



Newsletter Issue 18

23rd January 2026



Head Teacher's Award

Louie - Sycamore Class



Attendance Award

Cedar Class - 99 %



Upcoming dates for your diary:



Monday 26th January

Y4 Swimming (All week)
Y4, Y5, Y6 Maury Thai Club - 3:30pm-4:30pm

Tuesday 27th January

Y3-Y6 Drumming Club - 3:30pm-4:30pm

Wednesday 28th January

NO JAM CLUB

Thursday 29th January

Y1, Y2, Y3 Boys Football Club – 3:30pm-4:30pm
Reception and Y1 Computer Club – 3:30pm-4:30pm
Performing Arts Club – 3:30pm-4:30pm

Friday 30th January

8:50am-9:10am – Stay and Read – Nursery to Year 2
Boys Football Team – 3:30pm-4:40pm

Follow the school on Instagram

Are you following the school yet on Instagram?

If you're not, we'd love you to start doing so! Find us by searching "christchurchnw1".



Prayer

Dear God,
Thank you for the amazing experiences we have been fortunate enough to take part in this term.
Sorry for not always listening and following instructions to the very best of our ability.
Please help us to stay safe and healthy.
Amen
Written by Willow Class.

Our Christian Value this half-term is:

Endurance



Learning in Willow Class

Willow Class have made a fantastic start to the Spring term, beginning with Adam's 'Toucan Roar' workshops, which were a real highlight. Although we were a little apprehensive at first, we worked incredibly hard and produced a wonderful performance. In just one week, we stepped out of our comfort zones, learnt our lines and truly became the characters we were portraying as we performed our poem 'Adults' to our families. It was a joy to see every member of the class shine and we are extremely proud of them all.

We have also been lucky to welcome the London Sinfonietta Composition team back into school over the past few weeks, transforming our Music lessons. Each visit introduced us to a range of instruments, inspiring us through listening to live performances. We then explored different techniques to create our own compositions, learning how music can be inspired by lines and symbols. Our pieces were even performed by the musicians on their cello and violin. This week, we began experimenting with writing our own lyrics for a song.

Despite the busy schedule, Willow Class have continued to work hard in English. This term, we have been reading *King Kong*, building curiosity and exploring the story in depth. We have written diary entries from different character perspectives and stepped into the role of reporters by writing interviews to intrigue the reader and hint at what is to come. The Year 5 team are incredibly proud of how well Willow Class have settled back into classroom life and the enthusiasm they have shown for their learning so far this term.



They think it's all over ... IT IS NOW!

Well, what a season!

The silverware is heading our way this year after both the girls' and boys' football teams romped to Camden South glory.

We are so proud of the way our young footballers have performed. To win ten out of twelve matches is no mean feat and they have achieved this in an excellent manner, upholding our school values in all of their matches.



On Tuesday, we concluded the season against St Mary St Pancras. Esmae notched a brilliant hat-trick in a 3-0 victory for the girls before our boys turned a dominant performance into a 3-1 win with a fantastic third goal straight from the training ground.

As far as we are aware, this is the first time our girls' team have ever won the league. Girls, you have worked so hard over the past three years and have come such a long way. You have delighted us this season. Boys, considering you are such a young team – with only three Years 6s in your whole squad – you have exceeded our expectations and we can't wait to see you develop further next year. Great work.

I want to say a big thank you to our Coaches Rae and Martin who have provided the children with so much excellent guidance. All eyes on the Camden Finals now!

CSSA Football League (South) - Girls

School	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Goal Diff	Points	Fair Play	Position
Christchurch NW1	12	10	2	0	35	5	30	44	43	1st
Argyle	12	6	5	1	13	5	8	35	39	2nd
Kings Cross	12	5	5	2	16	7	9	32	39	3rd
Richard Cobden	12	5	2	5	20	11	9	29	39	4th
Netley	12	4	4	4	7	10	-3	28	38.5	5th
St Marys	12	1	2	9	3	25	-22	17	42	6th
Edith Neville	12	0	2	10	0	31	-31	14	37	7th

CSSA Football League (South) - Boys

School	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Goal Diff	Points	Fair Play	Position
Christchurch NW1	12	10	0	2	25	10	15	42	40	1st
Netley	12	6	4	2	12	7	5	34	38.5	2nd
Richard Cobden	12	6	4	2	11	7	4	34	43.5	3rd
Edith Neville	12	3	7	2	11	9	2	28	39	4th
Kings Cross	12	1	4	7	5	11	-6	19	39	5th
St Marys	12	1	4	7	6	14	-8	19	41	6th
Argyle	12	1	5	6	13	25	-12	20	41	7th

Sophy Henn Visits Sycamore and Rowan Class

As we approach the unveiling and opening of our beautiful new library, we were thrilled to welcome award-winning author and illustrator Sophy Henn to the school on Thursday.

Sycamore and Rowan Class both LOVED their workshops with her, creating gorgeous, big artwork to be shown in the hall in a display all about what the children love to read.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Sophy for her work yesterday and to the National Literacy Trust for all of their support – our children are so excited to see what the library looks like and to read the huge number of new books that it will hold!



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok's Following Feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You Feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 to £224.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Between 1.6 and 1.9 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12-15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability, and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

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