to **Mrs Rylands** who made sure she wore glasses to school (she doesn't normally) to make one of her children feel positive about his new glasses.

**This week's children's home awards** go to:

**Summer G in Lions** - Summer's sister Poppy was poorly last week and the first thing Summer did when she came out of school was to ask how Poppy was feeling and went straight home to make a get well soon card for her.

**Jeniece in Zebras** – Is always showing compassion at home. At a party recently she saw a child was upset because he couldn't get his shoes off to get into the play area, but Jeniece encouraged him and waited for him to finish and let him go before her.

**Marcos in Penguins** - Marcos showed lovely compassion at home this week when he noticed that we were busy and tired after dinner. Without being asked, he offered to help putting the dishes in the dishwasher.

**Ellie in Panda Class** - She always show so much empathy and compassion when others are not well. When her mummy was ill recently she got her a blanket and a love heart, also offering her favourite toys to cuddle.

**Thea in Pandas** – her dog recently had an operation and Thea sat by her stroking her gently to sooth her when our dog wasn't able to move around in her normal way. Thea showed compassion and empathy for the out dog whilst she was struggling.

**Osian and Emlyn (Tigers & Lions)** were sad about homeless people after seeing an individual sleeping in a doorway. They did a food shop and they suggested things that they could buy and then took the food to a Food Bank.

## Men's mental health matters too

We are keen to support the Dad's in our community who may need support with their mental health. P

lease see the poster opposite and the details below for two local groups.

<https://talkclub.org/event/emersons-green-talk-club-12/>

Talk. Listen. Together. 'Talk Club' is based around the mental health of males aged 18+.

Welcome to Emersons Green Talk Club. Join us each week to measure, build and maintain your mental health. We start off the session by asking 'How are you? Out of 10?'. There are 4 rounds in total, ending with a Check Out. A better description of the session can be found here: [youtu.be/o8s6IJUd4I4](https://youtu.be/o8s6IJUd4I4)

Any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact [daryljhembrough@gmail.com](mailto:daryljhembrough@gmail.com) or [johnwiggin92@gmail.com](mailto:johnwiggin92@gmail.com)

Join the online community at [talkclub.org](http://talkclub.org) and follow on socials using the handle @TalkClubUK

**EMERSONS GREEN BROTHERHOOD**

**A SPACE WHERE men CAN STEP AWAY FROM DAILY STRESS, CONNECT WITH OTHERS, AND BUILD NEW FRIENDSHIPS.**

This isn't a substitute for professional help, but rather a place where men can openly share their struggles, support one another, and be guided toward the help they may need.

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brotherhood@emersonsgreenfc.co.uk

Every other Friday 6-8pm at Emersons Green Football Club

Dates: 16 Apr, 30 Apr, 14 May, 28 May, 11 Jun, 25 Jun, 9 Jul, 23 Jul, 6 Aug, 20 Aug



