Autumn Term 2026 Newsletter 3

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”
— John 10:10

Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope you all enjoyed the half term break. It was lovely to welcome the children back into school.

Please take a few minutes to read through this newsletter and make a note of the events taking place over the coming weeks, leading up to Christmas and the end of term.

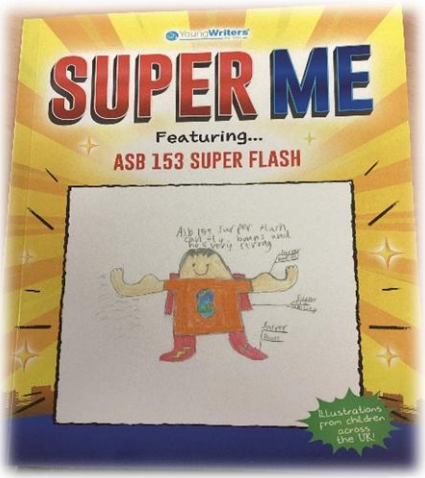
Upcoming Events

- **Friday 6 November** – Year 4 trip to St Alban’s Cathedral
- **Wednesday 11 November, 10.15am** – Year 6 to lead Remembrance Service in church, parents are warmly invited to attend
- **Thursday 12 & Friday 13 November** – Year 5 at Woodrow
- **Friday 13 November, 7.00pm** – KS2 SchoolCloud Parent Consultation bookings open
- **Friday 20 November, 2.30pm** – Year 5 Woodrow assembly, parents are warmly invited to attend
- **Thursday 15 October, 9.00am** – Year 2 Mastering Number Workshop
  Parents are warmly invited to attend.
- **Wednesday 25 & Thursday 26** – KS2 Parent Consultations
- **Friday 27 November** – PSA Christmas Fair
- **Wednesday 2 December, 9.15am** – EYFS Christmas Performance in the hall
- **Wednesday 2 December, 2pm** – KS1 Nativity Performance in the hall
- **Tuesday 8 December** – Year 5 trip to Woodoaks Farm
- **Tuesday 15 December** – Christingle orange collection day, 1 per child please
- **Wednesday 16 December** – Christmas jumper day, Christmas lunch, & Christingle making
- **Friday 18 December** – Last day of term, early finish: 1pm Nursery, 1.15pm Reception, 1.30pm Year 1-6

Curriculum News

This half term, Year 5 will be learning about Australia in Geography, finding out where it is in the world, some of the main cities, the weather, and the differences between urban and rural life. If anyone has any connections to Australia and would be interested in coming in to talk about it from real life experience we would love to hear from you!

Year 3 entered a Young Writers competition, creating their own 'Super Me' characters. Logan's drawing was chosen as the favourite and has been selected to feature on the front cover of the published book! Logan is now a finalist, with the exciting possibility of winning the overall prize. Well done to all of Year 3 for their fantastic creativity and imaginative entries! They also had a fantastic morning with the rangers this week, enjoying a nature walk where they discovered two newts and heard about the Oak Processionary Moth and spotted some of their nests, discovering why it is important to keep our distance. What a wonderful morning of exploring and learning about nature!

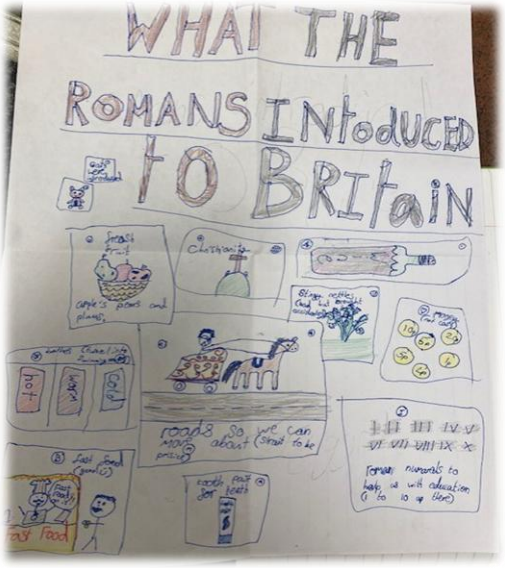


Year 2 have started a new history topic learning about the Great Fire of London. This is a perfect follow up to their geography learning last term when they researched some of the physical features of London, including the River Thames. The book they are using in English lessons also supports this learning as they are reading *Vlad and The Great Fire of London*, by Kate and Sam Cunningham.

