



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 #7

**17th October 2025**



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### Dates for Term 1

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Crocodile library trip

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Last day of Term 1 – non-uniform/break the rule day fundraiser, enrichment session 1 and hot chocolate awards.

### Dates for Term 2

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov** – Inset day (no sch. for children)

**Thu 6<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Triple P Parenting Course starts at CCI

**Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Giraffe trip to Library

**Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Children in Need – dress in own clothes, spots/Pudsey/Blush

**Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Lion trip to Library

**Thu 20<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Individual school photos

**Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Panda trip to Library

**Tue 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 3.45-5.15pm** - Penguin Striking festival at Mangotsfield

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 3.10pm**– Friends Christmas jumper/PJ/toy sale

**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Dec** – Tiger trip to Library

**Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 9am** – Mental Health and Well-being information session/coffee morning at CCI for both schools.

**Thu 4<sup>th</sup> & Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 9am** – CCJ tour for current Y2 parents

**Thu 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 9am** - Parent Council meeting

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Last day of T2.

**Added date for Choir Parents – Choir concert on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm in the hall**

### Weekly update from Anna Martin

We were incredibly proud to open our doors this week to welcome the first of our prospective EYFS families into our school. It was a real pleasure to showcase everything that makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

One of the highlights was seeing our former pupils—now confident Year 6 students—return to guide families around the school. It was heart-warming to see how they spoke about their time here with such fondness and pride, and they did a fantastic job sharing their experiences.



The whole school community pulled together to make the event special. Our staff were, as always, warm and welcoming—ready to chat, answer questions and make our visitors feel at home. A big thank you also to Jo, our wonderful cook, for baking delicious cakes that added an extra treat to the visit!

The school environment looked beautiful, with every corner reflecting the care, creativity, and commitment we put into making this a happy, nurturing place for our children. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success—it really was a lovely celebration of all we do.



## Christ Church Schools' Partnership



**This week, Mrs Osborne and Mr Desmond spent an afternoon at CCI to learn more about how infant children learn in the afternoons, particularly in subjects beyond English and maths.**

Next term, Mr Jones and Mrs Martin will visit CCJ to do the same from a junior perspective.

These visits have been planned to support the transition of Year 2 children into Year 3, helping both schools better understand the starting and ending points in the children's learning journeys.

## SENDCO drop-ins – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October

We wanted to let you know that Mrs Jenni Rylands (our SENDCO) will be available in her office, just off the hall, on Tuesday 21st October during the Parent/Carer meetings. This is for any parents of children who are already on the SEND register or for anyone who has concerns that their child may have an additional need.

You do not need to make an appointment to see her and can just pop in to see if she is free. She will be available between 3.30-6pm. If you would rather make an appointment then please just email [jenni.rylands@sgmail.org.uk](mailto:jenni.rylands@sgmail.org.uk)

## Collective Worship

**Monday** – The children learnt some Harvest songs, ready to sing next week.

**Tuesday** – We taught the children about Diwali, the Hindu and Sikh festival of Light. This is celebrated Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October.



**Wednesday** – The children celebrated those that have shown friendship and done brilliantly in their learning. We also gave out the reading raffle prizes.

**Thursday** – The children thought about how it feels when they are with their friends and what support we can give each other.

**Friday** – The children thought about spirituality, looking at the world around us. They heard the story of Gaudi and the incredible Basilica of the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona. We ended our worship by thinking about how Gaudi's life was like a giant church, slowly taking shape and working out its purpose. The children were encouraged to think about what they will do with their lives.

## Enrichment sessions at CCI

At CCI, we are always looking for ways to enrich our children's wider experiences, ensuring they have the opportunity to explore diverse aspects of life. Our aim is to help every child grow into an inclusive, active, and resilient young person.

We recognise that not all children have access to extra-curricular activities outside of school, whether due to limited opportunities or family commitments. That's why we are committed to providing experiences they might otherwise miss. To support this, we will be using the '50 Ways to Live a Full Life' document (see next page) to guide our planning.

To bring this to life, we will be holding **Enrichment Mornings** at the end of every term, starting next **Friday 24th October**. Each teacher and TA team will plan and deliver a 1-hour session based on an activity of their choice.

On each Enrichment Day, every class will take part in **two different sessions**—one in their own classroom and one in the classroom next door. Over the course of the year, this means every child will experience **eight different activities**. This also helps the children to build confidence when changing classes at the end of each year.

Children will already be coming to school in non-uniform on these days, so there's no need to send in any special clothing. However, some activities may be messy, so please make sure they are dressed in clothes suitable for getting a little dirty.


