



Church Hill Middle School Spring term 1 newsletter

A message from Mrs Jarvis





CHURCH HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Communication

It is with great pleasure that I re-introduce our School newsletter which will now run half termly and be released in the last week of each half term. We will summarise all our key successes from across the half term, along with upcoming news and events that are useful for you to know. This newsletter will therefore be a one stop shop for keeping updated and 'keeping in the know'. All other newsletters will now cease however routine letters and quick messages will still be sent out via our portals and e-mail.

We are now using our Church Hill facebook page to share the brilliant work your children have been completing in lessons on a daily basis. I want you to have a feel of the great work our students and staff do day in, day out. Please check it out and follow [Church Hill Middle facebook page](#)

We are also going to be phasing out the use of epraise and bringing in Arbor, a superior platform for communication and sharing of student activities. You should have received a link to register with the portal. If you have not please contact the office on office@churchhill.worcs.sch.uk. More information will be released in due course.

Teacher training

As part of our wider teacher development we have piloted, and now invested in Aristotal; an AI coaching device that will provide our teachers with coaching tips on how to refine their teaching and learning skills. *For instance it will provide the teacher with how many questions did they ask, how long did they wait for a response, did they prompt all students to expand their answers?* This teacher development tool will only be accessed by the individual class teacher and the wider senior team. If you have further questions please contact the office on office@churchhill.worcs.sch.uk

Church Hill moving forwards

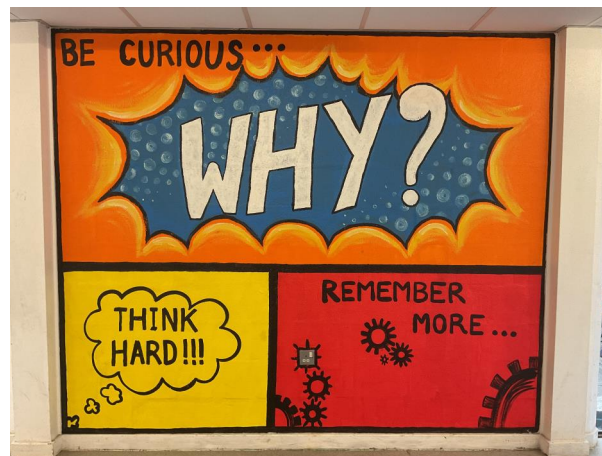
I have now completed my first half term at Church Hill and it has been an absolute delight. The children **work hard**, demonstrate **kindness** routinely and show **resilience** in their learning. We are very lucky to have such a strong teaching and support team that genuinely have the best interests of the children in everything that they do; they are a credit to the school.

I lastly want to thank all of you for your continued support of Church Hill; as always your feedback is essential to help us grow and if you have not already done so please **provide us with feedback** through our [Parent voice link](#).

I will also highlight that we are excited to announce that we are re-launching our **community teachers association**, please see below for details. A great opportunity to work together to create fundraising opportunities for the school.

