



# Church Hill Middle School Weekly Update Friday 29th September

Welcome from Miss Harris.



What another excellent week at Church Hill Middle School!

We are supporting and sharing with you this week a very exciting opportunity for Ks2: The 500 Word Story competition! Please see below for more details. I am very excited to read some of your entries!

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our Macmillan Coffee Afternoons this week. It was amazing to see so many of you from our community in our hall enjoying the time with your children and each other.

Finally, a huge well done to all of our celebration assembly winners this week. It was lovely hearing and reading about why you have won your awards. They are very well deserved!

A special shout out to [Erin Smith \(8JD\)](#), [Charlie Griffiths \(8JD\)](#), [Heidi Dawson \(8JD\)](#), [Brody Blake \(7SF\)](#), [George Turner \(8FG\)](#), [Lennon Yates \(8JD\)](#), [Farris Khan-Jones \(6BD\)](#), [Lawan Mohammed \(5CB\)](#), [Kaitlyn Howard \(6BD\)](#) and [Bethany Spacie \(7SF\)](#) this week for being our top 10 EPraise students. Keep up the hard work!

## Dates for your diary



Please see below a list of key dates for this half term. Further information around these events will be sent via EPraise.

**Monday 25th September - Friday 6th October** Year 5 Bikeability.

**Wednesday 4th October** Reading Workshop with Mrs Wilson

**Thursday 19th October** 5OC and 5MP Harvest assembly at 2.15 pm

**Friday 20th October** 5CB and 5KS Harvest assembly at 2.15 pm

**Wednesday 25th October** Special Halloween Breakfast

**Wednesday 25th October** Open Evening (6pm onwards)

**Friday 27th October** Teacher Training Day and End of Term

**Tuesday 21st (3.30 - 6.30) and Wednesday 22nd November (3.30 - 5.30)** Parents' Evenings for all classes.

## Macmillan Coffee Afternoon



Macmillan Coffee Afternoons: what a success!

Thank you all for your support for this event. It was excellent to have so many parents and carers on site, enjoying coffee and cake with our pupils.

We will announce how much we raised in next week's newsletter!

## Halloween Breakfast



On Wednesday 25th October, we are hosting a special Halloween Breakfast at our breakfast club.

The special breakfast will consist of a range of hot breakfast items.

**If you wish for your child to attend, please pay £1.50 on Parent Pay by Monday 23rd October.**

Normal breakfast club items will still be available for purchase on this day for children who do not wish to have the special breakfast.



# Attendance Matters



## Mornings are the best time of the day for learning.

Regular habits of lateness can amount to days of learning lost over a school year; therefore, we ask families to establish morning/ evening routines to assist arrival to school:

**5 minutes before 8:30am (Years 7 and 8) and 8:45am (Years 5 and 6).**

Late entry to class can also be distressing for children and disrupts learning for others.

Learning for all must start on time to make the most of each school day; a positive start to the school day enables children feel more settled and ready to learn.



### IMPORTANT REMINDER:

The DfE has made it clear that headteachers are not to authorise absence for any holidays during term time, except under exceptional circumstances.

We will not therefore grant authorisation for absence in the following instances:

- Day trips and holidays in term time.
- Leaving school unnecessarily during the school day.
- Not attending school for an unnecessary reason such as shopping or birthdays.
- Absences which have not been properly explained or have failed to follow the absence procedure.

### epraise

We will now send parents/carers a 'Late Notification' message via Epraise when children are late to school.

*'Good habits of attendance and punctuality are important life skills.'*

### ARE YOU STRUGGLING GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL?

Does your child want to remain at home unnecessarily? Have you noticed any patterns emerging in same days?

PLEASE feel free to contact us. We will always endeavour to support.

Either contact your child's class teacher or Mrs R Evans (Pastoral Lead for Attendance/Behaviour) Via Epraise or telephone.



96-100% ATTENDANCE



### TOP 10 - Routines, Tips, Organisation to Support your Child's Attendance.

1. Set a regular bed time and morning routine; this makes everyone feel in control and helps the start of the day feeling good.
2. Set more than one alarm - be on time, everyday.
3. Lay out clothes, shoes and bag, organise lunch the night before.
4. Don't let your child stay at home unless they are truly unwell.
5. Avoid unnecessary absences. Keep in mind complaints of a stomachache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
6. If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, pastoral team, or other parents for advice on how to make them feel comfortable and excited about learning.
7. When your child seems better they may arrive to school for afternoon lessons. (Half days count towards school attendance, but also can help children feel more confident about returning to school after illness.)
8. Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbour, or another parent.
9. Talk about the importance of attendance at home - use examples about how attendance is regarded in the work place.
10. If your child attends an unavoidable medical appointment during the school day, minimise the time they miss out of lessons by returning them to school the same day or asap.



