



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 #10

14th November 2025

 www.christchurchinfants.co.uk

 christchurchinfants@gmail.org.uk

Dates for Term 2

- Mon 17th Nov** – Lion trip to Library
- Thu 20th Nov** – Individual school photos
- 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 and Well-being information session/coffee morning at CCI for both schools.
- Wed 3rd Dec** – EYFS Theatre workshop and performance at CCI
- Thu 4th & Wed 10th Dec 9am** – CCJ tour for current Y2 parents
- W/B: 8th Dec** – KS1 Nativities, Friends Christmas Wrap, Worship at CCD
- W/B: 15th Dec** – Choir concert, Theatre trips for KS1, Father Christmas visit, EYFS singalong, parties, Rock Steady & Parent Council
- Thu 18th Dec 9am** - Parent Council meeting
- Fri 19th Dec** – Last day of T2, non-uniform & Hot Choc. awards

Weekly update from Anna Martin

It has been wonderful to see our Year 2 children become engineers this week as they learned the art of sewing to create their very own hedgehog finger puppets!

This exciting project is part of their enquiry, "How can we help?", where the children are designing a fundraising pack to support hedgehog charities. When people make a donation, they will receive one of these fabulous handmade puppets as part of their pack.



Sewing can be a real challenge to teach, but it's a valuable part of our Design and Technology curriculum—developing fine motor skills, perseverance, and creativity.

This wonderful learning experience was only made possible thanks to the many parents and grandparents who volunteered their time to help in school. We are extremely grateful for their support; it truly reflects our school vision of being a *caring community*.



Christ Church Schools' Partnership



This week, both schools have support anti-bullying week and children in need. Thank you so much to everyone who has sent in a donation or paid online towards this brilliant cause. It has been wonderful to see the children in spots, ears, yellow and own clothes!

In our schools, we encourage children to think about others, demonstrating our value of love (and humility in CCJ). It is such an important part of life to think of others and share what we have, which is why we do this. We also love it when children see a cause they feel deeply about and decide to raise awareness or do a cake sale or sponsorship to help them. It shows what empathy and love when they believe they can make a difference ... then go ahead and do it! Please do share stories if your child is involved in fundraising so we can celebrate them in school.

Collective Worship

Monday – We learnt about anti-bullying week and why lots of us were wearing odd socks. We explained to the children that bullying is not just a one-off incident but is one person or group repeatedly being unkind to the same person or group.

Tuesday – Remembrance Worship with Chief Davis, Thomas and Summer's incredible mummy who is a medic in the Navy. She told the children about why we mark Remembrance Day and why it's so important.



Wednesday – Achievement and reading raffle prizes

Thursday – The children learnt about what it means to be a good neighbour and linked this to the story of the Good Samaritan.

Friday – We celebrated Children in Need with some good fun from Joe Wicks and talked about why some children need our help.

A Reminder About Road Safety Around School

We'd like to remind everyone that the roads leading into the school are **not pedestrianised**. Although they can seem very quiet at times, they are still in regular use by vehicles. For everyone's safety, please **use the pavements** and encourage children to do the same.

Please also remember that some members of staff may be driving in later in the morning or attending meetings before school begins, and a small number of parents have permission to park within the school grounds. This may be for **accessible parking needs** or other approved reasons.

We ask everyone to approach the school run with **respect, patience, and kindness**. We are all role models for our children, and a little understanding goes a long way—especially as we never know what challenges someone else might be facing.

Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe and caring for all.

Living the Values



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

Greyson, in Lions, noticed today that another child was finding it difficult to write the letter 'g' during choosing time so he used a whiteboard and pen to draw dots for her to trace the formation. He took the time to notice and whilst he was busy choosing activities himself.

Tillie-Rae in Crocodiles for spotting that a child in EYFS was holding an adult's hand and asked if they wanted to play with her.

The staff awards go Mrs Newby and Miss Chevassut. Mrs Newby has gone above and beyond for a family and shown a huge amount of compassion. Miss Chevassut has supported a child in her class to visit a previous teacher to share their brilliant learning. This meant the previous teacher was able to celebrate this success and they really enjoyed doing so.

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

Henry in Zebras for giving some of his Lego bricks to a younger child at Lego Club when they didn't have enough and were feeling a bit sad.

Phoebe in Giraffes for looking after a child from CCI, who she doesn't really know, when she noticed they were feeling worried at a swimming class.

Jo-Jo in Cheetahs for always checking in on his family and thinking about how he can make his Great Nan feel better when he can see she is in lots of pain.