Kind regards

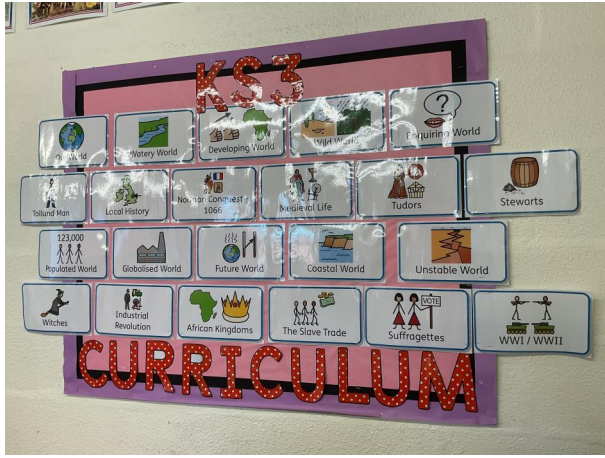
Laura Jarvis

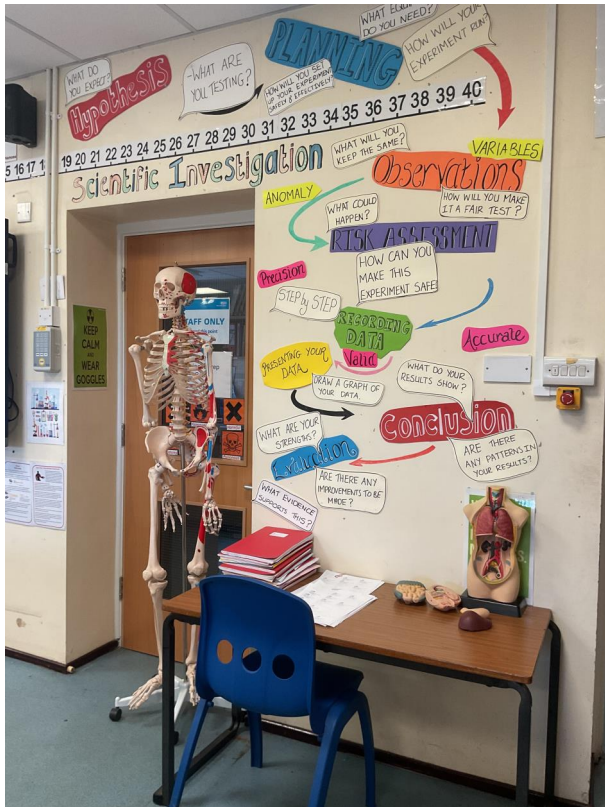


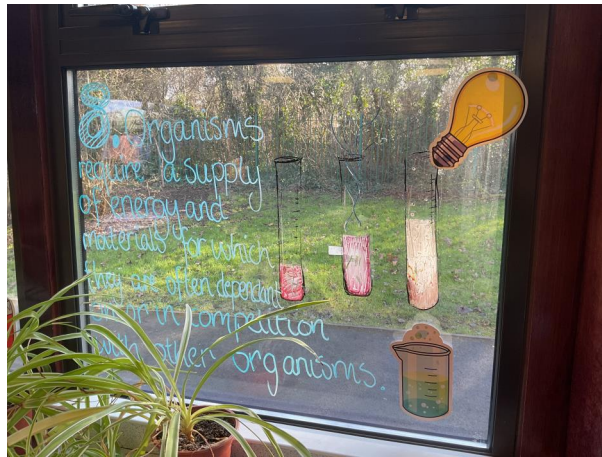
WE ARE Kind

WE ARE RESILIENT

WE ARE HARDWORKING







KS2 News



Key Stage 2 have had an exciting start to 2025. The pupils have demonstrated resilience with learning the content of their new topics and have been working incredibly hard. Well done! A special shout out to Year 6 who are showing determination and focus on their approach to their Year 6 SATs.

One exciting change that has been taking place is within our classrooms: rooms are being painted with a focus feature wall, showing care and respect for our learning environments.

You will see photos below of some of the exciting things that have been happening this half term. Well done Team KS2!

We have been learning about:

In Year 6, we have been studying the Amazon Rainforest in geography. Linked to this, we have been reading *Journey to the River Sea* in our English lessons which is set in the rainforest also. In science, we have been studying light and how shadows are formed, and are beginning to learn about classification and taxonomy.

In Year 5, we have been reading *The Jamie Drake Equation*, which links to our autumn term learning about Earth and Space in science. We have been learning about the Mayans in history and taking part in lots of experiments in science whilst learning all about properties of materials.

In both year groups, we have been looking at fitness and have had the chance to wear fitness watches to track our steps.

Spring term events in KS2:

Monday 3rd March - Friday 7th March: Scholastic Book Fayre. This will take place in the library after school, for pupils and parents to visit and buy new books!