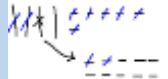



## Triple P Information Coffee Morning Wednesday 22nd October, 9am

This coffee morning will provide parents and carers with more information about the Triple P Positive Parenting Program. This course will offer practical strategies to help parents and carers build strong relationships with their children, manage everyday challenges and promote positive behaviour at home.

The Triple P course will begin on **Tuesday, 4th November** and will run for six weeks. Sessions will take place in the CCJ Library. Come and join us in the CCJ Library after drop off.



EYFS	Y1	Y2
<p><b>Being an author:</b> This week in Drawing Club – we have been reading the book “The Little Red Hen”. We have had great fun making our own bread, following the recipe and being helpful – not like the animals in the story! We have drawn pictures of the Hen character and had a wonderful time building our own farms from construction. At the end of the week in the Adventure Time session we drew and labelled new wonderful toppings for the bread!</p> <p>In phonics we have been recapping all of the sounds we have learnt so far: s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d and have played lots of blending and segmenting activities.</p>	<p><b>Being an author:</b> This week we have started a new genre of writing. We have been looking at a non-chronological report. We started the week by finding out lots of information about wolves (linked to our last story – Where the Wild Things Are) and then moved onto writing our own fact files! We wrote about their appearance, diet and habitat. We have been continuing to work on writing simple sentences, using the word ‘and’ to join words together.</p>	<p><b>Being an author:</b> As authors this week, we have been writing a non-chronological report (a fact file) all about the wild things from the book 'Where the wild things are' in the present tense. We have made sure to include lots of expanded noun phrases to describe the wild things' appearance, what their diet is like and where they live. We have included the conjunction 'or' to give two options. For example, A wild thing sleeps in a deep, dark cave or up in a tall, leafy tree.</p>
<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Can you write some CVC words using the sounds we have learnt?</p>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Our challenge this week was to identify the alternate sounds in words using our phonics knowledge, for example writing meat using ‘ea’ and not ‘ee’.</p>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Can you write an interesting fact about a wild thing that you made up yourself?</p>
<p><b>Being a mathematician:</b> This week we have been ordering numbers to 5. We have played games, jumbling up the numbers and putting them back in order. We have practiced writing the numbers to 5 using the formation rhymes too! Later in the week we matched amounts of objects to the numeral.</p>	<p><b>Being a mathematician:</b> This week in Maths we started by using numicon to identify number bonds to 10. Then we moved onto using tens frames and bar models to help us visually see which two numbers made 10, and then we wrote the matching calculation.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>1+9=10</b></p> </div>	<p><b>Being a mathematician:</b> We have learned how to subtract 2-digit numbers where you need to exchange a ten into ten ones. For example, 46 - 28. We lay out our working out like this:</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>We have also continued to practise adding 2-digit numbers where you have to regroup ten ones into a ten. (eg. 26 + 37).</p>
<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Can you make a numberline at home? Cut up some squares, write the numbers to 5 on each and jumble them up!</p>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Our challenge was to complete a reasoning challenge to help us think deeper about number bonds to 10,</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Can you work out which two 2-digit numbers had to 63p out of 24p, 36p, 27p, 35p?</p>
<p><b>Enquiry: ‘Who am I?’</b> This week we thought carefully about the question of ‘Where do we live?’ We talked about being a Geographer and looked at the local features on maps.</p>	<p><b>Enquiry: ‘How can we help?’</b> This week we have started a new enquiry called ‘How can we help?’ We started off the week learning all about a hedgehog charity and what they do to help animals in need. We learnt what a sponsor was and how they can help. Then we moved onto practicing the artistic skill of collage, before we move onto our final collage next week!</p>	<p><b>Enquiry: ‘How can we help?’</b> We have started our new enquiry 'How can we help?' by finding out about what a charity and a sponsorship pack is. We have learnt a little bit about the charity 'Prickles and Paws' and how they help hedgehogs. We then have learned about the artist Megan Coyle and how she uses collage to create pieces of art work, and we have had a go at creating our own collages.</p>
<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Can you draw a map of your journey from home to school? Which features do you see on the way?</p>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> We had to analyse a piece of data to identify what things people would like in a charity sponsorship pack.</p>	<p><b>Extension challenge:</b> Can you explain what a sponsor is and how they might help a charity?</p>

**Jigsaw Puzzles for EYFS**

If you have any unwanted Jigsaw puzzles EYFS would be very grateful for them. Ideally 9, 12, 16 or 20 pieces.

