



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 #28

2nd May 2025

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Dates for Term 5

Mon 5th May – Bank Holiday

Tue 6th May – 9am Open Worship at Christ Church – families welcome

Wed 14th May – 9am Parent Council meeting

Thu 15th May – 3.10-4.20pm EYFS & Y1 Disco

W/B: Mon 19th May – Wonder Week (Junk Orchestra, Spiritual Spaces, Clay art project with CCJ and Birds of Prey visit

Thu 22nd May – 3.10-4pm Art Gallery at CCD for children and pupils

Fri 23rd May – Last day of T5, Hot Chocolate awards, enrichment session

Key dates for Term 6

Thu 19th June – Y2 MAD Olympiad at Pomphrey Hill

Fri 20th June – INSET Day

Fri 27th June – Y2 Move Up Day to CCJ

Fri 4th July - Sports Day (Y1/2 am & EYFS pm) & Summer Social 4.30-6.30pm

Thu 10th July - 3.10-4.20pm - Y2 Leavers Disco

1.30pm 16th July - Y2 Leavers production and assembly at Christ Church (CCD)

12-1pm Tue 22nd July - Picnic for families at CCJ

1.30pm Tue 22nd July – school ends for CCI & CCJ

No newsletter next week due to the Bank Holiday and Mrs. Martin being on a conference on Thursday and Friday.

Weekly message from Anna Martin



We felt so thankful for the beautiful weather and world around us as the Year 1 and 2 children went off to Westonbirt Arboretum. The trips were planned to help the children to find out about 'what grows near me?' as part of their enquiry.



We were so proud of the children as the staff at Westonbirt all commented on how polite and well-behaved the children were. Thank you to Mrs Rylands for organising the trip and to our wonderful families for funding the trips and going along to help.



Christ Church Schools' Partnership



We have spent a lot of time reflecting between our schools on the transition process from Y2-3. We want to support our children and families to feel safe, happy and understood as they join the Juniors and start the next chapter of their learning journey. We will soon be sharing all the carefully planned activities to support transition across May, June and July. We also plan for opportunities within each school for our children staying with us to meet their new classes and teachers. To help us plan the new classes, we will soon be sharing a link for you to suggest the friends that would be best for your child to be with in their next class.

Collective Worship

Monday – Mrs. Martin told the children the Bible story of the Ten Lepers. Jesus healed ten men but only one came back to say thank you. We talked about how it makes people feel when they say thank you.

Tuesday – Belinda Stowe, one of our Foundation Governors, then came in to retell this Bible story with her puppy puppet Jack to help the children embed the message in the story.

Wednesday – Miss. Smith supported children to celebrate children and staff who have been showing thankfulness in our school.

Thursday – Mr. Jones supported the children in thinking about how important it is to say thank you to others.

Friday – In our spirituality worship, Mr. Jones talked to the children about doing things for other people using the soup run for homeless people as an example.

Courageous Advocacy

The children have made some lovely posters to support Amira's courageous advocacy idea and I have explained to them that these are now photocopied in the hall and they can collect which one they'd like to take home.

The posters will be in the hall and the children can help themselves. When they bring it home, Amira would love them to display them in their windows so that passers by can see them and hopefully this will encourage them to pick up rubbish left over from recycling collections.



Living the Values

In school the children's award go to Tianna in Zebra Class who showed thanks for her Mummy when she was talking to Mrs. Martin earlier in the week.

The staff award goes to Miss Smith who told the children in worship on Wednesday how thankful she was for attending some training that she had invited her to. She also thanked Mrs. Martin for the opportunity.

At home the values award goes to;

Sophia in Zebras – for showing thankfulness to her friends after feeling nervous at a Cheerleading show. Beau in particular offered her a great deal of support and Sophia was very thankful to her.



Feedback for the Church of England

The church of England has started asking for young people's voices to be heard. They are asking a question per term and inviting responses from children in schools, churches and homes.

This term's question with answers due this Friday is "Does music help you feel closer to God?" The link to the anonymous form is here if you'd like to contribute;

<https://churchofengland.tfaforms.net/4904219>

Smart phones and children

A parent has asked us to share information about smart-phone free childhoods so here is a link where you can find out more.

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/manifesto>

As a parent of older children, I can absolutely see the value in this so would urge you read this and consider whether you'd like support this movement.

Parents can sign up (drop down area is Gloucestershire) and select our school to show their support.

<https://parentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>





EYFS	Y1	Y2
<p>Being an author: This week in Drawing Club we have read the book 'Dear Zoo.' We have drawn the frog character and wrote a sentence using a capital letter, full stop and finger spaces. In our adventure time session we had great fun thinking of new and amazing animals for another zoo delivery! We drew pictures and wrote a sentence to label. In Phonics this week, we have been recapping some of the digraphs which we have previously learnt, these are: ai, ee, igh, oa.</p>	<p>Being an author: This week we have been practising some grammar skills - the children wrote sentences with exclamation marks and also sentences using the conjunction - because. As we are going on our trip this week, we are using the opportunity to write about real experiences. We will be drafting our recount to continue next week.</p>	<p>Being an author: In English this week, we have been learning about the features of recounts including a heading, introduction, time openers (First, Next, etc) and the use of the past tense to retell something. After our trip to Westonbirt Arboretum, we have planned our own recounts of our trips and started writing them, making sure to write in the past tense and use the features we have learnt about.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you write more than one sentence about a new animal?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: When writing sentences with exclamation marks, we encouraged children to think of the different purposes they have, such as a command or to express excitement. The children were encouraged to show a range of these in their writing.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Can you include some adverbs in your recount?</p>
<p>Being a mathematician: This week we have been looking at the composition of numbers to 10. We have been using sentences to explain what numbers are made up of e.g. 4 and 6 makes 10. We have been using a variety of resources to represent numbers to really get children thinking! We have been recording each number sentence using the + and = signs.</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: We have introduced telling the time to the hour and also half past the hour. We have used lots of practical activities to help the children in their understanding such as drawing their own hands on clocks and using miniature clocks to find and show different times.</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: Year 2 have been learning all about measuring length and height in cm and m. We have used rulers to estimate and measure different objects in the classroom and compare different measurements to each other. We have thought about what we would measure in centimetres and what we would measure in metres.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you write all the possibilities to make 7/8/9?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Problem solving with time eg. - If my lunchtime is 12 o'clock but I am half an hour late, what time will I eat my lunch?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Can you find the difference between the length of 2 objects in the classroom?</p>
<p>Enquiry: 'How do we care for pets?' Following from our wonderful trip to Court Farm last week, we have spent the week thinking about animals we can have had at home and shared information about pets. We have named different pets and thought about how they can be looked after and what they need to be happy and healthy.</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'What grows near me?' We have looked at the different parts of plants and trees. We have compared the similarities and differences by labelling the diagrams. We have thought about how fruit and vegetables grow and shared our experiences of growing at home. We also talked about where we buy our food. Our trip to Westonbirt has really supported our learning about plants and trees.</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'What grows near me?' As part of our Enquiry 'What grows near me?' we have had a fantastic time visiting Westonbirt this week. We learnt all about plants and trees, the different types of trees, what plants need to grow and had time to explore grounds of Westonbirt too. We have also been conducting our class science experiments using cress and watching them to see which grows well, to find out which conditions are best for cress to grow.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Choose a pet - can you explain what they need to be happy and healthy?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We spoke about why plants and trees have roots as well as leaves and about their function.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Why might the cress in the cupboard getting water still be able to grow but have yellow leaves?</p>

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