



Church Hill Middle School Weekly Update Friday 27th October

Welcome from Miss Harris.



Congratulations to our pupils and families for a wonderful first half term!

We hope you have a restful and enjoyable half term, and we are looking forward to welcoming you back on Monday 6th November.

Well done to all of our pupils this week, but a special well done to [Brody Blake \(7SF\)](#), [Isla McKeon \(7BP\)](#), [Ella Middleton \(7AP\)](#), [Jessica Williams \(7JL\)](#), [Aliyah Wakeman-Sutherland \(7SK\)](#), [Alfie Richards \(8JD\)](#), [Vivien Samudovska \(8JD\)](#), [Milly Burgess \(7SK\)](#), [Harry Bench \(8MO\)](#), [Tawana Dune \(7BP\)](#).

Also, a special well done to 8JD for being our top tutor group this week with a total of 1954 EPraise points!

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 6th November Pupils return to school.

Thursday 9th November Year 5 Cinema Trip

Tuesday 21st (3.30 - 6.30) and Wednesday 22nd November (3.30 - 5.30) Parents' Evenings for all classes. Information on how to book your appointments will be shared via EPraise after half term.

Friday 17th November Year 5 trip to the Space Centre.

Thursday 23rd November Year 6 trip to the Black Country Museum.

Bonfire Breakfast



After a highly successful and enjoyable Halloween breakfast, we have decided to have a Bonfire Breakfast!

This will be happening on Friday 10th November from 8am - 8.30am and will consist of hot items.

The cost of this is £1.50. Please make your payments and sign up on ParentPay - the deadline for this is Tuesday 7th November.

Breakfast club will also be running as usual, so if you don't wish to take part in the Bonfire Breakfast, then you can still purchase our usual items for 50p.

Safeguarding with Attendance, Unauthorised Absences and Facts about Attendance.



Attendance Matters



Unauthorised absence is where a school is not satisfied with the reasons given for the absence. Absence codes on registers are as follows:

•Code G: Holiday not authorised by the school or in excess of the period determined by the head teacher. If a school does not authorise a leave of absence for the purpose of a holiday but the parents still take the child out of school, or the child is kept away for longer than was agreed, the absence is unauthorised. The regulations do not allow schools to give retrospective approval. If the parents did not apply for leave of absence in advance, the absence must be recorded as unauthorised.

•Code N: Reason for absence not yet provided Schools should follow up all unexplained and unexpected absences in a timely manner. Every effort should be made to establish the reason for a pupil's absence. When the reason for the pupil's absence has been established the register should be amended. This code should not be left on a pupil's attendance record indefinitely; if no reason for absence is provided after a reasonable amount of time it should be replaced with code O (absent from school without authorisation).

•Code O: Absent from school without authorisation. If the school is not satisfied with the reason given for absence they should record it as unauthorised.

•Code U: Arrived in school after registration closed. Schools should actively discourage late arrival, be alert to patterns of late arrival and seek an explanation from the parent.

DfE Guidance School Attendance Guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools and local authorities (August 2020)

When safeguarding all children,
school attendance and
parent/carer's communication really
matters!



Please **contact school by 9am** to inform us of your child's absence by telephone or email. **This is essential**, so we can account for every child as early as possible after our registers close at 9am daily.
Thank you

Pupils who arrive late after 9am receive an **UNAUTHORISED (U)** absence on their attendance record, unless it's for medical reasons.

FACT: Pupils who maintain good attendance do better in school.

- Pupils whose attendance falls below 96% are 20% less likely to pass their school assessments (such as SATs or GCSEs) and miss out on valuable social and enrichment opportunities. This is the equivalent of missing 8 days of school in a year.
- There are 6 lessons during each school day. Every school day pupils are taught core subjects Math, English and/or Science. Pupils who regularly miss these lessons through being absent lose out on developing the crucial skills they need to succeed. Pupils need to be in school so that they can take advantage of every opportunity to develop the knowledge, attributes, skills and experiences they need to help them achieve.
- Pupils with positive attendance are eligible for rewards, perform better in their learning and increase their opportunities to be a more active member of our school community.
- Where pupils' attendance falls short of expectations, we will identify concerns, work with families to help them to understand the impact of their low attendance and support pupils to improve. This could involve messages sent home, phone calls, parental meetings and home visits from our Educational Welfare Officer.