Jeniece in Zebras showed compassion and friendship to Jack W at Rocksteady by helping him get the beat right on the drums.

Changing reading scheme books

We're pleased to let you know that, from **Monday 1st December**, the **school library will be open before school on Mondays and Fridays from 8:30–8:40am** for children to change their **school reading scheme books**.

Children must come **with an adult** (and any younger siblings) and **stay together in the library** during this time, as the school site is not yet secure and staff are busy preparing for the day. Please enter and leave **via the main entrance door**, which will be unlocked—no need to ring the bell.

A few reminders to help things run smoothly:

- Children may take **one reading scheme book only**, so there are enough for everyone.
- Please **return books to the correct coloured section** when changing them.
- **Leave promptly** when the 8:40am bell rings, exiting through the main entrance and taking children round to class as normal.
- And adults—feel free to have a quick tidy while you're there!



EYFS	Y1	Y2
<p>Being an author: This week in Drawing Club we have been reading Owl babies. The children have been practising drawing owls and then labelling their drawings with initial sounds and CVC words. We have been learning about where Owls' live and their habitats. In our adventure time session, we talked about what food mummy owl might have brought back for the owlets and shared our ideas with our friends.</p>	<p>Being an author: This week we have focused on the main character of our story, Lila. The children have enjoyed 'hot seating' where they pretended to be Lila and asked her questions. They have been writing simple sentences about the character with sentence starters to support.</p>	<p>Being an author: This week we have continued to use 'Lila and the Secret of the Rain' to inspire our writing. We are learning about using the conjunction 'so' within an extended sentence. We have also started to include some commas to demarcate a list in our writing. We have been using these extended sentences to retell parts of the story.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you write a sentence explaining what food you think mummy owl brought back after hunting?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Include 'and' in your sentences for more detail.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: To write using story language that we remember from the book, adding a range of interesting vocabulary to our writing.</p>
<p>Being a mathematician: Our focus in maths this week has been one more and one less. We have introduced a tens frame and practised counting double sided counters and working out what one more and one less of an amount would be. We have practiced saying the stem sentences: one more than ... is and one less than .. is</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: Continuing with place value this week, we have used the 'diennes' to create teen numbers. These are a really helpful way of seeing tens and ones. The children have also been practising how to write numbers in words.</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: This week we have moved onto learning about coins and money. We have learnt about the value of different coins, comparing the values. We have looked at using coins to make specific amounts and then we have tried to use different coins to make the same amount – seeing how many different ways there are to make an amount.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you record one more and one less on a tens frame?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: For our problem solving this week, we encouraged the children to find all the possibilities in a logical sequence.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We have been considering which coins in a group could be the odd one out and why?</p>
<p>Enquiry: 'What is Darkness' In our enquiry session this week we have been looking at what we can see in the night sky. We have been drawing pictures on dark paper using chalk and paint. In the dark dens we have also been using the torches and practising making shadows.</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'How can we help?' We have continued making our puppets and also evaluated our work. To complete our charity packs, we have been researching and recording facts about hedgehogs.</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'How can we Help?' This week we have come to the end of this enquiry. We have been busy putting our new sewing skills to the test as we made finger puppets. We have added to our collage postcards so that we can remind others how we can look after local hedgehogs as we have shown ourselves that -yes – we can help!</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you find a way to make a shadow at home?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: To challenge ourselves with our fact learning and explain the difference we can make to support hedgehogs in our local area.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We have been challenged to use a blanket stitch if we are confident with a running stitch when making our puppets.</p>

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025 9:00 –
10:00am

Younger siblings welcome

Guest speakers: NHS Talking
Therapies, Off the Record,
Love Squared



CCI & ECI
PARENT WELLBEING

Coffee Morning
for

MENTAL HEALTH

Designed to support you with
adult and children's mental health concerns
at Christ Church Infants (CCI).



Out of School Achievements



Zachary was really happy to achieve his first grading in Karate

Margot has moved up to stage 2! Well Done Margot



Well Done on your gymnastics achievement Scarlett

Leo plays for Mangotsfield FC Under 7s and not only scored a goal on Sunday but also won Man of the Match




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: 1038487
 All raised funds go to support the school and school activities

CHRISTMAS SALE
 FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2025
 After school outside reception classes

Christmas Jumper, Clothing,
 Books and Games

Donations needed by the 27th
 Please drop off at Reception

Organised by the Friends of CCI | Charity Number: 1038487
 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 and we will pop them on the weekly newsletter.