Year 6 have been busy preparing for their Remembrance Service next week. As part of their preparations, they have been writing thoughtful war poetry, creating beautiful felt poppies and leading their family groups in decorating pebbles with poppy designs. These pebbles have formed part of our special Remembrance Installation at the church. A big thank you to everyone who kindly provided pebbles for this project.



This week in Geography, Year 1 have been learning all about maps and how they help us explore our local area, inspired by the story *Scaredy Squirrel*. They have explored aerial maps, identified familiar landmarks and learnt how to use symbols, keys and directional language. During their exciting fieldwork on Chorleywood Common, they planned a route and created journey sticks to record the different features discovered along the way. Back in the classroom, they used their journey sticks to create maps and explored the difference between human and physical features in our local environment



Year 4 have been learning all about the Romans and volcanoes. Their history and geography learning has combined with their English text, Christina Balit's *Escape From Pompeii*, which charts the devastating eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79AD. The children have researched life in the Roman Empire, investigated where in the world currently erupting volcanoes can be found, and written diary entries imagining that they are experiencing the eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

Children in Nursery and Reception have been learning about the Hindu celebration of Diwali and both classes were lucky enough to have a parent visitors come into class to share how they celebrate at home. They have made firework pictures, Diya lamps, and rangoli patterns. They also had a dance session to learn some moves too!



Remembrance Poppies

We have poppies available for the children to wear for the Remembrance service. These can be purchased for a recommended donation of £1 in cash from Monday 9 November. Names will be written on the back of the children's poppies and these will be kept safely in class ready for the children to wear for the service on Wednesday 11 November. Alternatively, children may wear poppies purchased from outside of school anytime in the next two weeks.

Considerate Parking Request

A gentle reminder to please park considerately when using the shared car park, being mindful of other families and members of the community who also need access. Inconsiderate parking can cause unnecessary congestion, difficulties manoeuvring and delays for others. Please also remember that parking on the hatched

area is strictly prohibited at all times, as this must be kept clear. Please take a moment to ensure you are parked appropriately and are not obstructing access or taking up more space than necessary. Thank you for your cooperation and consideration of others.

Staffing Update

A brief staffing update: Mrs Lee left us at half term, and Mrs Hedley's last day will be Monday 9 November. Although we have not yet been able to recruit permanent replacements, we have successfully interviewed and appointed two temporary members of staff who will be joining us until at least the end of this term. Mrs Shabir will be primarily supporting in Year 2, while also providing support across the school, and Mrs Stevens will be primarily based in Year 4. We know that our school community will join us in giving both a very warm welcome as they become part of the Christ Church team.

And Finally…

Since the start of this academic year, we have been reviewing and developing our enrichment offer. Following a pupil survey, we introduced a programme of teacher-led lunchtime clubs across the week, offering a variety of sporting, creative, practical and recreational activities.

This half term, we have also introduced a small-group Forest School programme, led by Lee, a Three Rivers District Council Play Ranger. Sessions take place every Tuesday from 1–2pm as part of the curriculum. Our intention is to continue this throughout the academic year, with different pupils selected each half term. While places are limited, all children will have opportunities to enjoy Forest School and outdoor learning with their class teacher, supported by our established partnership with the Chorleywood Parish Council Rangers.

If anyone is interested in experiencing the Three Rivers District Play Ranger offer outside of school, they run term time and holiday sessions, and you can find out more here: https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/services/leisure-parks-culture/play/play-rangers

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Allaway
Head of School