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MISS
OUT!

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

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

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.

www.bbc.co.uk/500words

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](https://bbc.co.uk/500words)



KS2 - Let's Celebrate!



KASE Awards

Oliver Rheeston - 5OC

For recently demonstrating what he is truly capable of as a learner, he has shown a great commitment to all aspects of the curriculum and has found great success, particularly in Maths.

Macie-Leigh Kesterton - 5CB

For becoming more focused and self-directed in her work this week. Macie-Leigh has been working hard to be resilient and give things a go when she is struggling and is becoming more independent in her work. Keep it up Macie-Leigh!

Jenson Jones - 5MP

For always being brilliant and hardworking. He has lots of great ideas and always wants to improve his learning, which shows great self-direction and perseverance.

Tilly Standing - 5KS/PC

Every day Tilly demonstrates how to be attentive and ready for lessons. She works hard and consistently produces fantastic work. She has been a real pleasure to teach. Amazing work Tilly 😊

Gracie Reid - 6JE

For being an absolute superstar in lessons and trying her hardest to better her learning. You have recently been checking in with me to ensure you understand and then have been working hard to deepen your understanding. Keep it up Gracie. You have had a great half term!

Oliver Phillips - 6BD

For demonstrating motivation to learn and being aware of his learning environment to ensure maximum focus. He is taking pride in his work and still striving to improve further, which is an excellent learning attitude. Keep it up :)

James O'Donnell - 6MD

For being engaged and enthused in all lessons. He consistently contributes well in all lessons, supports his classmates and is a joy to have in class.

Chardai Neade - 6MH

Well done to Chardai for showing incredible resilience and determination this week. Through hard work Chardai has managed to increase her weekly arithmetic score! Keep up this hard work as your determination has been influential to those around you.

Oracy Awards

Liam O'Gorman - 5OC

For consistently being actively involved in class discussions and always being willing to answer questions. You are always one of the first to offer your ideas and this commitment doesn't go unnoticed.

Niamh McCormack - 5CB

For her active role in class discussions this week. Niamh has been more confident to put her hand up in lessons and offer some fantastic ideas that are clear and fluent allowing the discussions to advance into some very rich, informative conversations!

Vanessa Zbroszszczyk - 5MP

For becoming more confident in class and offering lovely ideas.

Harvey-Jay Lipscombe - 5KS/PC

Harvey has worked amazingly hard in English this week. We have worked together to write a balanced argument for 'why we should have uniform in school,' and Harvey has had some fantastic ideas.

Well done Harvey 😊

Elena Payne - 6JE

Well done Elena for showing excellent speaking and listening skills this half term. You have been contributing more in class and have been an excellent partner during tasks and group work. You have settled amazingly into year 6. Well done you superstar!

Evie Davis - 6BD

For growing in confidence in her everyday communication.

Natasha Jones - 6MD

For always contributing in a thoughtful and mature way. She has consistently contributed well in all lessons this week and makes great links to prior learning.

Grace Scott - 6MH

For being an excellent member of the class and demonstrating a huge increase in your participation and contributions towards answering questions during our lessons. It has been great to see your confidence grow and for you to strengthen your learning through detailed explanations!

Values Champion**Isla Meakin & Lily-Rose Chandler - 5OC**

The two girls have been chosen this week for always being super helpful in class, they are the first to volunteer to hand out books, tidy up the classroom or help me out in any way possible, this is really appreciated!

Lyla Coggins & Olivia Leonard - 5CB

For being incredibly kind and welcoming to our new arrival. Without prompting they have regularly gone to make sure they are happy, welcome and comfortable creating a really lovely community spirit within the class – fantastic work!

Scarlett-Rose Hughes – 5MP

For being a great friend.