Stories round the Tree

Monday 15th December

5:30 - 6:15pm at

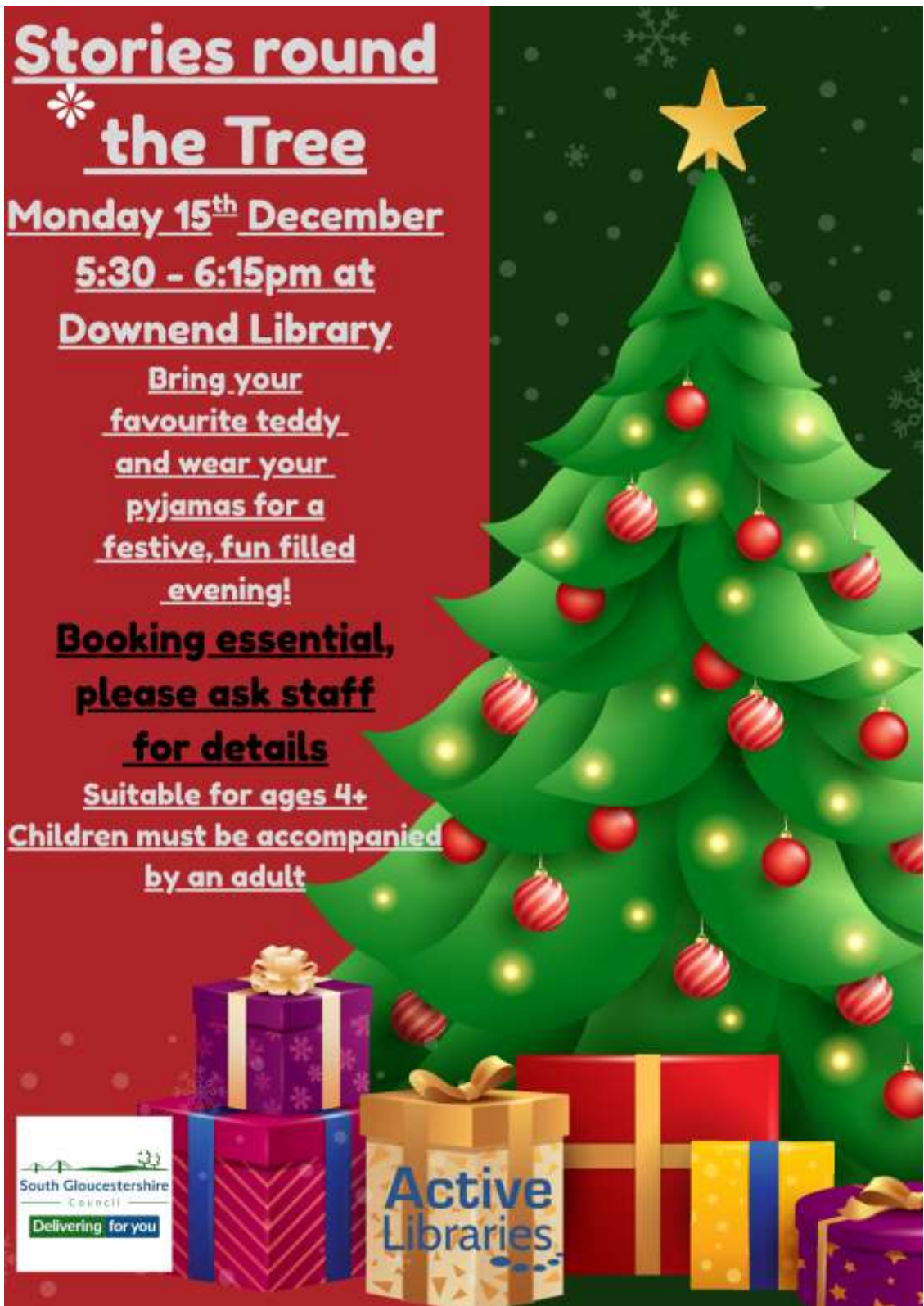
Downend Library.

Bring your
favourite teddy
and wear your
pyjamas for a
festive, fun filled
evening!

Booking essential,
please ask staff
for details

Suitable for ages 4+

Children must be accompanied
by an adult



Year 1 phonics screening information session

At the end of the school year all Year 1 children across England have to take part in an external phonics assessment.

If your child is in Year 1 and you would like to know a little more about the screening please follow this link to watch an information session about it.



<https://christ-church-cofe-vc-infant-school.secure-primariesite.net/year-1-1/>

Children in Need

Thank you so much for your generous donations for CIN 2025, we raised £235!

