



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 #27

25th April 2025

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Dates for Term 5

- Mon 28th Apr** – Fire Drill
- Tue 29th Apr** – 3.45-5.15pm Crocodiles sports festival at Mangotsfield Secondary
- Wed 30th Apr** – Y2 trip to Westonbirt
- Thu 1st May** – Y1 trip to Westonbirt
- Fri 2nd May** – Marathon event all children to wear PE kit
- 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
- Thu 10th July** - 3.10-4.20pm - Y2 Leavers Disco
- Fri 11th July** - Sports Day (Y1/2 am & EYFS pm) & Summer Social 4.30-6.30pm
- 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

Weekly message from Anna Martin

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week with so many special things happening that we feel very thankful for.

The children have been so lucky to start swimming and we are very thankful to the office team for making sure that the swimming pool is ready after months of not being used.



The chicks have all hatched and the children have instantly fallen in love with them and enjoyed getting to know them in their library sessions. Thanks to Miss Robbins for organising this and to the Friends for funding this lovely learning experience about life cycles and caring for animals.



We also feel thankful for having 'Our Space' up and running (see below), for seeing EYFS safely off on their trip to the farm and for being able to move playtimes to the school field.



Christ Church Schools' Partnership



This week two older siblings from CCJ went along to CCI to help to lead a puppet show about 'super saviours'. It was really inspiring for the infant children to see the confidence with which the older children performed.

CCI have been sending their love and best wishes to CCJ as they had their Ofsted inspection and are sure it will have gone brilliantly.

Collective Worship

Tuesday – We were lucky enough to have a visit from a Puppet Team, led by Amira's Daddy, who brought along his older daughters from CCJ to tell the children a story about 'Super Saviours'.

Wednesday – We held our weekly worship through celebration and gave out our reading raffle prizes.

Thursday – The children thought about thanking God for people who help us. They specifically focused on being thankful for all the people who help us in school.

Friday – Mr Jones taught the children about 'Our Space' and how it should be used respectfully. He explained the activities and how they could use these to ask big questions and show thankfulness.

Living the Values

In school the children's award go to Leah in Penguin Class. When Leah came for her HT award earlier this week, she stopped to thank Mrs Martin for being a kind headteacher and running a school that she loves.

The staff award goes to Jo our lovely cook who showed thankfulness this week when the office team managed to get the kitchen toilet fixed quickly.

At home the values award goes to;
Jeniece in Crocodiles – for showing thanks for her friends and her teachers.



Christian Value of the term



Our focus Christian Value this term is Thankfulness. We want our children to be inspired to be the very best they can be and have a real purpose in making the world a better place, showing thankfulness for the lives they have.

The Bible Verses that we refer to are 'Always be thankful.' (1 Thessalonians 5:16) and 'Give thanks to Him and praise His name.' (Psalm 100:4)

The Bible Story we tell the children to help them understand what thankfulness is, is the story of 'The Ten Lepers'. The story tells of ten men were very ill and Jesus made them better. One of the men rushed back to Jesus to say thank you for making him well again.



Classes for next year

Due to having 75 children in each year group and therefore a mixed Y1/2 class, we have to mix our classes each year at CCI and CCJ. Whilst this always causes some worry, we do find that it helps children to build resilience, helping them cope with change as they grow up. It also gives children the opportunity to broaden their friendships.

We always consider where children will learn best and usually always ask the children to tell us who they want to be with and invite parents to write to us regarding any issues. This year we have decided to adapt our information gathering and will now be using the method that CCJ, use after parental feedback.

This will involve us sending out a very short online survey asking you to discuss with your children which 3 friends they would like to be with. Just like CCJ, we will then guarantee that they are with at least one of these friends.

We have also arranged a session to plan the Y2 to Y3 classes with senior leaders at CCJ so that we can help them as they don't know the children that well yet.

We will do this towards the end of May and will be sorting the cases in June.

We understand that this can be an unsettling time and will do our best to support the children through this time of change.

Our Space

After lots of generous donations from our parent, staff and Church communities and hours of hard work and planning by Mr. Jones, we are very proud to say that 'Our Space', our spiritual garden, is now open!

In society today, we are busier, more distracted and anxious than ever before and rarely allow ourselves space to reflect and think deeply about what we believe. We designed this area to give our children at CCI 'space' both physically and mentally. We want to provide a space that will offer opportunities for curiosity, awe and wonder. We want to showcase inspirational books and information about the world, the climate and how we can courageously help make the world a better place. We want to provide a safe, comfortable space where children can interact with deeper thinking, relax and explore their creativity through a range of sensory experiences. We want a space where we can support the well-being of the children at playtimes if they are having a difficult time personally. We want our children to be inspired to live life to the full.

'A space for peace, a space for calm, a space for feeling safe from harm.

A space to be still, a space to share, a space to show someone you care.