Thursday 6th March: World Book Day. Pupils are invited to come in dressed as their favourite character. There is an exciting competition taking place across all of our Trust schools - more information around this will be shared shortly. Watch this space!

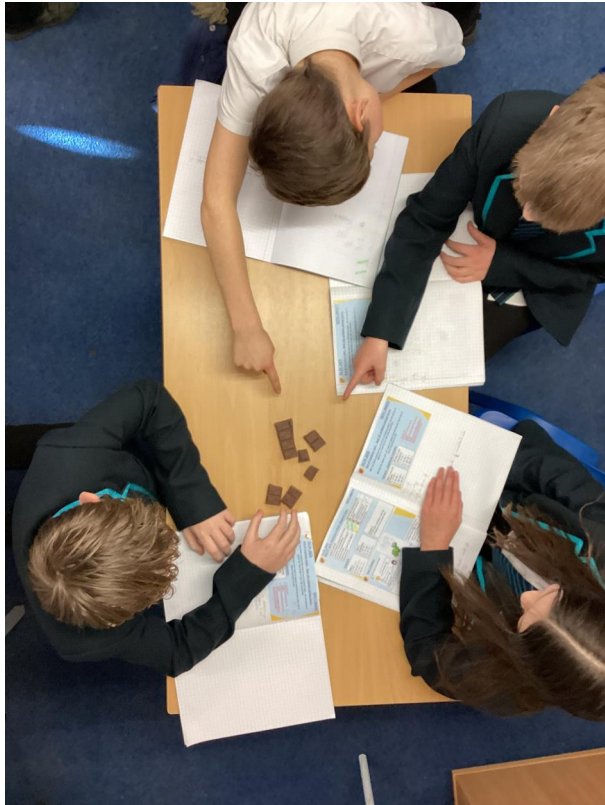




WE ARE **Kind**

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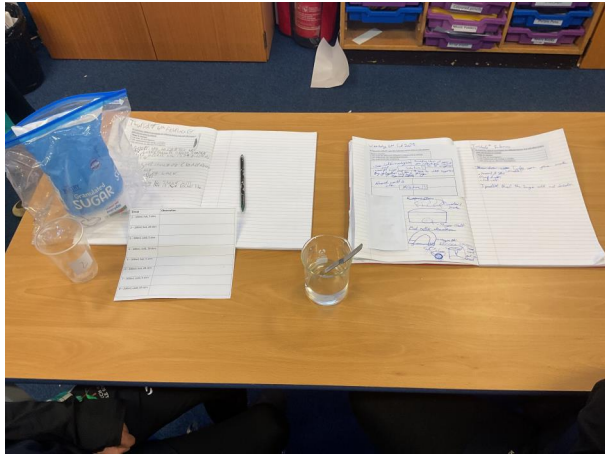
WE ARE **HARDWORKING**

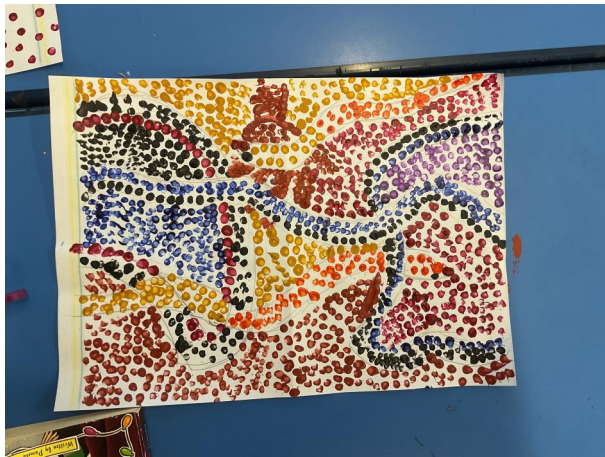


As scientists, WALHT investigate the different factors that will affect how a solid will dissolve in a liquid.