## Reading

There is a parent workshop on Wednesday 4th October to support you with Renaissance Reading at home.

Come along to find out ways you can support your child's reading, and learn about how we encourage and help their reading in school.

Sign up on EPrise!

## 500 Word Story Competition!

**500 Words, the UK's most successful children's writing competition has now opened for submissions and will run till Friday 10 November.**

Since the competition was first launched in 2011 by Chris Evans on the Radio 2 Breakfast Show, it has received over one million stories from children throughout the UK.

This year, the two age categories will be **5-7 year-olds** and **8-11 year-olds**.

Children of all abilities are encouraged to use their creativity and imagination to **write a story they would love to read!**

Our brilliant 500 Word judges are back; award-winning and best-selling authors **Frank Cottrell-Boyce**, **Francesca Simon**, **Charlie Higson**, and former children's laureate, **Malorie Blackman**. We are delighted to say that this year there will be a new addition to the panel, TV legend and children's author, **Sir Lenny Henry**. The judges will be casting their expert eyes over the final 50 stories. You can find out why they are perfect judges [here](#).

This year, BBC Breakfast will be hosting the competition supported by us on BBC Teach. The winners will be featured in a special 500 Word programme with **The One Show, on World Book Day on 7 March 2024.**

Please visit the following, or Google BBC Teach 500 Words 2023 for more details.

BBC

# 500 WORDS

2023

Calling all 5-11 year-olds!  
Can you write an amazing story of 500 words or under?

Your story could be read on TV to millions!

Competition opens  
26th September - 10th November.  
We can't wait to read your stories

Head to  
[bbc.co.uk/500words](http://bbc.co.uk/500words)

## KS2 - Let's Celebrate!



### **KASE Champions**

#### **Hannah Young - 5OC**

Hannah has been absolutely incredible this week in English, I have been blown away by the standard of her writing in English this week but also the entire year so far. Her turn of phrase and style is wonderful to read and engages me every time.

#### **Sadie Shedd - 5CB**

Sadie is always one who gives her all in lessons and puts in her full effort consistently. She is always engaged with the learning, self-directed to know what is expected of her each lesson and is always purposeful with her work completing it to the very best standard – excellent work Sadie!

#### **Victor Makuch- 5MP**

Always being engaged and enthusiastic about work in every subject. He shows great resilience and perseverance as he learns and progresses. Keep it up!

#### **Katey Dixon - 5KS/PC**

Katey is always the first to finish any task given in class. She works quietly and doesn't let others distract her from what she needs to do and produces lovely neat and presentable work.

#### **Amelia Marston - 6JE**

For always being engaged and determined in every lesson. She always aspires to do her best and puts every effort into everything she does. She is quickly becoming an excellent role model for all. Keep it up Amelia!

#### **Max Onyszk - 6BD**

For always being engaged and being one of the first on task each lesson. He has shown huge progress in his learning behaviours and is quickly becoming a great model for others in class. Keep up the amazing work, Max!

**Isla Cotton - 6MD**

For constantly showing determination, engagement and focus to solve as many challenges as possible in every subject!

**Layla Jones - 6MH**

For demonstrating super resilience and the ability to push through with her work. Layla has worked fantastically this week across her lessons and with test week. She is beginning to apply her learning across subjects and support her development through engagement, enthusiasm and self-direction.

**Oracy Superstars**

**Ivan Stefanov - 5OC**

Ivan consistently shows high levels of oracy both in class discussions and when answering questions. I have been particularly impressed with his ability to articulate how to calculate problems in Maths.

**Joshua Mills - 5CB**

For demonstrating the confidence to always give things a go. Josh's contributions to class discussions are always meaningful and rich whether he voluntarily gives an answer or is called upon. His ideas and contributions always move his and other people's learning on – great start Josh!

**Pheobe Lloyd- 5MP**

When starting out the year, Pheobe was very shy and quiet. It is amazing to see her coming out of her shell and raising her hand more in class. Well done!

**Vlad Stefanescu - 5KS/PC**

For consistently sharing super ideas and starting relevant conversations in class. He is not afraid to ask for help or get clarification of a task and he always helps others if they are unsure of what to do.

