



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 #4

26th September 2025

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Dates for Term 1

- Mon 29th Sept** – Penguin trip to the Library, Experience Harvest Zebra and Cheetah Y2
- Tue 30th Sept** – Experience Harvest Penguin
- Mon 6th Oct** – Flu Vaccinations, Zebra library trip, 9am SEND coffee morning with CCJ
- Tue 7th Oct** – 10.30am Open Worship Harvest at Christ Church, 3.45-5.15pm Cheetah Target Festival
- Thu 9th Oct** – 9am Parent Council meeting, 2.30-3.10pm EYFS parent curriculum information sessions in classes (ch. to hall)
- Thu 9th Oct & Tue 21st Oct** – 3.30-6.30pm Parent/Teacher meetings
- Mon 13th Oct** – Cheetah Library trip
- Thu 16th Oct** – 3.30-4.30pm New EYFS 2026 Open evening (designed for children to come along with their parents to play and explore the school)
- Mon 20th Oct** – Crocodile library trip
- Fri 24th Oct** – Last day of Term 1 – non-uniform day, enrichment session 1 and hot chocolate awards.

Y2 tours of Christ Church Juniors

- Thu 4th Dec 9am
 - Wed 10th Dec 9am
- Please book these by calling the CCJ office on 01454 866516

Weekly update from Gareth Jones

This week has been the first full week that our new Reception children have been in school all together. It has been great seeing them exploring new friendships across the school and getting to know the staff who support them throughout the day. Today was the first time this year that I have led a collective worship time for all of the children and our new Reception children sat silently and engaged fully as we thought about friendship together.



In Key Stage One (Year 1 and 2) the children have continued their enquiry 'How can we live a healthy life?' The children enjoyed being artists and drawing and colouring a range of different fruits and vegetables. Here is some of their amazing art work!



Christ Church Schools' Partnership



Leaders from both schools work closely together to support our most vulnerable families. This collaboration includes attending meetings for families with children in both schools, sharing effective strategies, and participating in joint training opportunities.

Recently, Mrs Martin and Mrs Groves visited HMP Ashfield as part of our work with CAPO – a charity that supports children affected by parental offending. Mrs Eatwell is already a champion for this charity, and our joined-up approach is helping us to broaden our skillset and deepen our understanding in this area.

Harvest Festival

It will soon be our Harvest Festival at Christchurch and this year we will be partnering with CAP. We will be collecting donations that will then be given to people who are in some kind of financial difficulty.

Please consider if you are able to contribute one or more of the following:

- Cereal
- Pasta sauce
- Jam
- Biscuits
- Microwave rice
- Tinned chilli or ravioli
- bags of snacks for children
- shampoo or shower gel



Please bring items in by 7th OCT.

Thank you for your generosity in helping to make other people's lives a little easier.

Collective Worship

Monday – Mrs Martin talked to the children about staying safe and thinking about who the people are in our lives that we trust.

Tuesday – Belinda, one of our Foundation Governors, brought Jack the puppet in to help the children reflect on our main Bible story 'The Four Friends' and how we can be a good friend to others.

Wednesday – Mrs Rylands led our weekly achievement worship and gave out the values awards and celebrated with those who won a raffle prize for reading 5 times a week!

Thursday – Mr Jones talked to the children about how good friends support each other. This was linked to our main Bible story this term of the four friends.

Friday – Mr Jones told the children about Corrie Ten Boom. Corrie and her family were very brave. They stood up for people who needed their help, even though it was a very dangerous thing to do. This encouraged the children to explore their own spirituality and thinking about how they relate to others.

Living the Values

Friendship



Bible Story: The Four Friends

This week the school **children's awards** go to Judd and Alice in Giraffes. They were playing with a baby and pushchair at lunchtime last week and when they heard a child ask Mrs Newby for a pushchair, they immediately volunteered theirs.

The **staff award** goes to Mrs Doe, one of our Lunchbreak Supervisors, who shows friendship to the whole lunchbreak team by arriving early every day to help set up the hall. We never expect this Mrs Doe, but it is so appreciated.

The **children's home awards** go to:

Jeniece in Zebra Class for showing friendship to other children at her Sunday School by being kind and inclusive, making sure other children felt loved.

Nina in Crocodile Class has been going out of her way to show friendship to Faye, one of our new Reception children, at playtimes to make her feel safe and happy.

Jack W in Cheetah Class who spotted that one of his classmates was feeling a bit sad, so he asked how he could help and then played with them to cheer them up.

Reading at CCI

At CCI we think reading is incredibly important... and we are not alone!

Frederick Douglass: "Once you learn to read, you will be forever free".

Emilie Buchwald: "Children are made readers on the laps of their parents".

Taylor Swift: "Reading trains your imagination to think big and to think that more can exist than what you see"

Supporting your child with their reading

Research shows that **reading a little every day with your child** increases their reading fluency and their love of reading. **To help motivate your child**, we provide the chance to win a prize each week in our Wednesday Achievement worship time. If your child reads 5 times a week (*recorded in their reading log*) then they will have a raffle ticket entered into the draw with their name on it. 5 names are drawn out each week!