Complete the part of the table for your group only. We will put the rest of the information in together.

Group	Observation
1 - 100ml, hot, 5 stirs	
2 - 100ml, hot, 20 stirs	most of the sugar dissolved
3 - 100ml, cold, 5 stirs	only a small amount dissolved
4 - 100ml, cold, 20 stirs	most of the sugar dissolved
5 - 200ml, hot, 5 stirs	
6 - 200ml, hot, 20 stirs	
7 - 200ml, cold, 5 stirs	only a small amount of sugar dissolved
8 - 200ml, cold, 20 stirs	







KS3 News



Since the beginning of the academic year KS3 students have played an important role in shaping the vision and values of our school. Students have taken part in values based lessons and a democratic vote to decide on our new Church Hill Values; we are kind, we are resilient

and we are hardworking. In lessons KS3 students are focused on their learning and behaviour is good.

KS3 have also had the opportunity to benefit from a range of enrichment based learning experiences including; a Diwali celebration day, an international culture day, visits from The Dogs Trust and a knife crime assembly.

We have been learning about:

Students have been learning about a wide range of topics in their subjects since the beginning of the year. Some highlights include:

Year 7:

In English students have been learning about the explorer Shackleton and his adventures. In science students have been learning about energy and space. In art and DT students have been learning to sew and draw natural forms. In geography students have been learning about the geography of Redditch and in history they have been learning about local history and medieval life.

Year 8:

In English students have been learning about the mystery story 'Clockwork'. In science students have been learning about reproduction and photosynthesis. In art and DT students have been learning to draw portraits and how to make a sustainable fashion item of clothing from unwanted garments. In geography students have been learning about globalisation and global warming, and in history they have been learning about the history of witches and the industrial revolution.

If you would like to see what your child is learning about across the year in each of the subjects they are taught then please visit the curriculum section of the website where you can see our curriculum journeys. [Church Hill Middle School - Curriculum](#)

Spring term events in KS3:

We have two curriculum trips coming up for KS3 this term. Year 7 are going to Warwick Castle (Friday 4th April) to support their learnings in history and year 8 are going to the Mumbles in Wales (Friday 3rd March) to visit a coastal environment to support their learning in geography and art. Please make sure you have completed the online consent forms via ParentPay to ensure your child can attend these exciting experiences.

Other events include:

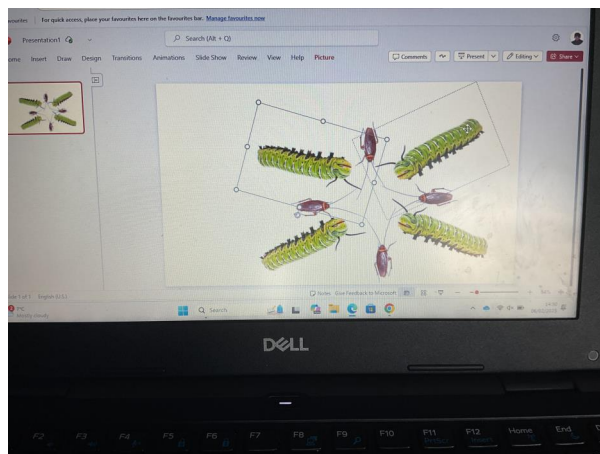
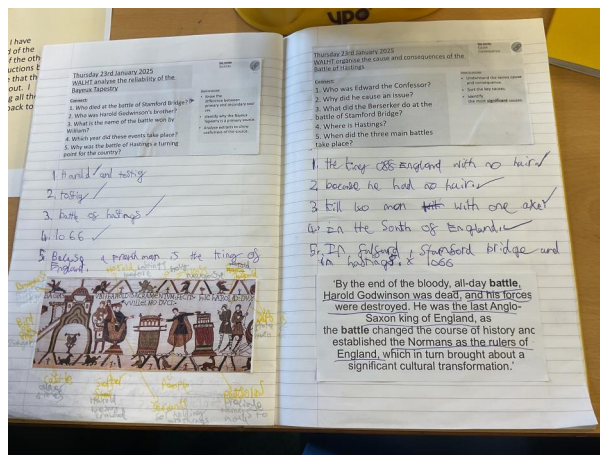
Thursday 27th February we have a visit from 'The Entitled Sons' band and TV star Sarah Beany. The band are made up of Sarah Beany's four sons and they will perform some of their hits and do a talk on neurodiversity and mental health. Sarah will also be there for the students to meet.

