



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

24th April 2026

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Term 5 Dates

Mon 27th Apr – Mini Marathon day – all children to wear PE Uniform

Tue 28th Apr – Giraffe & Crocodile Class Sports Festival at Mangotsfield Secondary after school – see separate email

Thu 30th Apr – Curling sports workshops (classes TBC), EYFS and Y1 discos

Mon 4th May – **BANK HOLIDAY**

Thu 7th May – Y1 Trip & Curling sports workshops (classes TBC)

Fri 8th May – Y2 Trip

Tue 12th May – 10.30am Open Worship at Christ Church

13th/14th May – EYFS Height & Weight screening

Thu 14th May – Parent Council meeting & after school sports event for girls

Fri 15th May – Friends Quiz Night (TBC)

Tue 18th May – CSET sports festival at Mangotsfield Secondary for Pandas 3.30-5.15pm (more details to follow)

Thu 21st May – 3.10-4pm Parents invited into school to look at books

Fri 22nd May – Last day of Term 6, enrichment morning,

Weekly update from Anna Martin

It has been a joy to welcome everyone back after the Easter break. The children have returned with renewed energy and focus, making it a wonderful start to the new term. We have been making the most of the beautiful weather on the school field, where the children's behaviour has been fantastic.



Christ Church Schools' Partnership



It has been wonderful to welcome all the children back to both schools after the Easter break. With the sunshine finally making an appearance and clear signs of spring all around our grounds, there has been a lovely atmosphere across both schools. It is a joy to see the children returning with such bright smiles and renewed energy for the busy term ahead.

Plans for the Y2 to 3 transitions are now being finalised and these will be shared with Y2 families shortly.

We were also pleased to host three colleagues from Elmlea Infants in Bristol, who visited to see how we teach writing. They were incredibly impressed by the children's enthusiasm for their work, their clear understanding of lesson objectives and how well they respond to marking and feedback to improve. We are very proud of how well the children and staff represented our school and were very pleased to be able to show the progress we have made in this area.

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.

Living the Values

This week the **school children's award** goes to the whole of Penguin Class. Following an assembly this week, Penguin Class all made a point of thanking me one lunchtime for helping in the hall when one of our lunchbreak team were unwell.

The staff award goes to Miss Winstone. Every time she comes into the office to ask something, it is always noticed how thankful she is. Even if we haven't done anything for her or given her anything, she always thanks the team for their time.

The children's home awards go to:

Bobby E in Cheetahs – is showing his thanks for the food/preparation that his parents provide every day. For several mornings now, Bobby has gone downstairs and made them all a beautiful breakfast, setting the table, chopping up fruit and thinking about what cereal they all like to eat. He is always so proud of what he has done and keen to know whether they like it.

Belle in Crocodiles - has been a lot more mindful and confident with her thank yous in public, on the bus, taxis, in the post office and when leaving shops. She has become so much more aware and her politeness is being noticed everywhere she goes.

Jasper in Penguins - When walking through the city centre on Monday, his family passed by a street cleaner and Jasper said to him "thank you for cleaning our planet!"

Thank you Sarah!

A huge thank you goes to Sarah, mummy to Thomas and Summer, who recently completed an incredible 225km running challenge throughout March. Sarah has raised a whopping £1530 for the children at CCI, and we are absolutely blown away by her dedication to support us.

Mental health and wellbeing are at the heart of everything we do, yet we often find ourselves scrabbling for resources or creating our own interventions from scratch. This generous donation will be life-changing; it will allow us to train a member of staff to deliver specialist 'Thrive' sessions for children who really need that extra support, as well as purchase much-needed resources.

What makes this even more remarkable is that Sarah managed this distance while in significant pain, showing the children what it means to never give up. She has also inspired many of our pupils to start participating in the local Park Run, and we truly hope they keep up that newfound passion for running.

Thank you to all the families who donated and supported this cause. Sarah, you are a total hero to us all—thank you so much!





