



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 #18

23rd January 2026

 www.christchurchinfants.co.uk

 christchurchinfants@gmail.org.uk

Dates for Term 3

- Mon 26th Jan** – Lion Library trip
- Tue 27th Jan 9-10am** - Skills connect coffee morning – (details to follow)
- Tue 27th Jan 10.30am** Open worship at church (families can attend)
- Thu 29th Jan & Tue 10th Feb 3.30-6.30pm** – Parent/Teacher meetings
- Fri 30th Jan** - Inset Day (no school for children)
- Mon 2nd Feb** – Tiger and Panda Library trip
- 9th-13th Feb** – Wonder Week
- Mon 9th Feb** – Cricket workshops, Jungle Jonathan Workshops, 9am 'Bowels & Bladders' workshop
- Tue 10th Feb** - Jungle Jonathan Workshops
- Wed 11th Feb** – Online Safety Day
- Thu 12th Feb 3.30-4.30pm** Art Gallery at church for families
- Thu 12th Feb** – Explorer Dome, 9am Parent Council meeting
- Fri 13th Feb** – Explorer Dome, Non-Uniform fundraiser, Hot Choc awards, last day of term.

Weekly update from Anna Martin

It has been another busy and exciting week across our Infant school. Zebra Class showed great determination and teamwork as they competed courageously in the after-school CSET sports competition at Mangotsfield Secondary School. They represented our school brilliantly and should be very proud of their efforts.



Panda and Tiger classes also enjoyed a visit to the local library. We are incredibly lucky to have such fantastic libraries in our community that everyone can use for free, and the children loved exploring books and sharing stories in this special space.

In EYFS, the children have been enjoying hands-on, immersive learning. As part of their learning about Sukkot, the Jewish Harvest Festival, they loved building their own Sukkahs, exploring traditions in a creative and meaningful way.



We hope you all have a happy and restful weekend, even if the rain decides to stick around.



Christ Church Schools' Partnership



As the new year starts, staff from both schools are busy looking ahead to the coming year and arranging opportunities for the children of both schools to work together.

Later this term, children from CCI and CCJ will be taking part in an art project with Mr Jones and Miss Connor, which will be displayed at Christ Church.

Meanwhile, Miss Smith and Mr Desmond are arranging for year 4 children to visit CCI and share what they know about electricity during CCI's science week in term 4.

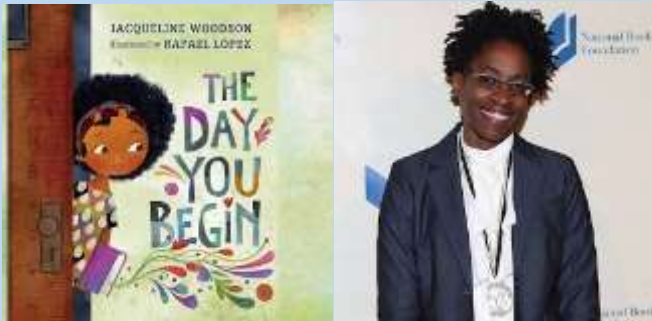
Curate visit

On Wednesday we had a visit from Revd Dan Watts, Julia Watts and Revd Paul Peterson from Christ Church along with several Curates as part of their induction into life as a Vicar of a Church school. They observed Revd Dan leading our Worship and then had a guided tour of both schools, learning about Church school vision, ethos and leadership.



Collective Worship

Monday – On Monday the children heard the story of the 'The Day you Begin' by Jacqueline Woodson. This lovely book celebrates difference, explaining how it can feel when no-one looks like you.



Tuesday – The children had class worship, because the hall was in use. They shared the book 'Courageous people who changed the world', learning about William Wilberforce (who tried to stop the black slave trade), Harriet Tubman (who fought to stop people telling people what they could and couldn't do because of the colour of their skin) and Abraham Lincoln (who wanted to stop the slave trade).



Wednesday – See above – Curate Day

Thursday – We learnt about doing the right thing not the easy thing.

Friday – The children thought about the world in their weekly spirituality worship. They thought about the wonder of trees and how we need to protect the world around us that Christians believe God created.

Living the Values

This week the school children's awards go to Diego in Pandas and Jack W in Cheetahs. Diego has been working hard to learn the alphabet and stood up to sing this in front of his whole class. Jack joined football club for the first time as the only Y1 child with lots of Y2s and was so courageous, making us feel very proud of him.

The staff award goes to Mrs Brock for showing so much courage in coming back to work after a hip operation, still in discomfort but doing her best to help the children in Crocodiles.

The children's home awards go to:

Dougie in Cheetahs – who had the courage to try a new sport - wheelchair basketball! He was the youngest there and has never been to a sports club out of school before. He absolutely smashed it - already doing tricks on the chair and even managed to throw/catch/bounce whilst in the wheelchair. He also listened well and spoke to the instructor. He showed so much courage and he had so much fun!

Ivor in Lions - for showing courage this week when he started new swimming lessons. He had been very nervous and was initially reluctant to go, but very bravely agreed to give it a try. He ended up really enjoying himself and asked if he can go again every week!

Alfie in Pandas – for showing courage and challenging himself to swim in the big pool despite feeling very nervous. We are really proud of you for being so courageous Alfie!



Driving & Parking Reminder

As the darker, wetter weather continues, we ask everyone to take extra care when driving and parking around the school.

Reduced visibility and slippery roads can make this a challenging time for pedestrians and other road users, especially at drop-off and pick-up times.

Please drive slowly, stay alert and park responsibly.

We also remind parents and carers that parking is **not** permitted on yellow zig-zag markings, double yellow lines, or in the Doctors' Surgery car park.

