



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 #1



www.christchurchinfants.co.uk

11th September 2026



christchurchinfants@sgmail.org.uk

Dates for Term 1

W/b: 7/9/26 EYFS part time

W/b: 14/9/26 EYFS part time

Thu 17th Sept 9am – Parent Council meeting

Mon 21st September onwards – EYFS full time

21-23 Sept – Y2s Experience Harvest at Christ Church

Wed 23rd Sept – details TBC Cheetah Class invited to a 'Come & Play' football festival after school, for those new to football

Tue 29th Sept 9am – EYFS 2027 Tour

Wed 30th Sept – Fire Drill & 2.15pm Friends AGM

Thu 1st Oct 9am – EYFS reading & phonics information session for new parents in hall

Thu 1st Oct 5-6pm – EYFS 2027 Tour

Fri 2nd Oct 9am – SEND parent coffee morning

Tue 6th Oct 10.30am – Open worship at Christ Church led by Rev. Watts. Families welcome.

Tue 6th Oct 3.45-4.30pm - EYFS 2027 Stay & Play

Tue 6th Oct 3.45-5.20pm Penguin Ch. Invited to Target Festival at Mangotsfield Secondary school

W/B: 19th October – One page reports sent home

Thu 22nd Oct – Last day of school for children. Non-uniform fundraiser, enrichment activities & Hot Chocolate Headteacher Awards.

Fri 23rd Oct – INSET Day – no school for children

Half term – Mon 26th Oct to Fri 30th Oct

Mon 2nd Nov – Term 2 starts, children back to sch. school.

CCJ tours for Y2 parents – 9am 28th Jan & 5pm 25th Feb

Weekly update from Anna Martin

It has been wonderful to welcome our new EYFS children into our CCI family and to see our Y1 and 2 children settle into their new classes so well. Our new Tigers, Lions and Pandas have shown us how brilliant they are already and managed their first few lunchtimes very well.

The Y1 and 2 children have shown so much friendship to each other and the younger children around the school as they have helped them to remember the new routines and to feel settled quickly.



New Governor Leadership

We are delighted to tell you that Belinda Stowe and Leah Coates have stepped into the roles of Chair and Vice Chair on our Governing Body this year. Belinda is a Foundation Governor and retired teacher, who has supported the school for many years and Leah is a Parent Governor and Secondary teacher, with children at CCI and CCJ. We would like to thank Chris Douglas and Reuben Holt for their many years of service in these roles and are very grateful that they remain on the governing body, enabling effective succession planning on development of others.

Belinda Stowe –
Chair of
Governors



Leah Coates
Vice Chair of



It has been wonderful to reopen the swimming pool after it had to be closed in Autumn 2025 since Autumn 2025 and the children (and staff!) have had a fantastic time trying it out. We feel so lucky to have this fantastic resource at our school!

Collective Worship

Once the children are all in school full time, they will usually join a daily 15 minute assembly or worship in the hall. Mrs Martin and Mr Jones mostly lead these and other staff also take turns.

We follow a weekly pattern and share what we have learnt about on the weekly newsletter. This week, Y1 and 2 have covered the following;

Monday – Mrs Martin told the children the story of 'The Last Chip' – a story about a hungry little pigeon who is helped by someone who has very little themselves.

Tuesday – Mrs Jenkins told the children about the new PSHE topic for the term 'New Beginnings' and what happens in Bible Club.

Wednesday – Weekly Achievement and Reading Raffle.

Thursday – Mrs Martin talked to the children about 'sticking together' when things get challenging.

Friday – Mrs Martin showed the children the NSPCC 'Speak out, Stay Safe' assembly. Letter shared previously this week.

Living the Values

Each week we celebrate people who have lived out our school value of the term. We write to parents to ask for examples from home and ask staff to nominate children and colleagues for the school awards.

The staff award goes to Mrs Jenkins, who went out of her way to make sure one of the new EYFS settles well.

This week the school **children's awards** go to Tillie-Rae in Zebras for showing friendship to our new EYFS children.

