



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 #24

13th March 2026



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Term 4 Dates

- Mon 16th Mar** – Paralympian Day (PE uniform for all)
<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/christ-church-cofe-infant-schoolfundraiser#>
- Mon 16th & Tue 17th Mar** – Experience Easter for Y2s
- Friday 20th March** – wear PJs for Comic Relief/No PE for EYFS
- Thu 26th Mar 9am** – Parent Council meeting
- Fri 27th Mar** – Friends Family Bingo night
- Mon 30th Mar** – 2.30pm Choir Concert
- Tue 31st Mar** – 10.30-10.45am Open worship at Christ Church (families welcome)
- Tue 31st Mar** – 3.30-5.15pm Lion Class sports festival at Mangotsfield Secondary (details to follow)
- Thu 2nd Apr** - 2.30pm Rocksteady concert
- Thu 2nd Apr** – Last day of term, enrichment sessions, hot chocolate awards & non-uniform fundraising day

Term 5 starts with an Inset Day on Mon 20th April

Weekly update from Anna Martin

Children across the school continue to show what it means to be courageous advocates – taking action to make a positive difference in their community. Recently, several pupils have shown kindness, initiative and determination in supporting causes they care about.

Tabitha organised a pre-loved sale and raised an impressive £40 for Prickles & Paws Hedgehog Rescue after feeling inspired by learning in school about this charity. Isla C in Zebras and Darcie in Penguins generously donated their own money to help save our swimming pool, while Daisy in Zebras has been collecting litter in a nearby park to help care for the environment.

We are incredibly proud of these young people for showing compassion, bravery and a willingness to take action for good. Their efforts are a wonderful example of how even small actions can make a big difference and they really are living out our vision of being a caring community.



Christ Church Schools' Partnership



It has been a wonderful couple of weeks for our children seeing each other across the schools. We shared last week that Y6 and EYFS had time sharing books together during world book day. This week, some of Y4 and Y1 have spent time together exploring circuits and making some using the knowledge they have learnt. Classes from CCI also visited CCJ last week to use the library and some of the Y6 girls continue to come to CCI once a week to promote girls' football with the CCI girls.

We are so lucky to have such a close partnership between the schools and it is wonderful for the children to feel part of our joint community throughout their 7 years in our schools. We will keep looking for ways to enhance learning through shared working together!



Update on 'Every Child Counts'

225 km
for
225



Every
Child
Counts



Christ Church
C of E VC Infant School

Here is a weekly update from Sarah regarding her 225km challenge;

'Another week done, I was forced to have a rest day on Monday due to work commitments, I'm sure it was a blessing in disguise. Total of 110km has now been run, I'm just under half way!! I have developed Patellofemoral Pain Syndrome in both knees, a posh way of saying pain under the kneecaps from repeated impact. It hurts but I've taped them up and with a bit of pain relief I can push through. I'm feeling strong, sticking with 10km each day which actually feels quite comfortable at the moment.

Recognising it's Mother's Day on Sunday I'm sure the mums won't fancy getting up at the crack of dawn for park run, maybe send the dads?! We will be there and would love to see some other CCI kids if they can. I am getting lots of support from parents and staff, and thank you to all who have donated, the pot is certainly looking healthier!'

Keep going Sarah, you are amazing!

Collective Worship

Monday – The children learnt about the new PSHE topic 'Healthy eating and nutrition'.

Tuesday – The children learnt about the perseverance shown by Nelson Mandela in his unwavering fight to achieve equality, despite many challenges in his lifetime.

Wednesday – Weekly Achievement Worship where we celebrate living the values and showing perseverance in our learning.

Thursday – The children learnt about 'running the race of life' and what can help them to hang in there and to persevere even when we face challenges along the way.

Friday – We had an exciting science assembly to launch our annual Science Day.

Living the Values



This week the **school children's award** goes to **Laing in Tigers** – for persevering at after school football club despite feeling very worried. He stuck at it and we are all so proud of him!

The staff award goes to **Miss Winstone**, who has practised hard to learn a new skill to enable her to help Lions this week. It was tricky but she didn't give up!

The children's home award goes to:

Bhaavya in Zebras - shows great perseverance and keeps trying without giving up. She is always willing to learn new things and takes responsibility at home. Her positive attitude and determination make us all extremely proud of her.

Sophie in Giraffes – for learning how to use her new sewing machine and really concentrating on how to use the pedal and make the stitches. **What an amazing skill to learn Sophie!**

Finley G in Zebras – who went to a BMX club for a coaching session last week and showed perseverance after taking a nasty fall and getting straight back on the track. He even had a go taking off from the gates for the first time which was super scary but he did it anyway!

Izzy in Zebras - went to the Bristol cycling centre as she hadn't cycled for a while and wanted to refresh her skills. She persevered with keeping going, pushing herself off, breaking slowly and ducking under low branches.

Dougie in Crocodiles – for achieving his marathon Park Run wrist band for running it 21 times!

Noah B in Crocodiles - showed great perseverance at Kingsgate Park in Yate recently. He climbed from one end of the huge climbing frame to the other. He went to turn back when it was getting a bit too high, but tried again and was so pleased he managed to get all the way to the end.

Cassius in Crocodiles – showed some great perseverance this weekend with his clubs. He played his first football match on Saturday and on Sunday ran Parkrun and worked hard in his Karate class.