EYFS	Y1	Y2
<p><b>Being an author:</b> In Drawing Club this week our story has been: 'A Dark, Dark, Tale. The children have really enjoyed drawing a cat and then writing a CVC word or a sentence to describe their drawing. In our adventure time session, we have thinking about what animal may have been hiding under the stairs that the cat heard. It has been great fun using our imaginations and drawing what they believe the cat may have seen. We have then labelled our pictures with CVC words in order to explain them.</p>	<p><b>Being an author:</b> This week we have been writing non-fiction. Last Friday, the children made their own Christmas decorations for the school tree and this week we have been writing our own set of instructions.</p>	<p><b>Being an author:</b> This week in our writing we have been learning about imperative verbs (bossy verbs), which tell us to do something. We have then been using these verbs to help us to start learning about writing instructions. Building on previous learning we are including noun phrases, conjunctions so and but and extended sentences in our writing.</p>
<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Can you use the connective 'and' in your sentence to describe where your animal is?</p>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Children to use a range of imperative verbs.</p>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> We are challenging ourselves to recall all of the steps that we used to create our Christmas decorations last week.</p>
<p><b>Being a mathematician:</b> Our focus in maths this week has making number bonds to 5. We have practiced using 5 frames and doubled sided coloured counters to make number bonds to 5. Once we have created these, we have been learning our stem sentences e.g. <math>1+4=5</math>, <math>2+3=5</math>.</p>	<p><b>Being a mathematician:</b> Our focus has been to add and subtract one and two-digit numbers within 20, including zero. We began the week with practical working with counters and tens frames and progressed to counting back on a number line. Practising counting backwards from 20 can really support your children at home.</p>	<p><b>Being a mathematician:</b> As mathematicians we have been continuing learning about 3D shapes. This week we have comparing 3D shapes and their properties, sorting 3D shapes and reasoning about 3D shapes and also creating more complex repeating patterns using 3D shapes.</p>
<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Can you write the number sentences to match all the 5 frame number bonds that you have made e.g. <math>1+4=5</math></p>	<p><b>Extension challenge: Reasoning</b></p> 	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> We have been challenging ourselves to answer questions such as 'Which 3D shape could I be looking at?' Thinking about there being more than one answer to the question.</p>
<p><b>Enquiry: 'What is Darkness'</b> In our enquiry session this week we have been completing our enquiry challenge of making a den. We have thought about what resources we might need to make a den and then made a list. Each class used loose parts to build dens outside. We were looking at: 'How can we make it darker? And What would make it cosier?'</p>	<p><b>Enquiry: 'How can we travel the world?'</b> We have been answering the question - Where are the 7 continents of the world? We have listened to a continents song and also a song for compass directions. The children have labelled the continents on a map of the world.</p>	<p><b>Enquiry: 'How can we travel the world?'</b> This week we have been focusing on learning our Nativity play within our classes and so we will return to our enquiry next week once we have done our final performance. We have been so impressed with the children learning all of their words.</p>
<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Can you write instructions on how to build a great den?</p>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Which continents are North, South, East and West?</p>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> It is a challenge to make sure that if you have to speak in the play, you can be heard from the back of the hall – we have been working really hard on being loud and clear in our speech.</p>

## Out of School Achievements



Ralph is doing so well with his swimming lessons. He has completed stage 2 and achieved his 20m badge!

Well Done  
Roux, Star of  
the week at  
Tennis



## Christmas Dinner

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Please ensure you have booked your child's Christmas Dinner via ParentPay

Roast Turkey or Quorn Stuffing  
Pigs in Blankets  
Roast Potatoes  
Carrots & Sprouts  
Gravy  
Festive Iced Biscuits

## Reception 2026- School Tour

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 3.30 – 4.30pm**

Our final school tour will be held next Thursday at 3.30pm.

School applications for infant school admission September 2026 must be submitted no later than

**15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

## An Advent calendar of stories

Throughout December the staff at CCI are recording a Christmas story for you and child to watch each day. If you have missed any of the stories so far, please visit our website, on the curriculum page, being a reader or use the link below to find them – just click on the star to reach the story that was shared on that date – see which teachers you can spot!



<https://www.christchurchinfants.co.uk/being-a-reader-1/>

## Term Dates 2025/26

Term	Start	End
Term 1	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 25	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 25
Term 2	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 25	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 25
Term 3	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 26	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 26
Term 4	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 26	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 26
Term 5	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 26	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 26
Term 6	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 26	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 26

**Remaining Inset Days**  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 26  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 26  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 26

## Christmas Wrap bookings end at 3pm today

**CHRISTMAS WRAP**

WEDNESDAY 10TH DEC  
*During school hours*

This Christmas, the Friends of CCI are hosting a pre-payment shopping experience in school for all children to have the opportunity to choose a gift for any special ADULTS in their family. The children go to the hall to choose their gifts and the hand-picked presents will be sent home wrapped and ready to place under the tree.

Available now on ParentPay  
until the 5th of December  
**£4 per gift**  
**Max 4 gifts per child**

Organised by the Friends of CCI | Charity Number: 1038497  
All raised funds go to support the school and school activities.

If you would like us to share your child's achievements of any sort, please email them to [christchurchinfants@gmail.org.uk](mailto:christchurchinfants@gmail.org.uk) and we will pop them on the weekly newsletter.