Bug Club at CCI



Forgotten to get a book from school? No problem – Your child has their very own Bug Club login. You will find their login details in the front cover of their reading log.



EYFS	Y1	Y2
<p>Being an author: We have continued to look at the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar this week and excitingly used our special drawing club books to draw our own caterpillar pictures. We have also enjoyed thinking about foods beginning with 's' and 'a' which the Caterpillar could enjoy eating too!</p> <p>Phonics: This week we have learnt the new sounds 't' – whoosh, down the tower, across the tower and 'p' – whoosh, down the pirate's plait and over his face and whoosh out!</p>	<p>Being an author: This week we have been continuing with 'Where the Wild Things Are' and we started the week by drawing pictures of the wild things and using nouns to describe them, such as 'teeth, claws'. We were trying hard to use our phonics to help us with our spelling. Then we moved onto writing a sentence about the wild things using finger spaces, capital letters and full stops correctly.</p>	<p>Being an author: This week we have been continuing to use the book 'Where the wild things are' to help us write a setting description and character description about Max and his bedroom. We have continued to use expanded noun phrases to describe and use the conjunction 'and' to join sentences together. We have also learned how to use the conjunction 'or' in sentences when giving more than one option. (For example, Max might have been swinging amongst the trees or running down the stairs).</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you draw a picture of a food beginning with an 's', 'a', 't', 'p' and write the letter next to it?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Our challenge this week was to think of a describing word, such as 'sharp teeth'.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Make sure you are writing with your best handwriting, with all the letters the correct size.</p>
<p>Being a mathematician: This week we have been exploring comparative language to compare amounts, colours and patterns. We have had fun using lots of different counting resources to count, match and sort. We have encouraged children to compare and explain if two groups are the same or not the same.</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: This week in Maths we started by using PPW models and practical resources to partition numbers within 10. Then we moved onto using PPW models, bar models to identify different fact families within 10, and recorded these in our books.</p> 	<p>Being a mathematician: We have been writing fact families for our number bonds to 10, 20 and 100. If we know $1+9=10$, we also know $9+1=10$, $10-9=1$ and $10-1=9$. Our number bond $1+9=10$ helps us also know that $11+9=20$, $1+19=20$ and $10+90=100$. We have ended the week with learning how to add 3 single digit numbers (eg. $8 + 6 + 2 = \underline{\quad}$)</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you make a pattern by using two different types of objects? E.g. bricks/dinosaurs.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We tried to write the calculations in different ways by moving the symbols around. $3 + 2 = 5$ $5 = 3 + 2$</p>	<p>Extension challenge: How many ways can you find to make a number between 10 and 20? (eg. $15=1+14$, $15=2+13$ etc)</p>
<p>Enquiry: 'Who am I?' We have had lots of fun using chalk and crayons to draw around our bodies. We have compared our bodies, looking at our height, hair and clothes and what is similar too!</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'How do I live a healthy life?' This week we have enjoyed learning all about how to stay healthy! We have been looking at different healthy foods and drinks, but also things we can do to look after our bodies and our minds. We even created our own healthy lunchbox!</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'How do I live a healthy life?' We have continued our 'How to live a healthy life' enquiry by finding out about the different ways that help us stay healthy, including drinking plenty of water, eating a balanced diet, getting enough sleep, getting exercise and keeping clean. We used these facts to create posters to encourage others to stay healthy. We have also learned about the different categories that food can be separated into to make up a healthy diet, including fruit and vegetables, carbohydrates, protein and dairy.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can explain how you are the same and different to your friends?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We had to explain why we do things to keep our bodies and minds healthy. <i>"We wash our hands because it keeps the germs away!"</i></p>	<p>Extension challenge: Can you create a healthy meal which includes all the different food groups?</p>

Out of school Achievements



Demi's football team had an impressive win on Sunday, 11-6. Demi was awarded player of the match!



Sophie and Jack after their colour run! Well Done to you both.



Well Done on your great achievement Coco



We have had a beautiful mural delivered for one of our rooms which is on wallpaper. Are you able to come and help hang this wallpaper to create a calmer feel to this area for the children who use this space?

If you are able to help, please ring the office on 01454 866562 or email on christchurchinfants@sgmail.org.uk
Thank you for your support.



Census Day- Thursday 5th October

It is school census day next week. Children will have the option of chicken nuggets/ Pizza or sandwiches. School census is when we need the maximum number of children taking a school meal, as this has an impact on our school funding.

Please book a school meal for your children on this day, it will help massively!
www.parentpay.com

Arbor

Please ensure your child has at least 2 emergency contacts on their Arbor profile. Also, please update the permissions section if you would like your child to appear on Facebook, Instagram, School Website or Newsletter.

Our First School Council Meeting '25-26'

We had our first school council meeting today and had a lovely time looking at the new School Council display and getting to know each other. We talked about some exciting projects for the year and upcoming special jobs for the School Council e.g Red Nose Day, meeting with CCJ, shared charity events etc. We have also talked about ways in which we can be responsible for the school and have asked our classes for suggestions ready for our next meeting.



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 here.