A space for thought, a space for prayer, a space for me that's always there.'





| EYFS | Y1 | Y2 |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Being an author: This week in Drawing Club we have read the book 'What the Ladybird Heard'. We have drawn the farmer character and wrote a sentence to describe him. On our setting day we drew a map of the farm and labelled the features. At the end of the week we had great fun writing a recount of our visit to Court Farm. In Phonics we have been recapping some of the digraphs which we have previously learnt, these are: 'sh, th, ch, ng.'</p> | <p>Being an author: This is our final week with the story of Malala's magic pencil. We are innovating the story to create our own exciting story where the magic pencil comes to the rescue to save the day. We are using adjectives to make our work exciting.</p> | <p>Being an author: This week we have been writing an alternative version of Malala's magic pencil, where Malala encounters the problem of a flood in her village, and she uses her magic pencil to solve the problem. We have tried to include some different conjunctions and some questions within our writing.</p> |
| <p>Extension challenge: Can you write a sentence about our trip using the joining word 'and'.</p> | <p>Extension challenge: To use conjunction 'because' to extend out sentences.</p> | <p>Extension challenge: The challenge has been to make sure to include some other year 2 grammatical features such as commas in a list and apostrophes (for possession and in contracted words) in our writing.</p> |
| <p>Being a mathematician: This week we have been learning to count aloud beyond 20. We have recapped odd and even numbers and played a sorting game. We have challenged ourselves this week to explore the number bonds to 5 and look at the subtraction fact families for example if we know that $3 + 2 = 5$, we also know $5 - 3 = 2$ and $5 - 2 = 3$.</p> | <p>Being a mathematician: We are revisiting place value to 100. We began by creating numbers with practical resources to show our tens and ones. We have ordered numbers from the smallest to largest and finally used our reasoning skills to add numbers to a missing number line.</p> | <p>Being a mathematician: This week we have been revisiting place value, thinking about the composition of different numbers and comparing numbers using the greater than (>), less than (<) and equal to (=) signs. We have also started trying to recall some of our times tables a bit more quickly out of order, starting with the 5 times tables.</p> |
| <p>Extension challenge: Can you write a subtraction fact family for other numbers to 6/7/8?</p> | <p>Extension challenge: Using money, we have found the total value of several coins and written the number in tens and ones before ordering.</p> | <p>Extension challenge: We have challenged ourselves to think about how to write slightly bigger numbers such as 102 and 113.</p> |
| <p>Enquiry: 'How do we care for pets?' This week we received an exciting letter from the Little Red Hen! She asked us to look after her eggs. We visited the incubator and saw the eggs begin to hatch and by the end of the week we had some newborn chicks to observe!</p> | <p>Enquiry: 'What grows near me?' We have begun our next enquiry, 'What grows near me?'. We have looked at the different types of plants and trees in our school. We began by sorting the different plants into the two categories; wild plants and garden plants. The children have enjoyed sharing their own knowledge from growing at home. We then have looked at the different parts of a plant.</p> | <p>Enquiry: 'What grows near me?' We have started our new enquiry 'What grows near me?' and have started by looking at seeds and bulbs and learning about how they grow into plants. We have started a class experiment to see where cress grows best and what conditions are needed for it to grow well.</p> |
| <p>Extension challenge: What do you know about chicks? Can you explain what they need to grow?</p> | <p>Extension challenge: Can you name different plants?</p> | <p>Extension challenge: Which conditions do you think will be best for a plant to grow well and why?</p> |

Out of School Achievements



Millie and Beau in their cheerleading competition over Easter



Hunter took part in the children's spring challenge for Young Lives vs Cancer. The challenge was to complete 1 mile a day, every day for 14 days. Hunter cycled, scooted, ran and played golf to cover his daily distance. Hunter raised £502.00 to support children and young people with cancer



Phoebe recently received her Puffin swimming award

Become a Governor

We are looking to recruit two new Governors at CCI. Our Governing Body is a diverse group of individuals, working together to provide strategic leadership and accountability to the school. We are the critical friend of the school, using our wide range of knowledge and skills to deliver the key functions of the Governing Body.

You do not need any previous knowledge or experience in the school environment – a strong Governing Body has a broad range of skills, so whatever your background, if you are willing to get involved and contribute your time then we would love to hear from you. Being a Governor is interesting and rewarding, providing an opportunity to impact the effectiveness of our school and raise our school standards.

To apply, please complete the Governor Application Form attached and return via email or to the school office by Midday on Friday 9th May. For any further information, please contact our clerk at samantha.beament@sgmail.org.uk.

Mini-Marathon - All children to wear PE kit Friday 2nd May

As a school, we will be taking part in the national event 'Mini Marathon 2025'. This event is linked to the London Marathon but just on a smaller scale. Each class will be completing two miles of exercise any day/days between **Tuesday 22nd April and Friday 2nd May 2025**. These sessions have been planned into each class PE session for those two weeks. The children can choose to walk, run, skip, jog or move in whatever way they want! We will be crossing the finishing line on Friday 2nd May. This is all about celebrating being active and working together as a team. We will be fundraising for the Alfie Nick foundation, so if you would like to donate, please do so via your child's class teacher or parent pay