The **home Values Awards** go to;

Mahir in Pandas - demonstrates the value of friendship at home by always including his cousin, Hannah, who lives with him. When Mahir wants to play, he always asks her if she would like to join him. They often enjoy role-playing as Mummy and Daddy and making secret rooms using blankets. He enjoys spending time with Hannah and shows that friendship means sharing and including others.

Daisy in Zebras - is being so kind to her sister Marcie lately who is 3, and her little friend. They were both upset and Daisy quickly stepped in and found a way to calm them both down.

Hattie in Crocodiles - Hattie has been a really kind friend to Annika when she has been feeling nervous about going into her new class. Hattie has been nominated by Annika's family, who are extremely grateful to Hattie.



Christ Church Schools' Partnership



At both CCI and CCJ, we have been so delighted to welcome everyone back, as well as welcome our new starters. At CCJ, the wonderful new Y3 children are settling really well and already feel like they have been with us for ages.

At CCI, it has been so special to welcome in the new reception children as they meet their class and begin to explore the school.

Mrs Martin and Mr Huxley are working closely together already and this feels like an exciting new partnership.



Christian Value of the Term

Friendship



Bible Story: The Four Friends

We focus on 6 Christian Values each year and in the first term we focus on Friendship. The Bible Story that we use to explain this to the children is the story of 'The Four Friends' whose paralysed friend wanted to go to see Jesus to see if he could heal him but needed his friends help to get there. When they saw the large crowds, the four friends realised that there was no way they could carry him through, so they removed part of the roof and lowered their friend down. Jesus saw the commitment of the friends and healed their friend.

The Bible Verse that we use to support this value is from Luke 10:27 '*Love your neighbour as yourself.*'

We aim for our children, parents, staff and governors to care for each other; to respect and trust each other and to encourage and listen to each other. We want the children to learn how to care for the wider world as responsible, kind and generous individuals putting the needs of others before their own.



Use of the school site before and after school

We love our families to be able to socialise after school together and like to be able to offer our school grounds to you to do this after school. Our after-school club do need to use the playground when the field is wet or there are sports clubs on the school field so we do unfortunately need to restrict this so that the space can be shared.

This means that our families will have the space to use from 3.10pm to 3.45pm and then the school bell will ring, signifying that it is time for families to leave the school site. Please don't think that we are being rude, it's just a way of us managing the site fairly and safely.

There are a couple of safety issues that we need to point out so please make sure that your family follows these and that you tell anyone who brings your child to school.

Climbing posts

We teach the children to climb on these with their feet on the lower parts and just their hands on the top parts. This is to prevent them from falling onto the playground. Please make sure the children are doing this after school too.

Balancing ropes

Please make sure the children don't use these to flip over as again they could fall onto the concrete. The ropes that hang down are weighted with plastic ends to keep them straight but these are fairly heavy so please do not allow your child to swing them towards other people as they may hit someone else in the head causing an injury.

Bikes & scooters

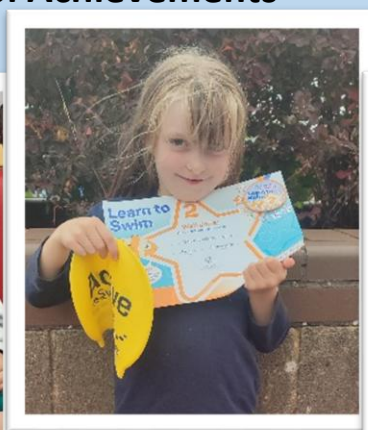
Please can children get off their bikes and scooters as soon as they reach the school gates and then wheel them once they are on the school site. This is so that no-one is knocked into when the site is congested.

School equipment

Children should not use the school bikes and scooters outside of the school hours for the same reason. They can use the green crates at the top but please make sure these are stacked neatly on the all-weather safety surface at the far end of the playground when they have finished playing rather than being left all over the playground.

Thank you!

Out of School Achievements



Attainment and Targets

At CCI, we are extremely proud of every learner, regardless of their starting point or where they finish their journey with us. We recognise that children make progress at different rates, and we celebrate the achievements and growth of every individual. Our commitment is to nurture and support each child to reach their full potential. At the same time, we closely monitor how well our children are learning and developing, and we are delighted with the achievements of our pupils. We are particularly proud of our end of year outcomes in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2, and we would like to share these results with you.