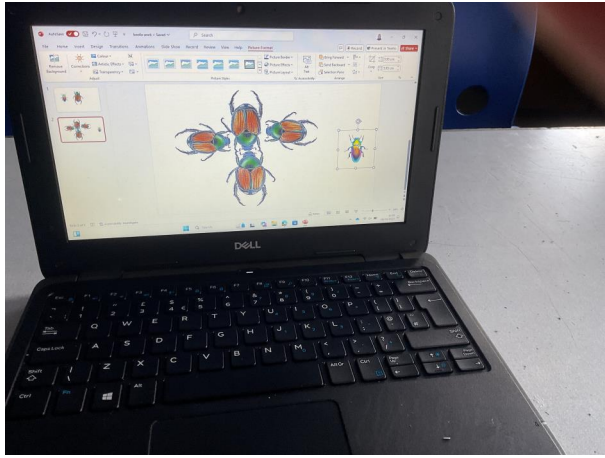
The Masked Reader competition will be running from **Thursday 27th February to Wednesday 5th March**. Students will have to guess which teachers are reading from some of their favourite books! The big reveal will be happening during the World Book Day assemblies.

Thursday 6th March is World Book Day! Students can dress up as their favourite book character and there will be lots of exciting book related activities on throughout the day.

Monday 3rd March to Thursday 6th March is the Schoolastic Book Fair on every day after school in the library.

Thursday 13th March selected KS3 students will be attending a science quiz at Arrow Vale to compete against schools from across the Trust.

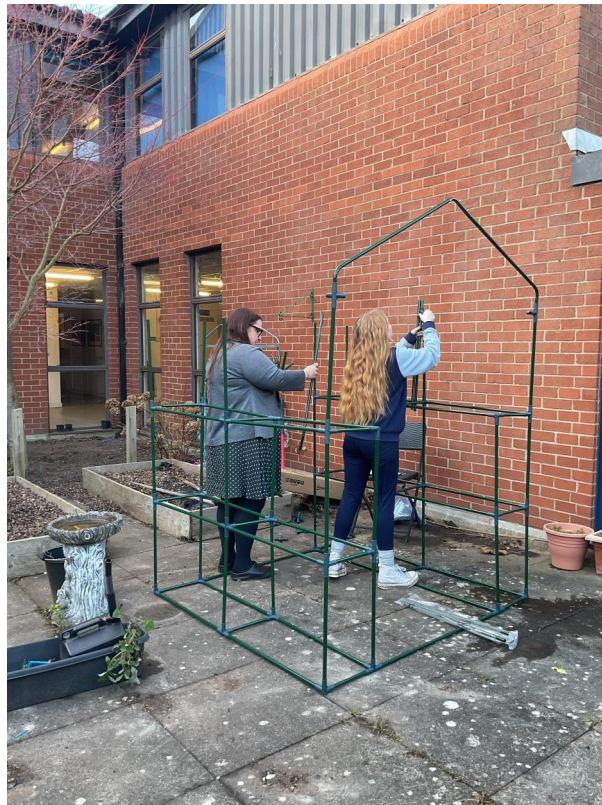
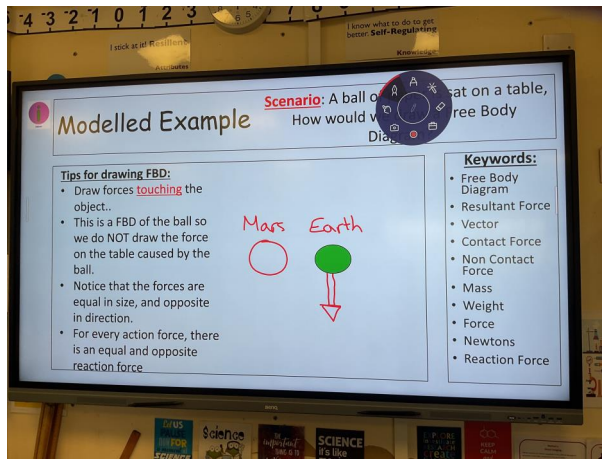
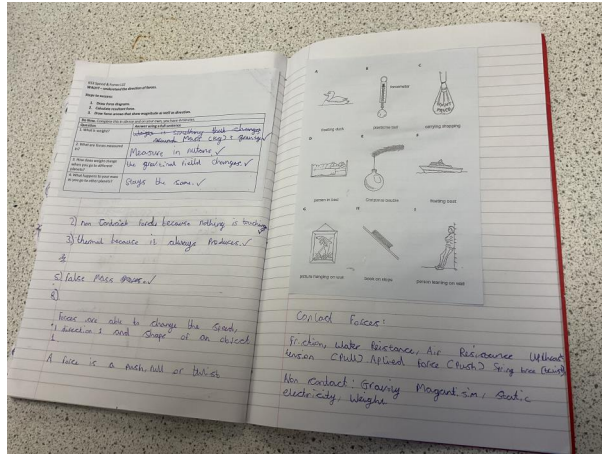