EYFS	Y1	Y2
<p>Being an author: In Drawing Club this week our story has been: 'What the Ladybird Heard'. We read the story together in our classes and then discussed the events.</p> <p>In our character session we drew a picture of the farmer and then wrote a CVC word/sentence about him. We then looked at the setting of the book and then drew our own map of the farm and labelled it features e.g. pond, tree.</p>	<p>Being an author: Our new book this term is Meerkat Mail by Emily Gravett. This week we have explored the text and learnt our own version. In our grammar sessions we have looked at proper nouns and the children have written their own postcards to include these.</p>	<p>Being an author: This week we have started exploring our new book Meerkat mail by Emily Gravett. We started the week by learning a bit about meerkats and then we moved onto learning about writing in the past tense. We revisited using -ed at the end of a word as well as learning that some words are changed completely in past tense – tell becomes told. We used the past tense to write a postcard.</p> 
<p>Extension challenge: Can you draw a picture of one of the animals and write a speech bubble to show what they might say?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Can we use proper nouns in an address with places as well as names?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We had to make sure that we were correctly spelling the words that we used in past tense especially when we were completely changing words so that our writing made sense.</p>
<p>Being a mathematician: Our focus in maths this week has been practicing our subtraction number facts to 5. Using tens frames we have completed our subtraction number bonds to 5 by picking 2 colours and then wrote the number sentence e.g. 5-1=4, 5-2=3</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: We have started work on time this week. We have recapped our days of the week and applied this in sentences such as: Yesterday I went to dance. Tomorrow is Friday and I have afterschool club. We have also looked at telling the time to the nearest hour.</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: We have started the term by revisiting numbers to 100, considering place value. We have made sure that we know how many tens and ones are in each number so that we can accurately predict where on a number line each number might fit. We have been looking at groups of numbers and then putting them into order, even when they do not follow one another – 5, 17, 26, 49, 72.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you solve this reasoning question? Ben says 'if 5-1=4 then 4+1=5'. Is he right?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: To apply our knowledge of hours, minutes and seconds to problems such as 1 second is less than 1 minute.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We have had to partition numbers and we have been challenging ourselves to find lots of ways that we can partition one number – looking for patterns in our findings.</p>
<p>Enquiry: 'How do we care for Pets?' This week we launched our exciting new enquiry. We received a letter from the Little Red Hen asking if we could look after some of her eggs and then care for the chicks when they hatched. Each class have had opportunity to see the eggs in the incubator and learnt about how the chicks hatch. All the children were amazed and full of questions and very excited to hold the chicks when they hatch.</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'How can we travel the world?' This week we have carried out a science experiment to test which material can hold the most pennies. The children made their own predictions and ensured that our tests were fair.</p>	<p>Enquiry: 'What did Brunel do for Great Britain?' We are continuing our enquiry from last term and so having learnt about different bridges, this week we are having a go at building some of our own. We have had to investigate which type of structure makes a stronger bridge and so can hold a heavier weight.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you draw a picture of a chicks and label it?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We looked at transport and how it has changed over time. Can you explain how transport is different in modern times, compared with that of Victorian times?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We challenged ourselves to make predictions about the stronger bridge structures and had a go at using our knowledge about bridges to reason about our ideas.</p>

Out of School Achievements



Finley has been awarded player of the match in his new goal keeper kit for Downend Saints. He is very proud of himself!

Phoebe was very proud to receive her Blue Peter 'blue' badge recently after sending in some of her artwork she had made at home. Phoebe's goal is to collect the different badges available by completing a range of different challenges.



Thomas got his half marathon wrist band at parkrun at the weekend!

Reception & Year 1 DISCO PARTY

Thursday, April 30

- TIME: EYFS 15:10 - 16:10
YEAR 1 16:30 - 17:30
- FREE DRINK
- FREE SNACK
- AVAILABLE ON PARENTPAY
- KIDS TO BE COLLECTED FROM CLASSROOMS AFTER THE PARTY

ENTRY
£4



Y1 & 2 School Trips

Year 1 will be going on their trip on Thursday 7th May and Year 2 will be going Friday 8th May. Please remember to give consent, order a packed lunch and pay via ParentPay.

FRIENDS OF CCI
PRESENT

QUIZ NIGHT

FRI 15TH
MAY

doors open 7:00pm | quiz 7:30pm
£2pp available on ParentPay

Bar available
Professional quiz master will be running the quiz
Tables will be organised on the night
Friends and family welcome