2025-26 Attainment data

Number on roll 225/225		Reading	Writing	Maths	Phonics	GLD/Combined
Attendance average Whole School 96.6% Pupil Premium (Priority) 93% Not White British 96% EAL 96% SEND 96%	EYFS	87.8%	85.1%	90.5%	-	84%
	Y1	81.3%	78.7%	84%	88%	73%
	Y2	86.5%	85.2%	82.4%	100%	77%

Priorities for 2026-27

Each year, we create a School Improvement Plan (SIP) to help us continue building on our strengths and providing the best possible education for our children. This year, our three key priorities are **Reading**, **Metacognition** and **Oracy**.

Reading remains a major focus, not because our provision is not already strong, as the results above demonstrate, but because we want to make it even stronger and ensure every child leaves CCI as a confident and enthusiastic reader.

Our other priorities, **Metacognition** and **Oracy**, reflect our commitment to developing the whole child. We want our pupils to become independent learners who can organise and reflect on their learning, while also developing the confidence and communication skills needed to express their ideas clearly and effectively.

 READING	 METACOGNITION	 ORACY
Strengthen fluency, phonics and comprehension • Evidence-informed teaching • Target disadvantaged pupils • Faster Read in Year 2 Outcome: Confident, successful readers	Develop resilience, independence and self-regulation • Shared learning behaviours • Explicit modelling • Year 2 readiness for KS2 Outcome: Reflective, independent learners	Build a school-wide culture of talk • Shared Hub priority • Listening and discussion routines • Support disadvantaged pupils Outcome: Confident communicators

New Email Addresses

Sophie	Perry	sophie.perry@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Tiger class
Georgia	Robbins	georgia.robbins@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Panda lass
Katherine	Jenkins	katherine.jenkins@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Lion class
Stephanie	Essex	stephanie.essex@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Lion class
Lily	Griffin	lily.griffin@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Giraffe class
Jen	Rylands	jenni.rylands@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Crocodile class
Claire	Mills	claire.mills@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Crocodile class
Amelia	Gould	amelia.gould@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Cheetah class
Gareth	Jones	gareth.jones@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Penguin class
Helen	Anderson	helen.anderson@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Penguin class
Jen	Glanville	jennifer.glanville@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Zebra class
School	Office	office@christchurchinfants.co.uk	School Office
Anna	Martin	anna.martin@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Headteacher
Gareth	Jones	gareth.jones@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Deputy Head
Jen	Rylands	jenni.rylands@christchurchinfants.co.uk	SENDCO
Cath	Evans	cath.evans@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Business Manager
Megan	Lumbard	megan.lumbard@christchurchinfants.co.uk	Office admin

Pupil Premium Funding

You can apply for Pupil Premium funding in South Gloucestershire by submitting an application for benefits-related Free School Meals through the [South Glos LIFE School Meals page](#).

Eligibility

- **Universal Credit:** Families receiving Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less (or expanded criteria depending on your specific circumstances).
- **Other Benefits:** Receipt of qualifying benefits like Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- **Infant Meals:** Even if your child gets free meals automatically in Reception, Year 1, or Year 2 (UFSM), you should still apply so the school can claim the extra Pupil Premium funding.

How to Apply

- **Online:** Apply directly through the South Gloucestershire Council portal.
- **Phone:** Call the South Glos Contact Centre at **01454 868008** if you need help with your application.



is back every Thursday in term time from

Thursday 10th September



3.15-4.45 @



Pendennis
**GOOD NEWS
CHURCH**

Free after school fun, food and friendship for families.

Pendennis Good News Centre, Pendennis Road, BS16 5JB. Registered Charity 1209904

Instructor Nick here - Taekwon-Do is at **Christ Church Downend Schools** & we are offering a Month Free! It's on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays**. It's all about high performance freestyle Tae Kwon-Do & developing that Self-control & Confidence. Yes, we have the black belts, kicks and tricks, but it's all about:

Teamworks
Integrity
Growth
Energy
Respect
Self-Control



The upcoming 4 week free trial will run at **Christ Church Junior and Infant Schools** starting next week and will continue at that location going forward:

Juniors (School Yr 3-6): Tuesday 3:20-4:10

Infants (School Yr 1-2): Wednesday 3:20-4:10

Juniors follow a different syllabus, with x2 belt progression.