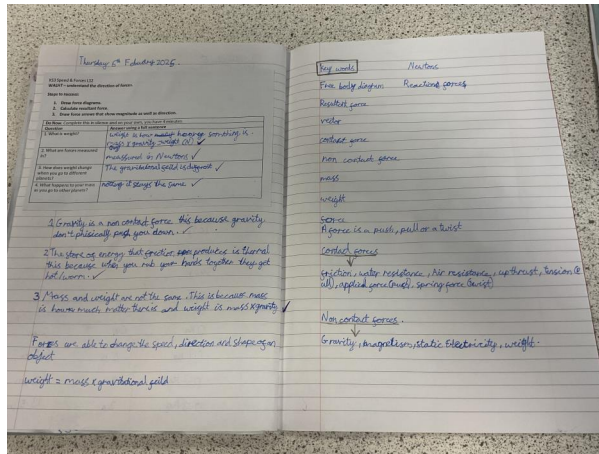


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CHURCH HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

FRENCH TRIP

We are excited to share a brilliant opportunity for your child to go to France for their Y8 residential!

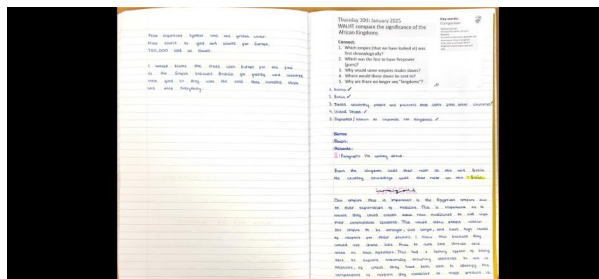
The Opal Coast is a wonderful introduction to France – it's much less busy than big cities like Paris, but offers just as many opportunities to immerse yourselves in the culture.