**Aroush Azhar - 6JE**

For constantly showing excellent speaking and listening skills. She has also been increasingly sharing her ideas with the class and joining in with class discussions. Well done, Aroush!

**Maddison Brooks-Anson - 6BD**

For a notable increase of task engagement: talking to her peers and sharing her ideas during lesson discussions; explaining her thoughts to the class in maths and English; and always being willing to start a conversation :)

**Millie Kilkenny - 6MD**

For confidently sharing ideas concisely, fluently and clearly and always offering to read to the class during humanities lessons.

**Ellie-Mae Bathurst - 6MH**

Ellie-Mae is consistently providing purposeful contributions in lessons. She carefully thinks about her answers before joining in. She has shown a keen awareness of her subjects and has helped to support others understanding through rich conversations.

**Value Champions - Community award**

**Holly Dawson - 5OC**

Holly always impresses me with her attitude to learning every single day. She is an incredibly helpful member of the class who is always supporting her peers with work and inspiring them with her knowledge.

**Oliver Waugh - 5CB**

Always making sure the class are ready to learn. Oliver is always quick to hand out books at the start of each lesson and does so efficiently so all others are equipped to learn. He is also a lovely, chatty and kind person who contributes to the wonderful, warm community feel of our class!

**Myles David - 5MP**

Working hard to make sure his actions have a positive impact on the class. He is a super helper, always first to make sure his peers are set up and ready to learn, particularly with computing.

**Archie Owen - 5KS/PC**

Archie is always helpful in class. He is the first to ask if we need anything collecting or handed out. He helps keep the classroom tidy and smart and even tidies up after others (when he doesn't need to). He is also fantastic at reminding others what they should be doing.

**Marcel Yam - 6JE**

For settling into year 6 very well and always being helpful in class. He is always volunteering to hand out books and helps others during lessons. These are great qualities to have and will help you throughout life. Keep it up Marcel!

**Connor Roach - 6BD**

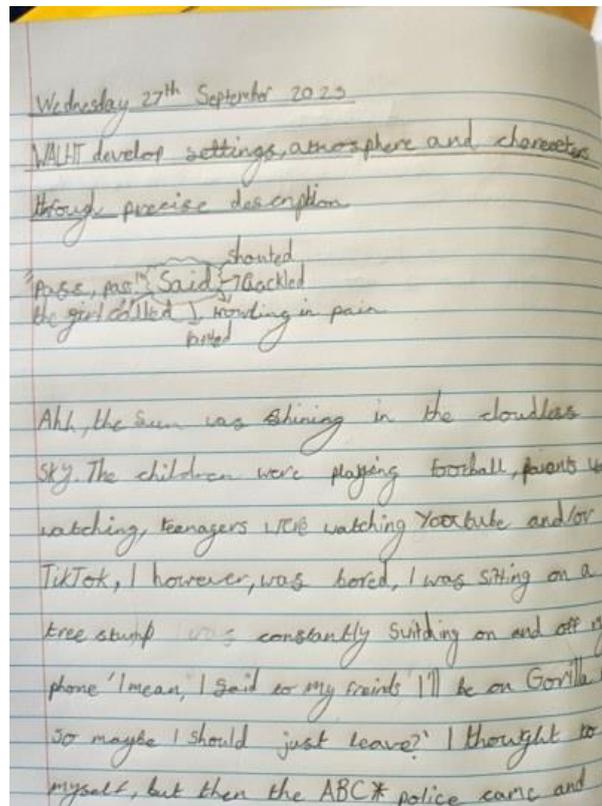
For settling into this new community so well! He has made a positive start and has already mixed in well with the class through lesson contributions, helping others, and making friends :)

**Emil Petkov - 6MD**

For being a helpful, purposeful and positive learning partner and always being willing and ready to work with everyone.

**Eddie Jackson - 6MH**

Edie is a superb member of 6MH. She is consistently helping to support the learning and development of others around her whilst maintaining focus and engagement with her own. These are great qualities to have and will help you throughout life!



#### 1 - Writer of the Week - Filip Szary 6BD

Filip has written a wonderful first paragraph in which he set the scene which allows the reader to delve into the world he is beginning to create.

#### Reading Shout Outs!

##### 6MD

Ella-Sophia, Ellie-Mai, Harry, Isla, Rowan, Millie, Bianca, Alicia, Jackson, Thea and Zach for all completing quizzes in the last week!