Marcos in Penguins – When Marcos was doing a large puzzle at home he started to feel frustrated and he wanted to stop. But he took a deep breath and tried again. He looked carefully at the shapes and colours. Slowly, he began to find the right pieces. After a while, Marcos finished the whole puzzle. He felt very proud and happy.

Daisy in Zebras – saw some older children leaving lots of rubbish in Page Park so spent ages collecting it all to make it nicer for everyone.

Emlyn in Lions and Osian in Tigers - both persevered at 'The Wave' on Sunday until they mastered both ramp runs in the skate park on their two wheel scooters!

Erin in Penguins - has been working really hard at netball and got a buzzer award for her efforts!



EYFS	Y1	Y2
<p>Being an Author: We shared the story 'Emma-Jane and the Aeroplane' in Drawing Club this week. The children loved writing about all the different places they could imagine her travelling to.</p>	<p>Being an Author: We have been using our model text, Traction Man, to invent our own story. We have continued to focus on using adjectives to describe nouns.</p>	<p>Being an Author: This week we have been writing our own version of the story Traction Man. We have been using the progressive present tense (eg. Traction man is always listening our for others in trouble) and have been using the conjunction 'when' to extend our sentences. (eg Traction Man scoops up the poor, metal spoons when he reaches them on the hard floor).</p>
<p>Extension Challenge: Imagine you could fly anywhere, where would you go and why? Write a word label or simple sentence about the place you would visit.</p>	<p>Extension Challenge: Can you re-tell your own version of Traction Man to someone at home?</p>	<p>Extension Challenge: Can you add a few adverbs to your writing to describe how a verb is done? (eg. Quickly, calmly, carefully)</p>
<p>Being a Mathematician: This week we have been learning how to subtract. We used the song '5 Little Speckled Frogs' to help us see how the 'frogs' have been partitioned away from the original amount (from the log into the pond). The children practised this method with counters and bricks on a 5-frame, before applying it to a number problem.</p>	<p>Being a Mathematician: We have been finding one half of a shape, object and amount this week. We know that a half has to be two equal parts.</p>	<p>Being a Mathematician: In maths this week, we have been thinking about different intervals of time, and have been learning about how many seconds in a minute, minutes in an hour, hours in a day, days in a week etc. We have compared intervals of time saying which is shorter and which is longer.</p>
<p>Extension Challenge: Can you show a family member how you can subtract using 5 objects using the 'maths language we have been learning? Eg 5 – 1 " five subtract one equals four"</p>	<p>Extension Challenge: Can all numbers be split equally in half? Is there a pattern?</p>	<p>Extension Challenge: Order intervals of time such as: half an hour, 2 hours, 90 minutes</p>
<p>Enquiry: Where Can We Go? We have been thinking about the different jobs people may do on an aeroplane or a boat and sharing ideas about the different skills they may need to do them. We have also looked at some of the jobs people do within our school community.</p>	<p>Enquiry: This week, we have sorted animals by their diet, focusing on herbivores, omnivores and carnivores.</p>	<p>Enquiry: This week we have carried on our enquiry 'What is home?' by searching for minibeasts in their microhabitats and making some food chains of different animals. Some classes have had their visits to Lincombe Barn to look for habitats there and some will do this next week</p>
<p>Extension Challenge: Are there any 'jobs' you may be able to help do at home? Maybe you could try helping a family member in some way.</p>	<p>Extension Challenge: Write a fact file on three animals, focusing on their diet.</p>	<p>Extension Challenge: Why do certain animals choose where they live? Give reasons. (eg. Woodlice live under rocks and logs because it is dark and damp. They can hide from predators there)</p>

Out of School Achievements



Zachary was very proud to achieve his second grading in Karate this week!



Erin has been working really hard at netball and got a buzzer award for her efforts!

Family
BINGO
Night

Fun for all the family!
Prizes, Games, Tuck shop onsite
& **BAR**

£1 per person to play
Available on ParentPay

MARCH | 27
5:30 PM
at the school Hall

Comic Relief – 20/3/26

Comic Relief or Red Nose Day will take part on Friday 20th March and both schools are inviting children to wear their PJs to school to join in with the fun and hopefully raise some funds for this brilliant charity. Funds raised will provide food, shelter and safety for vulnerable communities.

If you wish to donate you can do so directly at;

[Donate | Comic Relief](#)

COMIC
RELIEF

Wear PJs on 20th March

Science Day

Mrs Bird came into Crocodile Class to show the children how to make a rocket. They worked in groups to make their own designs and then we launched the rockets. We used plastic bottles, bicarbonate of soda and white vinegar. Our first attempt didn't launch so with a few careful adaptations from Mrs Bird, the second launch was brilliant and it even cleared the Year 1 area and flew into the hedge!



David, a former primary school teacher and science lead, wowed the children with a series of exciting science experiments that they thoroughly enjoyed.

Using everyday household ingredients, he demonstrated a range of fascinating reactions. The children helped make slime using cornflour and explored acids and bases by observing how the colour of water changed during experiments. One of the highlights was the Mentos and Coke reaction, which created lots of excitement. The session was engaging, interactive, and sparked great curiosity about science among the children.



James, materials scientist, works at Bristol University, came and helped Panda's learn about different materials. He explained that when materials are mixed together, they are called 'composites'. First, the children explored composites in nature, such as bamboo and shells using magnifying glasses. Then they were set a challenge to reinforce a bar of jelly using uncooked spaghetti, to create a new composite material and test it with a 3D printed 'crusher'. The children absolutely loved it and definitely enjoyed the challenge!