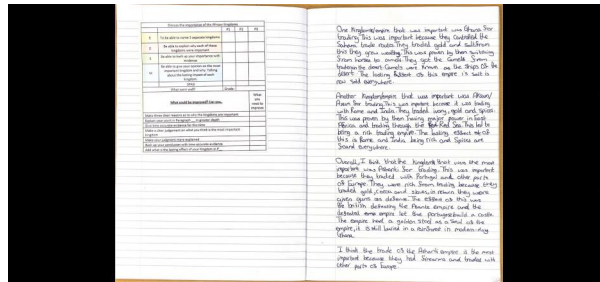
Key details:

- Monday 23rd March to Thursday 26th March 2026
- Biotopia Animal Park Visit
- NaturPom
- Nausicaa Sea Life Centre
- Snail Farm
- Bakery and Chocolate Factory Visit

DEPOSIT DEADLINE: 3RD MARCH

Please make a deposit of £50 (£25 for pupil premium pupils) to secure your place.





Church Hill Sports events and upcoming fixtures



Spring term 1 Sports events

- Year 7 & 8 Redditch Badminton festival
- KS3 Girls' Badminton Competition - national qualifiers
- Barclay's Game On - Go lead - 12 KS3 girls participated in a national initiative to promote female participation in football. This is leading to a girls football festival we will be hosting for some of our feeders schools in March, as part of #LetGirlsPlay Biggest Ever Football Session.
- year 5 & 6 Redditch Dodgeball competition

- Year 7 Boy's football vs Parkside and St Bede's
- Year 8 Boys' football vs Parkside and Blessed Edwards - after investing in brand new goals at the start of the school year, we have been able to start hosting football at Church Hill again.
- Year 8 Boys' Redditch Basketball competition
- KS2 and KS3 Pentathlon event - **KS3 came 2nd place overall**
- Year 7 & 8 Girls' Redditch Basketball competition - **we came 1st**
- Year 8 Redditch Sports Hall Athletics
- 3 of our students represented Redditch at County Cross-Country
- Year 7 & 8 Boys participated in the Redditch dodgeball competition

Upcoming events for Spring term 2

Looking ahead to next half term our Year 8 girls football team, who were crowned Redditch district champions before Christmas and Central Region Schools Trust champions, and who won their group in the County-Cup; will face off against St. Johns in the quarter finals of the cup in a home fixture.

We also have more boys football fixtures coming up, along with Year 5 & 6 mixed and Year 7 & 8 Girls' hockey competitions. Lastly, we will be competing in district netball competitions across all year groups, including Year 8, which will be held here at Church Hill

Keep fit; join a team; make friends; enjoy sport! Speak to the PE staff to find out how you can take part.



1 - Year 8 boys basketball



2 - Year 7 boys football





Rewards for attendance and positive behaviour



Rewards at Church Hill



Epraise Points
Epraise points can be earned at any time during the school day for showing any of our school expectations.

- Ready
- Respectful
- Safe
- Taking Responsibility.

Epraise points can also be given for excellent effort in lessons and during sporting fixtures and clubs.

Rewards for Epraise Points

Rewards for Epraise points are given half termly and are tiered.
Each half term, spendable Epraise points are reset to give students a fresh start. This does not delete their overall points. Overall points will then be used to reward children at the end of the school year.



Postcards
At the end of each lesson, a pupil of the lesson will be chosen to receive a postcard from the teacher.
Children who receive a postcard will be entered in a raffle to choose a prize from the key stage prize box.

SLT Postcards

SLT postcards will be awarded to children when they are noticed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team for going above and beyond.
Children that receive an SLT postcard do not need to be entered into a raffle. They automatically receive a prize.

100% attendance awards

Weekly Raffle
Each Friday, pupils that have received 100% attendance that week will be entered into a raffle to win a prize. Our weekly raffles include prizes like sweets, chocolates, and fidget toys.

Monthly Raffle

Each month, a larger raffle will take place. This will be for children that have received 100% attendance for one month. These raffles will include larger prizes. These have included vouchers for local companies/shops/says out, an air fryer, hair curlers, amazon vouchers, tickets to mascot day at Redditch United game and many more exciting prizes.