##### 6MH

A huge well done to Tiana Taylor for completing her first quiz and already gaining 100%!!!

Well done to all the others who have already completed a quiz! Keep it up.

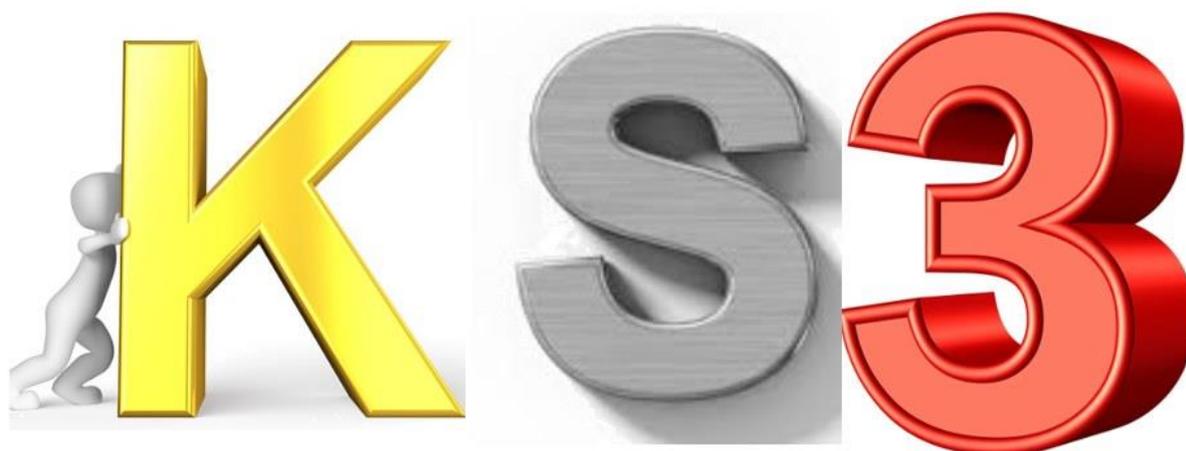
##### 5CB

Everyone for being incredibly patient and self-directed despite the technological difficulties we have been having with Renaissance Reading!

##### 5OC

Freddie Messenger for being under immense pressure and demonstrating to the whole class how to use and quiz on REN reading.

## KEY STAGE 3 NEWS



## Halloween Disco



I am pleased to inform you of an upcoming event for Key Stage 3. On Thursday 26th October we will be hosting a Halloween themed disco!

The disco will run from 5:30pm until 7pm. Pupils are invited to attend the disco in fancy dress or normal clothing, however this must be of an appropriate nature. Skirts, shorts or dresses must be of an appropriate length and no midriffs are to be on show. Children are also not permitted to wear masks or other items that cover their faces.

The cost of the ticket will be £3 and this includes a drink and a snack. All payments must be made via ParentPay by Friday 13th October and the pupils will then be issued with a ticket.

Pupils are to arrive at the main entrance of the school, no earlier than 5:30pm. Pupils are to be collected or walk home from the same entrance.

This event will be open on parent pay from Monday 1st October.

I look forward to what will hopefully be the first of many discos this year if successful.

Miss Major

## TUTEE OF THE WEEK



**7BP – Cooper Wackrow** for being super helpful for me this week.

**7AP – Sydney Stevens** for always being polite, helpful and smiling!

**7SK– Nikita Sydorenko** for always being a kind, welcoming and helpful member of the form.

**7SF - Kara Larner** for her fantastic attitude to learning and for showing compassion.

**7JL – Imogen Flynn** for always showing a consistent positive attitude.

**8JD – Zach Filler** for always trying his best, being a positive contributor to the class, and being willing to give everything a go, no matter what it is.

**8MO – Summer Owen** for being thoughtful and caring in a tricky situation. Summer is always trying her best and a absolute joy to teach.

**8FG - FiFi Gurden** for being helpful, positive and polite all of the time.

## Subject Stars of the Week



**ART - Jake Jones (8FG)** for his beautiful presentation of his sketchbook page, and for the effort that he puts into each activity/lesson. **Logan Little (7SF)** for developing his own personal style/interests within the subject.

**COMPUTING – Tobi Wilson, George Groves (8MO) and George Holder (8FG)** for excellent knowledge of Computing systems. **Sonny Bagley, Jared Newton and Josh Hodson (7AP)** for sharing their excellent knowledge of communication online respectfully with others.

