



# Church Hill Middle School Weekly Update Friday 12th January 2024

Welcome back!

Happy New Year to all of our pupils and families. We hope you had a restful break.

## 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 EPrise. There are a lot of sporting fixtures this term that do not include all pupils: Please note that you will be contacted if your child has been selected to take part.

**Friday 12th January** - Girls' Badminton Tournament.

**Monday 15th January** - Most clubs begin - please sign up on EPrise.

**Wednesday 17th January** - Year 7 Boys' Hockey Tournament - selected students

**Friday 19th January** - KS3 Boy's Badminton Festival- selected students

**Thursday 1st February** - Year 8 Boys' Basketball Tournament- selected students

**Wednesday 7th February** - Pancake Day Special Breakfast

**Wednesday 7th February** - KS2 Disco

**Thursday 8th February** - Year 7 Boys' Basketball Tournament- selected students

**Friday 9th February** - Year 5/6 Hockey Competition- selected students

**Tuesday 20th February** - 5OC Swimming Lessons Start

**Wednesday 21st February** - 5CB Swimming Lessons Start

**Friday 1st March** - Year 5/6 Dodgeball Competition- selected students

**Tuesday 5th March** - Parents' Evening

**Wednesday 6th March** - Parents' Evening

**Wednesday 6th March** - Year 7 Netball Tournament - selected students

**Friday 8th March** - Girls' Football Festival - selected students

**Monday 11th March** - Year 8 Netball Tournament - selected students

**Friday 15th March** - Year 5/6 Swimming Gala - selected students

**Tuesday 19th March** - Year 6 Netball Tournament - selected students

**Wednesday 20th-Friday 22nd March** - Year 8 residential to Condover Hall

**Thursday 21st March** - Year 5 Boys' Football Tournament - selected students

We would like to thank you for your support this week following the technical issue we experienced with our external provider and the hot dinner menus for this week.

If you haven't already seen the EPraise messages sent out about hot dinners, please ensure you go onto Parentpay and book your children's lunches.

Anything that was booked before the 8th January has been deleted so you will need to go back on and re-order.

Once again, we apologise for any inconvenience caused.

## Attendance - Is my child too ill for school?

**"THIS MORNING, HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT SCHOOL... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"**

**MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.**

*'From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child'*

HM Government  
Search the Education Hub to find out more

NHS

Central Region Schools Trust  
Teach Central  
Central Professional Learning, Research & Development

**"THIS MORNING, HE HAD A RUNNY NOSE... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"**

**MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.**

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NHS

## Working together to improve school attendance

Being in school and having the best attendance possible underpins all the many benefits of school for your child, such as their learning, wellbeing and wider development. For some children, attending school every day will be harder than for others. This is why schools are committed to working together with families to solve problems and support your child's school attendance.

## Is my child too ill for school?

This can be a dilemma for parents/carers

NHS guidance can help.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases>



It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't:

### Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

### High temperature

If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.

### Chickenpox

If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

### Cold sores

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a cold sore. Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.

### Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

### COVID-19

If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school. Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have symptoms of COVID-19 and they either:

- have a high temperature
- do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities

### What to do if your child has tested positive

Your child is no longer required to do a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test if they have symptoms. But if your child has tested positive for COVID-19, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test.

### Ear infection

If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

### Hand, foot and mouth disease

If your child has hand, foot and mouth disease but seems well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.

### Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.



#### **Impetigo**

If your child has impetigo, they'll need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.

#### **Ringworm**

If your child has ringworm, see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

#### **Scarlet fever**

If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

#### **Slapped cheek syndrome** (fifth disease)

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.

But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

#### **Sore throat**

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

#### **Threadworms**

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms. Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

#### **Vomiting and diarrhoea**

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

We hope you have found this information useful!



*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*

## Pancake Day Special Breakfast



Wednesday 7th February we are hosting a Special Breakfast for Pancake Day!

Children will be served from 8:00am until 8:30am.

Please sign up and pay on ParentPay to attend this wonderful and tasty event.

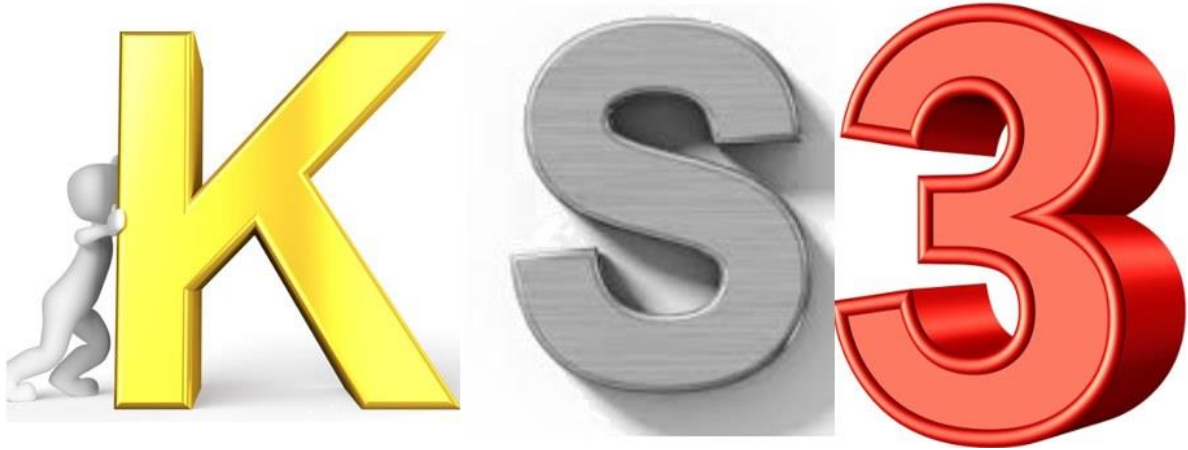
### KS2 News

In KS2 we have had a wonderful first week back at school after the Christmas break. The children have returned positive, refreshed and ready to learn. A new half term brings lots of new learning and learning opportunities with a variety of new topics such as the rainforest, the Mayans and delving deep into the works of William Shakespeare.

There will be information being sent out soon regarding the KS2 disco and the payment plan for those children who are attending the year 6 residential to the Pioneer center.

Next week we shall return to our regular updates of all the fantastic winners of our weekly celebration awards.

## KEY STAGE 3 NEWS



A fantastic first 4 days back for Key Stage 3, who have made a really good start to life in 2024. We have discussed our plans for 2024 and how we can be even better than we were in 2023. We set the pupils the challenge of always looking for ways to improve and become better not only as a learner but as an individual.

Our celebration assembly returns on Monday so we will be updating our weekly winners next week.

We will also be sharing exciting upcoming events with the pupils early next week and share them with you in our update next week.

## Emergency Closure Procedures

In the unlikely event that the school needs to closed due to extreme weather, such as snow, you will be notified **by text** and via **an EPraise message** in the morning - please keep an eye out for these. We will endeavor to avoid this situation where possible, and will liaise with other schools in the area to inform our decision. We will also put a notice out on the school's X account, Facebook and Instagram account.