Seniors follow the secondary syllabus, with x4 relative progression.

Please do not enter the building on pickup, release will be outside.

Our classes are the lowest priced pro Tae Kwon-Do sessions in the area, all in. After the free trial, should you wish to continue, classes are just £36 a month, which includes **all training, belts, gradings, replacement uniforms, patches licensing & insurance**. Siblings train at a huge £9 per month discount too!

To register your child, please fill out this short form **ASAP**: www.tigermartialarts.club/monthfree

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact Kat, TMA admin by email: admin@tigermartialarts.club or by phone between 10am-3pm **07921855900**.



EYFS	Y1	Y2
Being an author: This week we have been sharing our love of reading with our classes. We have read a variety of books with the children including the gingerbread man. The children have been encouraged to join in with us as we say the repeated phrases in the stories. In addition to this we have been talking to the children about the different characters and plots of the stories.	Being an author: To start the new school year, we have been focusing on friendship and team building. We have shared the text, Cyril & Pat by Emily Gravett. The children have drawn the setting and labelled this using their phase 3 diagraphs.	Being an author: This week in Year 2 we have been continuing to learn all about our new text, 'Cyril and Pat'. We started the week by practicing simple sentence writing about the two main characters; we worked hard to remember our finger spaces, capital letters and full stops! Then we moved onto comparing the two characters, using the word 'but'.
Extension challenge: Can you re-tell a parent/guardian a well-known story that you know?	Extension challenge: Children have been encouraged to write a sentence about the picture they have drawn.	Extension challenge: Our challenge this week was to use an expanded noun phrase to make our writing even more exciting to read! For example, 'Pat had a long, thin tail'.
Being a mathematician: We have been completing our school and government base line assessments in Maths over this last week individually with the children. During our whole class carpet time we have been counting up to 10 using a variety of physical resources. In addition to this we have been singing lots of counting songs to help develop our number skills.	Being a mathematician: We have been recapping concepts from EYFS such as comparing groups of objects and numbers. We have encouraged the children to use the language of more/less and with objects, fewer. We have looked at one more and one less.	Being a mathematician: This week we have been continuing to look at numbers to 100. We started the week by learning how to partition numbers in different ways, by moving the tens and ones around! After that, we moved onto plotting numbers on a number line and learning how to write numbers as words.
Extension challenge: Can you match the correct amount 1-5 to the correct numeral?	Extension challenge: We have been questioning children and encouraging them to explain why in their thinking. Eg. Why are 1, 3, 5, & 7 odd numbers?	Extension challenge: Our challenge this week was to use our number knowledge to split one number into four different ways!
Enquiry: Who are we? This week we have begun our first enquiry called Who are we? This has involved us getting to know the names of the children in our class and finding out about each other.	Enquiry: 'How can I be a good friend?' This week we encouraged the children to work together as a team to create the longest paper chain they could. They had to talk to one another, share ideas and take turns.	Enquiry: 'How can I be a good friend?' This week we have continued our friendship enquiry, where we have been learning lots of different skills, such as, turn taking, listening, being respectful and how to manage different feelings if a problem happens with a friend.
Extension challenge: Can you draw a picture of your family?	Extension challenge: Can you share how someone else has been a good friend and articulate our value? It is lovely to see the children looking for how their friends are sharing the value of friendship.	Extension challenge: Our challenge this week was to create a friendship paper chain, showing different ways of being a great friend to others.

Friends of CCI Pre Loved Uniform Sale

Friends are looking for lots of donations of pre-loved school uniform to help us hold a sale on Monday 21st September, after school, on the playground.

If you have any outgrown or unwanted school uniform, footwear or coats that are still in good condition, we would be very grateful for your donations.

Please bring any items to the school office as soon as possible. If you could write the sizes on the bag that would be great.

Thank you for your support