



Christ Church, Church of England Primary School Newsletter

Through God's love, we learn, aspire and achieve; we flourish.

Newsletter Issue No.454

Date 16/10/2026

Christ Church Instagram

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We have nearly reached the end of the first half term - and what a long and full one it has been. Next week will be a shorter one as we will **finish on Thursday** with an INSET on the Friday before we break for half-term.

It is a pleasure to see all the work and enrichment undertaken across the school this week from sporting events to the author visit as well as all the fabulous work going on day to day in the classrooms. The children bring so much joy with them and this radiates out across the school. We were proud of the many children who received the Secret Certificates in assembly this week. Nominated by peers and staff alike, it was wonderful to celebrate Marvel (Y6), Savannah (Y6), Chris (Y4), Annabel (Y6) and Lottie (Y6), who were all noticed for their exceptional care, thought and support of others going above and beyond that which we would expect. It was also lovely to hear how the focus and excellent example set in class was recognised and celebrated by other children. Well done to all of them.

It was also a pleasure to attend the Friends (PTA) on Monday evening and to hear their exciting ideas for fundraising events across the school as well as social events - we look forward to a fun and full year ahead. Our school community would not be a community if it was not for the contribution of our parent body. We are very thankful (as are the children!) for the time, care and effort put in by the Friends and all those associated with the school. We have the Fireworks coming up soon; this event is for current and past families only and is a secure, ticketed event. Tickets are available to purchase on ParentPay. There is further information on the class groups.

We also want to take a moment to thank all those who are giving of their time and volunteering in school. We have this week, had the support of parents past and present as well as friends of staff who have assisted with various events such as Forest School which enables us to provide even more for the children - thank you to Mrs Turner and all her efforts with this in particular.

We would like to remind families that on Monday at drop off, we will be holding a memorial/ celebration of life for Mr Crocker. We invite those who wish to join with us at this time to remember him, for all that he did for us and to give our thanks for his life and service to the school.

Nursery

The Nursery children have been learning the song 'Down at the Station' in our Phonics Rhyme Time session.

We built a huge puffer train using the large construction resources. We counted how many seats we need, acted out travelling on a train and sang together using instruments!



Reception

Our Reception children enjoyed their weekly reading buddy sessions with their Year 4 partners. These special moments give the younger children the opportunity to develop their reading skills, build confidence and discover the joy of books, while our Year 4 pupils develop their communication skills, patience and sense of responsibility. Sharing stories together is a wonderful way to build friendships across the school and inspire a lifelong love of reading.



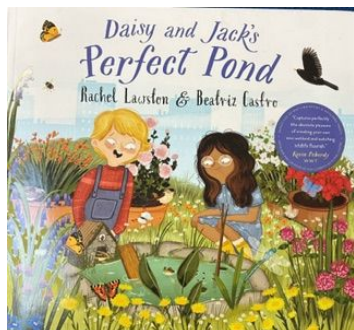
Respect, compassion, service, wisdom, perseverance, trust



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Year One

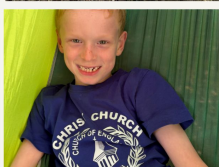


This week Year 1 have started reading a book called Daisy and Jack's Perfect Pond. The children really enjoyed searching for the different garden animals in the amazing illustrations and begun using adjectives to describe the animals in the story. The main animal in the book is a frog and the children made life cycle wheels to show stages in which a frog grows from frogspawn to an adult size frog.

Year Two

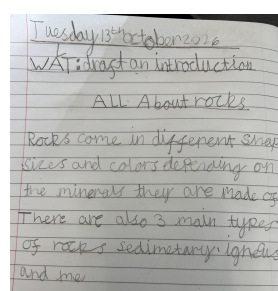
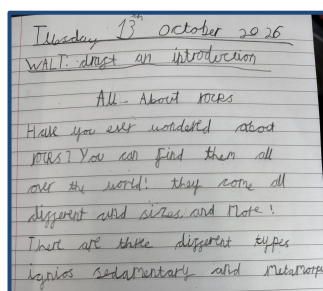
Year 2 enjoyed their first Forest School of the year on Wednesday. It was a beautiful day full of sunshine, play and learning. The children especially enjoyed

drilling conkers necklaces. They practised safely climbing trees, balancing on the slack line and hanging free in the hammocks. Our session finished with a spectacular Autumn leaf explosion. Well done Year 2!



Year Three

Several children were so excited to create their non-fiction text about rocks that they stayed in during their break to carry on writing their introductions! Here are Immy and Isabella, writing as experts:



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Year Four

In our R.E. assessment lesson the children demonstrated their understanding of how belief in God influenced the actions of Abraham, Moses and Ruth. They identified key events from each story, used religious vocabulary to explain how each person responded to God's call, and made links between themes such as faith, trust, obedience and commitment. They reflected on questions arising from the stories.

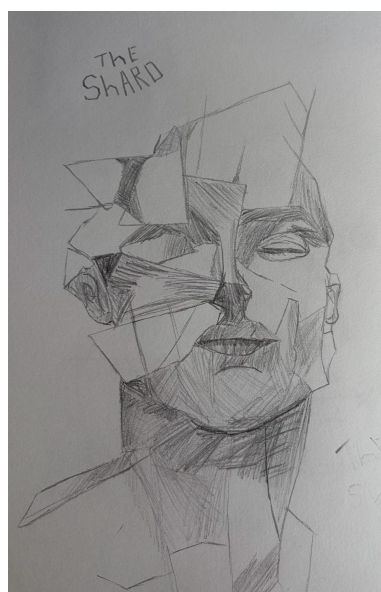


Year Five

On Wednesday afternoon, Y5 participated in a T1 rugby tournament at Barnet Rugby Club. They demonstrated incredible teamwork and perseverance, especially since some of them had not played before.