Achievement Assemblies
Each week, teachers will nominate students from their classes to receive a mention in our achievement assemblies.
Children that receive a mention in the achievement assembly get to spend 20 minutes with their phase leader talking about their achievement over some biscuits or cake.



3 - Students making 'teacup cakes' - reward for improved attendance

New KS2 and KS3 homework policy (coming Spring 2)



We are currently reviewing our home learning policy with staff and students. We are looking to launch this with parents/carers next half term. In the interim the following home learning will be set for KS3 and KS2 pupils.

KS2 Home Learning:

Maths and English tasks will be set weekly on the Learn by Questions website: [Learning by Questions](#)

Additional homework will be project based and set on a half-termly basis.

KS3 Home Learning:


Maths tasks will be set weekly on the Learn by Questions website: [Learning by Questions](#)

English students will be set a project based activity. This activity will be issued to students by their English teacher after half term.

Uniform expectations

Non-PE Days


- A navy blazer with 'Rio' piping and the school logo.
- A formal white collared shirt.
- Church Hill Middle School tie.
- Formal black trousers or tailored shorts – chinos, jeans, skinny trousers or leggings are not acceptable. The trousers must not have external buckles, rivets, zips or logos. Plain black, white or grey socks must be worn with trousers.
- Formal black school skirt which must be knee length and must not be of a stretchy or Lycra material. Plain white socks, or black opaque tights must be worn with skirts. The skirt must not have external buckles, rivets, zips or logos.
- Formal plain black low-heeled shoes – these must not have a logo or branding. Trainers or pumps are not allowed.



PE days

- Navy/Rio shorts
- A navy blazer with 'Rio' piping and the school logo (**not to be worn in PE lesson**).
- Navy Jogging bottoms under shorts
- Navy/Rio polo shirt
- Navy/Rio rugby shirt (this is optional, but may be preferred during colder months)
- Trainers
- Navy blue socks
- Football boots

Hoodies and coats are not to be worn in lessons.



Key dates

Half Term: Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February.

Animal man visiting Year 6: Monday 24th February

Scholastic Book Fayre: Monday 3rd March - Friday 7th March

Year 7 Poetry Slam: Tuesday 25th March and Wednesday 26th March

Young Voices: Wednesday 26th March

Year 8 Residential (Condoover): Wednesday 9th April - Friday 11th April

Easter Break: Monday 14th April - Friday 25th April

Year 6 SATs week: Monday 12th May - Thursday 15th May

Year 6 Residential (Culmington Manor): Friday 6th July - Sunday 8th July.

Community Links





Help us to create our brand new:

ABBEYWOOD AND CHURCH HILL COMMUNITY TEACHER ASSOCIATION



We need your help to form our brand new CTA (community teacher association) for Abbeywood and Church Hill! Our new group will organise calendared events and activities to raise money for our children in both schools, to enhance their educational experience.

Come and join the Abbeywood and Church Hill family!



A great opportunity to be creative, support the school and be part of your wider community.

Find out more on Thursday 27th February @ 2.45pm or 5.30pm in the Church Hill assembly hall

Below are some of the roles that will be available...

Roles	What you will do
CTA chair Leader	Lead on what needs to be done and when Liaise with Principals of respective schools
Communications director Creative and social media 'savvy'	Take minutes of meetings and share agendas Social media advertisement of activities and events Create promotional materials for events
Treasurer Good with numbers	Track all incoming funding and expenditures
Events co-ordinator Expert organiser and list maker	Schedule all events Organise logistics and roles within each event Liaise with people and outside agencies to facilitate events and activities
Events helper Happy to help	Support on the set up and running of activities and events
Membership director People person	Keep track of our members database

Find out more on Thursday 27th February @ 2.45pm or 5.30pm in the Church Hill assembly hall. We will cover...

- What being on the CTA entails – hours, commitment, meetings times etc
- What sort of events and activities you could organise
- How a CTA meeting will run