Hayley Seymour - 5KS/PC

Hayley always likes to help and support others around her by reminding them of tasks or helping with their writing. She has shown the spirit of community and the kindness of helping someone in need. Well done Hayley 😊

The whole of 6JE

For being incredible members of the Church Hill community. You are always respectfully walking around school so others can learn. You look out for each other and are respectful within 6JE. You also helped myself and Mrs. Wilson tidy the classroom yesterday ready for open evening, which was incredibly kind and helpful. You are also very kind and caring to others around you when they are upset, not feeling well or need help. You have been amazing this half term 6JE. Keep it up next half term!

Lara Pereira - 6BD

Simply, for always showing support to her friends.

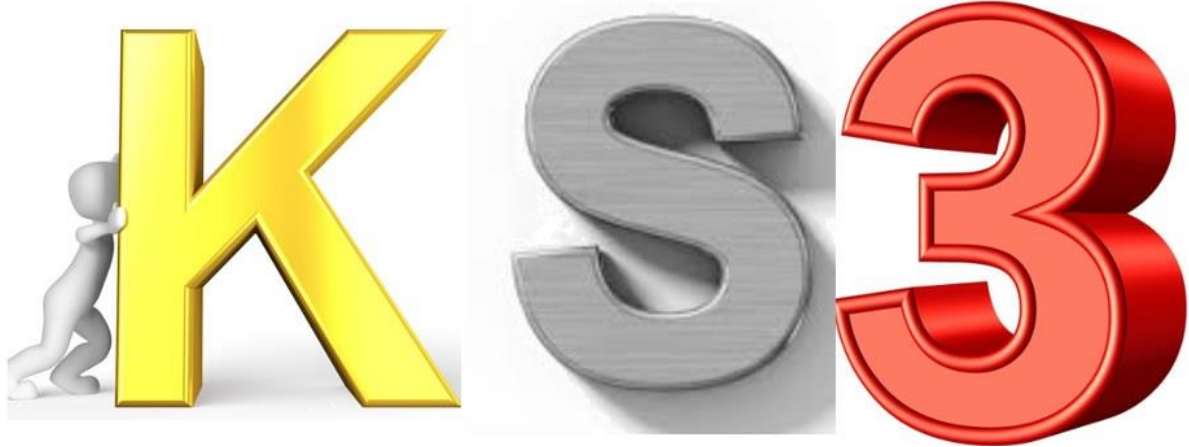
Jackson O'Donnell 6MD

For being a kind classmate who is always on the lookout for how he can help the adults and children in the room. A role model to everyone!

Freya Payne, Ellie-Mae Bathurst & Evie Little - 6MH

For being fantastic members of our CHMS community. These girls stayed after school to help showcase our school and rather tour parents and families or explain the activities and curriculum here at school. All of our guests commented on how professional knowledgeable and friendly you all were. Very proud teacher!!

KEY STAGE 3 NEWS



What a busy half term it has been, and what a way to finish it off with a fantastic Halloween disco!

I am immensely proud of Key Stage 3 this half term and all they have achieved. With a recent focus on our learning behaviours I look forward to seeing out pupils striving to reach their full potential after half term.

I wish all our families a happy half term and look forward to what the next half term will bring.

TUTEE OF THE WEEK



7BP – Harry Graham for being just an all round helpful superstar.

7AP – OLLIE MANISON for always being polite and having a smile on your face!

7SK– Nathan Fox for consistently being reliable, kind, sensible and just a cheerful person in the room :)

7SF- Jess Spiers For having a super positive week. Lots of teachers have commented on Jess' fantastic effort in lessons, well done you!

7JL – Laiton BURSON for settling in so well to the class – well done!

8JD – Jay Reid for being a superstar member of the class. He gets on well with everyone, always tries his best and is just an all-round amazing student!

8MO – Makayla Thibault for being a valuable member of our form group, always willing to help, polite to all and puts in 100% effort in every lesson.

8FG - Aston Mears for being a caring and considerate member of the class and always giving his best.