Year Six



Year Six have been looking at cubism in Art, inspired by Picasso's 'Weeping Woman'. The children looked at abstract portraits and tried to recreate their own. Cristian's work (see left) was particularly spectacular!

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Certificates

Well done to these children who received certificates this week for their effort and excellent learning. They are very well deserved:



The Big Question:

Story: Eleven-year-old Bodhana Sivanandan from London has become the youngest person ever to earn the woman grandmaster title in chess.

Question: Should age decide what we're allowed to do?

Awesome Author Visit!

Today Y2, 3, 4 and 5 had a fantastic visit from Britain's Got Talent star, Banji Alexander, who delivered a creative writing workshop. He inspired the children to make up their own mythical creature hybrids and then write character descriptions using a range of different skills, such as expanded noun phrases, similes, interesting adjectives and adverbs and fronted adverbials. Of the three books he's written, his favorite is the one he wrote for his Year 3 class during lockdown when he was a teacher: 'Lockdown Looms'.



Maxim Y3 'I don't want to go out to play, I'd rather carry on with my writing. When I get home I'm going to do another one!'

Attendance

Thank you to all the families who are actively using our Attendance Policy <https://www.christchurch.barnet.sch.uk/Parents/Attendance/> when requesting planned absences. Our school target is 97% attendance.

Children whose attendance falls below that of 90% are considered 'persistently absent'. Please remember that morning and afternoon carry separate attendance marks and therefore count as two absences.

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Sports at Christ Church

On Thursday morning a group of KS2 children took part in the Barnet School Cross Country event at Copthall playing fields. The children represented the school brilliantly and we are so proud of how well they all ran. We came 6th overall out of 23 schools. Well done to all the children who took part! Thank you also to all the parents who supported with transport and who came to cheer the children on as well as Mrs David for her organisation!



SEND NEWS AND UPDATES

. A reminder of the Inclusion coffee morning on **Friday 13th November at 9am** to share our vision for inclusion at Christ Church.

If you would like to attend please email senco@christchurch.barnetmail.net.

Also here are some useful courses coming up in the next few weeks

The Government has approved Barnet's SEND and AP reform plan.

Barnet Council's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) Reform Plan has been approved by government.

The plan sets out the council's ambition for an inclusive, responsive and sustainable SEND system, with children and young people, parent carers, schools and settings, and wider partners at the forefront of the proposals.

See here for more information:

<https://www.bels.org.uk/post/government-approves-barnet-s-send-and-alternative-provision-reform-plan>

You will have the opportunity to submit questions in advance and take part in discussion during each session. Please note that sessions will focus on general processes and updates rather than individual circumstances.

Session 1: Introduction to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) Reforms

- Wednesday 21st October at 12.00 - 1.00pm and repeated at 5.30 - 6.30pm. No sign-up required.
- Joining link:
<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/3817359646329794?p=JjL46aCUZTTyCwfkIA>
- Meeting ID: 381 735 964 632 979 4
- Passcode: W27eY2nB

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Colossians 3:12

Weekly Reflection

12. *Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.*

"Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries; without them, humanity cannot survive."

*This famous reflection by the **Dalai Lama** beautifully captures how love, compassion, and the resulting joy are essential to the human experience. When we practice compassion, we naturally bring joy to ourselves and others, keeping our shared humanity alive.*

Parking and the roads around the school

We have been contacted this week as illegal parking was reported. A report of a white Range Rover Evoque, who parked illegally over the Noah's Ark pedestrian accesses at drop off on 14th October - this may not be a parent of the school but we ask all to please be vigilant.

Please can we also remind all parents of the voluntary one-way system and ask that families adhere to this in order to maintain the flow of traffic around the school - and the good will of the residents.

Reminder:

Early School Closure
Wednesday 21st October
2026 as we will be attending
the funeral of Lee Crocker.

Online Safety: Beware of Phishing Scams! 🖥️

Phishing scams can target children through games, emails, messages and social media. Scammers may pretend to be friends or trusted companies to trick children into sharing personal information, clicking suspicious links or giving away passwords. Please remind your child never to share personal details or passwords online, to be cautious of messages offering free games, prizes or rewards, and to always check with a trusted adult if something seems unusual or too good to be true. Encouraging children to **STOP, THINK and CHECK** before clicking can help keep them safe online.

Child Protection

We take children's safety very seriously and all information regarding safeguarding is on our website and also available from the school office.

Please contact Mrs Harry, Mr Smith, Mrs Hawkins, Mrs Turner or Mrs Moore immediately should you have any concerns regarding children or adults at school.

head@christchurch.barnetmail.net or safeguarding@christchurch.barnetmail.net

Should you ever need to contact the school outside of school hours, please email Mrs Harry who will pick up the email as soon as she can.

*Wishing you a very happy weekend!
From Mrs Harry, Mr Smith and the Staff Team*

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Diary Dates

October 2026:

Mon 19th	Y3 PTA cake sale (15:30) Music Recital (18.30-19.30)
Wed 21st	Y3 trip to Celtic Harmony Lee Crocker Funeral - 2.30pm school closure
Thur 22nd (NOT 21/10)	Y5/Y6 Young Shakespeare
Thur 22nd	YR - Y6 Flu vaccines
Fri 23rd	Inset day
Mon 26th - Fri 30th	HALF TERM

November 2026:

Wed 11th	Y5/6 Islamaphobia workshops
Thurs 12th	Individual photograph day Y5/6 Girls Football tournament (12.00-15.00)
Fri 13th	Inclusion coffee morning 9am
Wed 18th	Y2 PTA cake sale (15:30)
Fri 20th	Infant Music Festival (13.30-14.45)

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