



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 #11

21st November 2025



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Dates for Term 2

- Tue 25th Nov 3.45-5.15pm** - Penguin Striking festival at Mangotsfield
 - Fri 28th Nov 3.10pm** - Friends Christmas jumper/PJ/toy sale
 - Mon 1st Dec** - Tiger trip to Library
 - Tue 2nd Dec 9am** - Mental Health & Well-being information session/coffee morning at CCI for both schools.
 - Wed 3rd Dec** - EYFS Theatre performance at CCI
 - Thu 4th & Wed 10th Dec 9am** - CCI tour for current Y2 parents
 - W/B: 8th Dec** - KS1 Nativities (Mon Peng/Tue Zeb/Wed Cheet/Thu Croc/Fri Gir) Friends Christmas Wrap, Worship at CCD
 - Mon 15th Dec** - 2.30pm Choir concert
 - Tue 16th Dec** - Theatre trip for Y1 & Friends Father Christmas visit
 - Wed 16th Dec** - Theatre trip for Y2, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Lunch, 9am EYFS singalong
 - Thu 18th Dec 9am** - Parent Council meeting & 2.30pm Rocksteady concert
 - Fri 19th Dec** - Last day of T2, Christmas Parties, non-uniform & Hot Choc. awards
- T3 starts on Monday 5th January (no Inset Day)**

Weekly update from Anna Martin

Our Challenge Support Partner (CSP) visited CCI this week to review teaching, learning, behaviour and leadership across the school. We are delighted to share some of the highlights from the day.

In EYFS, the CSP was particularly impressed by the immersive and engaging writing opportunities, noting how many children were independently choosing to write within the continuous provision.

In Key Stage 1, the CSP praised the clarity of modelling and the thoughtful approaches used to reduce cognitive load, helping all pupils access learning successfully.



Across the school, the CSP observed excellent behaviour in every class, alongside high-quality teaching with well-designed scaffolds that supported all learners to achieve their best.

We would also like to recognise the incredible dedication of our staff, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to plan creative writing lessons and resources that genuinely excite and inspire our children. **A huge thank you to them for their hard work and unwavering commitment to the children of CCI.**



Christ Church Schools' Partnership



On Friday, Mrs Osborne and Mrs Martin, along with some of our foundation governors and Church colleagues will be attending the annual Diocese of Bristol education conference. This is always an excellent opportunity for us to network with other Church schools; be challenged to evolve our approach; and explore ways of further strengthening our schools' Christian distinctiveness, whilst being invitational and inclusive to all families.

This year, Julia Watts (Diocesan advisor and CCJ governor) and Mrs Osborne have also been asked to speak at the conference on the strength of the Church school partnership in working together to support our families. We are really proud that the work of both our schools has been recognised and celebrated in this way.

Collective Worship

Monday – We explored the Bible Story of the Good Samaritan and our GLOW team helped the children to understand this by bringing it to life with incredible acting.

Tuesday – Mrs Jenkins led our termly worship explaining the new PSHE Jigsaw theme for the term, which is 'Celebrating Difference'.



Wednesday – Achievement and reading raffle prizes

Thursday – No Worship due to photos

Friday – The children were exploring spirituality with Mr Jones and were starting with 'self'. The theme was 'Jealousy – I want it all!'.

Winter clothing

It has been so exciting for the children to see a little bit of snow before school this week, something we didn't think would happen in November and it caught many of us by surprise.

We do have a few spare warm winter coats, if you need one for your child, please just ask. Lots of the children were complaining they were cold at playtimes this week so please do make sure they have a warm coat with a hood for the winter months. Hats and gloves are great but they often get lost so please name these.

Shoes also need to be practical for playtimes so anything that isn't watertight is probably best to save until Spring now please. Mittens can be useful for younger ones as gloves can be tricky to put on.



Living the Values



This week's school children's awards go to:

Harry and Willow in Giraffes - who have both shown compassion towards each other this week. Willow went on a hunt around the school to find ear defenders for Harry as someone else was using his and Harry felt nervous to go into the classes on his own. Then later in the week, Willow was upset and Harry sat with her and kept putting his arm around her to comfort her.

The staff awards go to Mrs Marsh, Miss King and Mrs Mills. Mrs Marsh put some very sad news to one side to allow her to be able to support Penguin Class in a recent observation. Miss King kindly took time out of her study day today to take a friend's children to school because their Mummy was feeling ill. Mrs Mills showed compassion to a parent in her class after a very challenging week last week.

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

Carys in Cheetahs - showed compassion to her little sister by letting her open one of her birthday presents when she was feeling sad that she didn't have any.

Hattie in Tigers - for thinking of Mrs Marsh by creating a colourful picture for her to brighten up her day a little.

Thea in Tigers - waited for her friend who sometimes finds it difficult to go in to class, she waited for her at the gate, held her hand and they walked in together, her dad commented that was the best she'd ever gone in to class!

Hugo in Giraffes - he found a gingerbread ornament and was very excited. He then heard that someone in Y4 at CCJ had lost it so delivered it to their house despite being very keen on keeping it.