**Christmas Cards**

The children have made their very own Christmas cards! The order form will be sent home with them this afternoon. Please scan the QR code to view/ order. Last orders – **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.**



### 50 ways to 'live life to the full' before you leave CCI

EYFS	KS1	
1. Watch an animal grow	19. Explore a forest (CCJ)	35. Learn to be still and peaceful – in worship & RE
2. Listen to bird song	20. Make your own colour palate	36. Create some art using nature
3. Go cloud gazing	21. Make a home for a wild animal (linked to enquiry)	37. Perform a drama production (Nativity/Y2 Leavers Service)
4. Try food from another culture	22. Represent the school (MAD Olympiad) in a competition	38. Learn to build a fire and toast a marshmallow
5. Catch a falling leaf – SP enrichment	23. Create a piece of art that expresses your emotions (Art Gallery at CCD)	39. Observe changes in life cycles
6. Make something out of recycling – HS enrichment	24. Watch a live performance in a theatre (Christmas trip) - December	40. Hold a scary beast/bug
7. Prepare food for someone else (EYFS picnic)	25. Learn how to play a board game – SE enrichment	41. Take part in mindful exercise
8. Learn some sign language/Makaton – JR enrichment	26. Visit a library	42. Make a gratitude jar
9. Do a performance of singing for an audience	27. Fundraise for a charity (Kumi)	43. Do something kind for someone less fortunate than you
10. Build a den	28. Write a letter of thanks	44. Learn how to spell your name using BSL
11. Run around in the rain	29. Do something to help the planet (Respect)	45. Build a boat out of junk that floats – test it on the pool – RE enrichment
12. Travel by coach/bus - April	30. Visit a retirement home and bring joy to the residents	46. Learn to play a tune on an instrument (set of 30 ocarinas) CM – enrichment & AG enrichment
13. Bake bread	31. Make a birdfeeder – GR enrichment	47. Learn how to say some words in another language
14. Plant it, grow it, eat it	32. Play in the snow (snow machine)	48. Try a new sport
15. Visit a farm and learn how to care for animals	33. Visit a place of worship – Harvest & termly worship	49. Explore something that makes you wonder about the world (Jungle Roadshow/Explorer dome)
16. Go on a barefoot walk and feel different textures	34. Learn about a festival from another culture	50. Give something up that you love for a week
17. Paint a portrait of yourself		
18. Observe something from nature and draw/paint it		

## Parent Council Update

We recently held our first Parent Council meeting of the year, and I would like to thank Bethany, Sarah, Melanie, and Christian for joining me. We had a really productive and thoughtful discussion around a number of key areas:

- **Library Access for Families**

We talked about opening up the school library so families can borrow books and support their children in changing reading books. Everyone felt this would be warmly welcomed, and we also discussed the possibility of running an after-school club in the library. There was enthusiasm for the idea, provided it wouldn't place too much extra demand on staff.

*Action: AM to organise this before Christmas.*

- **School Lunches and Dessert Options**

Concerns were raised about children consistently choosing sweet desserts at lunchtime. While fruit and yoghurts are always available, children often opt for the sweeter choices.

*Action: AM to speak to ABM (our catering company) about adding dessert selection options to ParentPay, so parents can choose the puddings they would prefer for their child. AM has also requested that cheese and crackers be added as a savoury dessert alternative.*

- **First Aid Notifications**

We explored the idea of replacing head injury notes and hand stamps with coloured wristbands. While the group liked the concept in principle, we weren't sure it would be practical to implement at this time.

However, during the discussion, we agreed that it would be helpful to introduce stickers to notify parents when their child has used an inhaler during the school day.

Thank you again to our Parent Council members for their time and valuable input. We're looking forward to continuing these conversations throughout the year.

**The next meeting will be at 9am on Thu 18<sup>th</sup> December**

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

## Dates for your Diary

### December

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup>** - Christmas Tree decorating service in school

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup>** - Experience Christmas at CCD for Crocs and Cheetah Y1s

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Experience Christmas at CCD for Giraffes

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>** - EYFS Christmas theatre workshop and performance in school

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup>** - 9am Penguin Nativity (parents invited to watch, younger siblings welcome)

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>** - 9am Zebra Nativity (parents invited to watch, younger siblings welcome)

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>** - 10.30am Open Worship at CCD – families welcome

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>** - 9am Cheetah Nativity (parents invited to watch, younger siblings welcome)

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>** - Friends Christmas Wrap PM

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>** - 9am Crocodile Nativity (parents invited to watch, younger siblings welcome)

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup>** - 9am Giraffe Nativity (parents invited to watch, younger siblings welcome)

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup>** – 2.30pm Choir concert (for choir parents only)

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>** - Y1 Theatre Trip AM

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>** - Friends Father Christmas visit to school pm

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>** - Y2 Theatre Trip AM

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>** - 9am EYFS Christmas sing-a-long – parents invited

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas jumper day and Christmas Lunch

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>** - 2.30pm Rocksteady concert for families of children who attend the music lessons

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>** - Last day of term 2, non-uniform day and Christmas Parties in classes.