Thank you for helping to keep our school community safe.



EYFS	Y1	Y2
<p>Being an author: In Drawing Club this week our story has been Little Red Riding Hood. We have had a go at drawing the Wolf and using CVC words to describe him. In our Setting session we drew and had a go at making Grandma’s bedroom. In our Adventure time session, we imagined who Little Red Riding hood may have met on her way home from Grandma’s house. We have also enjoyed using small world play to retell the story, writing what Little Red Riding Hood may have given Grandma in her basket, and creating wanted posters for the Wolf!</p>	<p>Being an author This week, the children have been looking at past tense verbs and how it is an action completed in the past. We also talked about that when we use past tense verbs we often add 'ed' onto the end of a verb. We used this grammatical knowledge to re-tell the story of Egg Box Dragon.</p>	<p>Being an author: This week we have been writing alternative endings inspired by our main text ‘The Adventures of Egg Box Dragon’. The children were focusing on using the conjunction ‘because’ to explain why things were happening in the story as well as revisiting pronouns from the previous week.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you write a sentence to describe the Wolf?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: To challenge the children this week we asked them to look at their written work and see if they could add exciting adjectives into their sentences and use an exclamation mark at the end of a sentence when needed.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: We have challenged ourselves to include more adventurous vocabulary in our stories and extend them with extra details.</p>
<p>Being a mathematician: In Maths this week we have looking at capacity. We have had a go at using rice to show full, half full and empty. We have used our estimating skills to guess how many cubes fit inside a container and had a go at comparing lengths of ribbon using longer and shorter.</p>	<p>Being a mathematician This week, we have carried on extending our knowledge of place value to 50. We started the week with practical activities e.g we were given a number up to 50 and were asked to make monsters using this number with tens and ones. We then applied this knowledge into book work and had to find one more/one less within numbers to 50 and record it.</p>	<p>Being a mathematician: This week we have been investigating division. The children have been learning how to write division calculation and learning the methods for sharing and grouping. So far we have looked at the division facts for 2s, 5s and 10s.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you estimate how many cubes are in the cup, check by counting, and record your answers in the table?</p>	<p>Extension challenge: To challenge the children in Maths this week, the children were given number cards from 1-9 and a tens box and a ones box- they needed to see how many different numbers they could make by putting the numbers in different orders.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: The challenge this week has been to understand how the multiplication facts are linked to the division facts and use this information to increase the speed at which they can solve division problems.</p>
<p>Enquiry: ‘What Stories do we Know?’ This week in enquiry we have continued talking about the stories we enjoy we enjoy. We have been illustrators and had a go at drawing some of our favourite characters. We have had a go at retelling our favourite stories, creating whole class helicopter stories.</p>	<p>Enquiry: ‘How are schools the same?’ This week, the children have been using their geographical knowledge, looking at a school in Uganda called Kumi Primary School. They found out what the children wore to school, what they learnt and what the school buildings looked like. They then interviewed each other about what life is like at Kumi Primary school. Later in the week, they used their historical knowledge to look at schools in the Victorian times compared to the present day.</p>	<p>Enquiry: ‘How are schools the same?’ This week we have looked in more depth at Kumi Primary School in Uganda. We have been comparing lots of features such as how the children at CCI and Kumi travel to school, what they learn, whether they wear a uniform and many other interesting features. We also looked at the capital of Uganda and how different this area is to Kumi.</p>
<p>Extension challenge: Can you retell Little Red Riding Hood? What would happen in your story?</p>	<p>Extension challenge- As a class we were asked to think about the similarities and differences between a Victorian school and our school and make a class table with our findings.</p>	<p>Extension challenge: Our challenge this week was think deeply about the reasons behind some of the similarities and differences between the two schools.</p>

If you would like us to share your child’s achievements of any sort, please email them to christchurchinfants@sgmail.org.uk and we will pop them on the weekly newsletter.

Want the chance to win an Internet Safety Storybook?



Billy Goat and his best friend Cyril are messing about with the farmer's mobile phone, taking selfies and playing games... until they discover the number for a troll. Grandpa Gruff says all trolls are bad, so Billy and Cyril decide to get their own back by sending mean messages. After all, trolls really do stink! Don't they?

Draw a picture of an Internet Safety superhero on the competition sheet at home.

What do they look like? What are their powers? How do they keep the Internet safe for all children?

Please give your entries to the Office by Friday 6th February.

**On Thursday 12th February School Council and Miss Essex will choose a winner!
Have fun and stay safe online!**

7th February 2026
10 - 4pm

CHRIST CHURCH JUNIORS
PRESENTS

THE BRICK SHOW

Every Brick Tells a Story!

A fun-filled day of LEGO® builds, prizes, and creative play for everyone!

Help build a huge CCJ Logo from over 14,000 dots

Tickets

£3pp - Family of four £10

Available on Parent Pay and on the door

All money raised goes to Friend's of CCJ

Christ Church C of E VC Junior School
Pendennis Rd, Downend BS16 5JJ

For more info scan QR code



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PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS

more fun, more friendships, more smiles
DURING THE FEBRUARY HALF-TERM!

Our Holiday Clubs keep children active, safe, and entertained throughout the school holidays.

Join us this February as we offer a wide range of fun activities, including sports, performing arts, and games, all at great value. There's something for every child to enjoy this half-term!

Book now for a holiday full of excitement!



8:45-15:30

£24.65



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MONSTER MISCHIEF!

Free drop-in craft activity

DOWNEND LIBRARY

MONDAY 16TH

FEBRUARY

10.30 - 11.30

Most suitable for primary school aged children.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.



www.southglos.gov.uk/holiday-activities

