Christ Church CE
Primary School
The Christian faith is at the heart of our school community.

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Curriculum Information Letter – Reception 2026-2027 – Autumn 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Chestnut Class! This half-term, our topic is 'People Who Help Us', where we will explore the important roles people play in our homes, school and local community. We will also be learning about seasonal celebrations, including Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day and Christmas.

Curriculum Plan for Autumn 2 2026	
Communication and Language	This half-term, we will continue to develop the children's listening, attention and communication skills through stories, discussions and daily activities. Children will be encouraged to listen carefully to others, take turns when speaking and respond to questions about stories and their own experiences. We will also focus on developing vocabulary linked to our People Who Help Us topic, encouraging children to use increasingly detailed sentences to explain their ideas and ask questions.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	This half-term, we will continue to develop the children's understanding of their emotions, helping them to recognise, name and talk about different feelings. Through stories, discussions and play, children will learn about kindness, friendship and the importance of helping others. We will also encourage greater independence in everyday routines, including putting on coats, fastening buttons and zips, and managing personal belongings. Children will practise sharing, taking turns and resolving simple disagreements with increasing confidence.
Physical Development	This half-term, our PE lessons with Coach Rae will focus on Gymnastics. Children will develop their strength, balance, coordination and body control through a range of movements, shapes and simple sequences. They will practise travelling, balancing and moving safely using different equipment. We will also continue to develop fine motor skills through activities such as threading, playdough, drawing and cutting, helping children to improve their pencil grip, scissor control and early handwriting skills.
Religious Education	This half-term, our RE learning will focus on the big question, 'Why is Christmas special to Christians?' Children will begin by exploring how families prepare for the arrival of a new baby before learning about the Christmas Story. We will explore the key events of the Nativity, including the Angel Gabriel visiting Mary, the journey to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus. Children will also learn why Christians celebrate Christmas and explore some of the traditions associated with this special time.
Literacy	This half-term, our Literacy learning will be linked to our People Who Help Us topic through stories including Flashing Fire Engines, The Jolly Postman and The Jolly Christmas Postman. Children will develop their storytelling skills by discussing characters, predicting events and retelling familiar stories. We will also explore different purposes for writing, including creating labels, lists, messages and letters. In Phonics, we will continue following Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised, developing children's ability to recognise letter sounds, blend sounds to read simple words and begin to spell words using their phonics knowledge. Children will also practise forming recognisable letters with increasing accuracy.

Maths	This half-term, we will be developing children's understanding of numbers to 5 through practical activities and mathematical games. Children will explore different ways of representing numbers, practise counting accurately and develop an understanding of one more and one less. We will also investigate circles and triangles, identifying their properties and recognising these shapes in our environment. Towards the end of the half-term, we will explore shapes with four sides and begin to understand how the number zero represents an empty set.
Understanding the World	This half-term, our Understanding the World learning will focus on the important people who help us in our homes, school and local community. Children will explore different occupations, including firefighters, police officers, doctors and postal workers, and learn how these people help to keep us safe and healthy. We will also discuss special events and celebrations, including Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day and Christmas, encouraging children to talk about their own experiences. As the seasons change, children will observe the differences between autumn and winter, exploring changes in weather, clothing and the natural environment.
Expressive Arts and Design	This half-term, children will explore a variety of creative techniques through painting, drawing, printing, collage and construction activities. We will create artwork inspired by Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day and Christmas, experimenting with colour, texture and different materials. Children will also develop their observational drawing skills and explore how shapes and lines can be used to represent familiar objects and people. Through junk modelling and construction, children will design and build models linked to our People Who Help Us topic, using their imagination and developing their ability to join and combine materials.

Thank you for your continued support. We are really proud of how well the children have settled into Reception and the progress they are already making. We look forward to another wonderful half-term of learning together. As always, please speak to a member of the team if you have any questions.

Michael Ritson
Assistant Headteacher / EYFS Lead