Leah in Cheetahs - Another parent has nominated Leah as their little Tiger was really upset at going into school one day so Leah went over to comfort her and to help her get to class.

Cain in Zebras - saw that his brother had fallen over, so ran straight over to help him up and wheeled his scooter for him because he was hurt.

Robyn G in Cheetahs - showed great compassion this week by giving away some of her nicest toys for other children to enjoy at Christmas.

Isla C in Zebras - when her brother fell over in the playground and cut his hands, Isla comforted him, making sure he made his way to first aid. Isla followed this up by looking after him when he returned to the play area.

Update on yellow zig-zag markings

We have escalated our frustration over the ineffective yellow zig-zags around our school to local councillors Ben Burton and Raj Sood, after our many reports to the LA have been ignored. Both have responded immediately and are supporting our school to raise this concern. The delay is apparently due to an area parking review (that we took part in during 2020) and now the LA are saying they can't complete any road markings from November until March.

We will keep going with this but ask that you do park carefully around the school, avoiding the existing yellow zig-zags to keep everyone safe.



EYFS	Y1	Y2
<p>Being an author: In Drawing Club this week our story has been: 'Wow its night time'. We have been focusing on nocturnal animals. In our character session we focused on bats, we each drew our own bat and then wrote a CVC word, or a sentence about our bat. In our Adventure time session, we were looking at owls, and asked the question: what do you think the owls were dreaming of when they were sleeping on the branches? The children each drew what they thought the owls were dreaming of and then labelled their picture with a CVC word.</p>	<p>Being an author: This week we focused on using and to join sentences. The children wrote sentences from the story such as 'The sun is hot and the well is dry.' We have drawn our own story maps ready to begin retelling our story next week.</p>	<p>Being an author: This week our grammar focus has been using the conjunction 'but' as we extend sentences. We have learnt that 'but can used to show contrast in a sentence – 'She was thirsty but she was able to keep climbing the mountain'. We applied our learning as we wrote the end of the story 'Lila and the Secret of the Rain'. We then altered the story map so that we could write our own version of the story – using our own main character and some of our own ideas for making the rain come.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you draw a picture of another nocturnal animal and label it with a CVC word.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Using the story for inspiration, can you think of your own sentences that you could join using 'and'.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We have challenged ourselves to use a range of the conjunctions that we have been learning throughout our writing.</p>
<p>Being a mathematician: Our focus in maths this week has been using positional language to describe how items are positioned in relation to other items. We have been using the vocabulary: in, on, under, above, below, in front of, behind. We have been practicing understanding position through words alone e.g. The bag is under the table. In addition, we have been asking question like: James says the car is on the bed, is he correct? Then asking the children to answer in full sentences explaining their answers.</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: This week we have been applying our knowledge of place value to 20 by comparing numbers, finding one more and one less and plotting numbers on a number line.</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: We have continued to explore money this week, solving problems that include money and giving change. We have tried to think about how to make specific amounts using a limited range of coins and we have been adding amounts to find out how much 2 objects in a shop would cost. We have been learning that there are 100 pennies in £1 and practising how to draw a £ sign.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you describe a familiar route using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Can you estimate where the numbers 12 and 17 would sit on a number line where the only marked numbers are 10, 15 and 20?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We have been working with amounts that are over £1, learning how to talk about pounds and pence.</p>
<p>Enquiry: 'What is Darkness' In our enquiry session this week we have been investigating the question: Do all animals sleep at night? We have been reading books about nocturnal animals and watching a live bat cam and owl cam of these animals in their caves and trees.</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'How can we travel the world?' We have begun our new enquiry this week as Geographers and plotted England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales on a map of the UK. We have talked about what we mean by 'the past' and sorted vehicles from the past and present.</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'How can we travel the world?' This week we have started our new enquiry, beginning with revisiting the countries in the UK and moving on to learning about what a capital city is and which capital cities we have in the UK. We have learnt about modern methods of transport and also historical methods of transport, including ordering different ways to travel on a time line.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you find out a fact about a nocturnal animal and record it?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: To explain your justification behind sorting different modes of transport.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We have challenged ourselves to estimate when different forms of transport were invented – this was really challenging!</p>

Out of School Achievements



Ezzy completed a 12mile bike ride along the strawberry line with us on Sunday! Her longest before that was 5miles. There were points where she thought she couldn't and doubted herself but she kept going



Carys is moving up to Stage 3 in swimming (the big pool!)

Winter Wonderland

Seasonal Crafts

Free drop-in activity

Downend Library
Monday 22nd December
10.30 - 11.30

Most suitable for primary school aged children.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
www.southglos.gov.uk/holiday-activities



Active Libraries
South Gloucestershire Council

School Council Meeting: Thursday 20th November



- We talked together about our roles and responsibilities at CCI and how it was going carrying them out every Tuesday and Thursday.
- We talked together about spreading some Christmas Kindness throughout CCI in December and have decided to create a CCI Kindness Advent Calendar for each class to open each day of December!

CCI Inset Days

Please see below our final 3 inset days

Friday 30th January 2026

Monday 20th April 2026

Friday 26th June 2026

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