**DT - Callum Thomas (8JD)** for his improved engagement in his DT lesson and producing great research work this week. **Jakub Opechowski (7SF)** for his focus and determination to get his stitches correct during our sewing task.

**ENGLISH – George Turner (8FG)** for showing enthusiasm in all lessons, asking and answering questions and giving 100%. **Nathan Fox (7SK)** for showing brilliant focus and independence when writing an application letter and successfully using previous research to guide him.

**FRENCH – Paige Tyrrell-Totten (8MO)** for excellent standard of work! **Sam Anti (7AP)** for sustained enthusiasm for the subject, participating in class and being a role model.

**GEOGRAPHY – Cheng Zhong (7LJ)** for his hardworking thorough approach to lessons, high resilience and amazing dedication. **Summer Owen (8MO)** as she keeps on developing her knowledge with her engagement and enthusiasm in all lessons.

**HISTORY – Maja Jezierska (7JL)** For being a delight to teach, meticulous with her work, and always willing to give everything a go. **George Holder (8FG)** for being an ALWAYS student! Keep it up!

**MATHS – Brandon Whitehouse 8FG Harry Harrison 8MO**-Amazing effort and attitude in lessons. **Noah Hemmings 7JL**- Excellent attitude in ALL math lessons. **Ollie Manison (7AP)** for being an excellent role model: showing a consistent positive attitude towards challenges. **Daizy Nicholls (8JD)** for showing great determination and commitment towards her work in ratios this week.

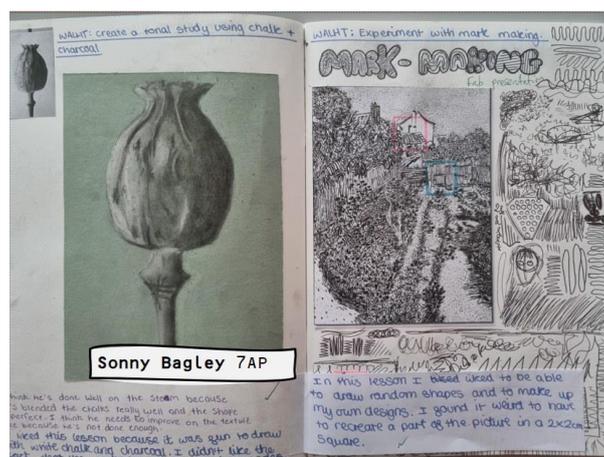
**PSHE - Brody Blake (7SF)** for giving some excellent, sensible and insightful contributions to our PSHE lessons around mental health.

**MUSIC – Riley Edwards (7JL)** for applying the correct technique when playing chords on the ukulele. **Layla Wszaborowska (8JD)** for her focus and determination to master the 'Sweet Dreams' bassline riff.

**P.E – Felicity Moody & Connie Shed (7PB)** for their dominant performance during the class table tennis tournament. **Rares Amisculesei (8FG)** for his creative and controlled approach to take his take off during parkour.

**R.E – Alfie Richards, Noah Todd & Zach Filler (8JD)** for their fantastic contributions to class discussion.

## Examples of excellent work



2 - Some excellent art work here shown by Sonny in 7AP

## Student Leadership



Good luck to all of our pupils who have had their interviews this week for their student leadership roles!

Leaders will be announced next week!

## Children's University

By the time a child turns 18, [they will have spent just 9% of their waking life in a classroom.](#) Children's University is about making the most of the remaining 91%.

Research shows that participation in extra-curricular activities can positively impact on attainment, increase a pupil's positive identification with school, and build self-confidence and resilience. Research also shows that children that do not have access to these opportunities fall behind, lack confidence, and fail to develop career aspirations. The resulting attainment gap is so significant that 25% of children from the most disadvantaged backgrounds achieve below expected attainment levels.

Children's University is an initiative that promotes and celebrates extra-curricular activities. When children attend clubs, they can register their attendance using a unique code. If they spend a certain number of hours throughout the year attending clubs, they get to attend a special graduation ceremony at the end of the year.

New Year 5 pupils - you will get your log on information next week. Don't worry though, you can still add on your clubs since 1st September!

Our in-school codes:

Choir **green8826**

Netball **green0569**

Dodgeball **yellow1577**

Girls' Football **blue8494**

Boys' Football **purple0151**

Yoga **orange3905**

Y7 Futsal **blue2081**

Y8 Futsal **purple1591**

Hockey **blue7476**

If you don't see your club's codes listed above, please let your teacher know!