



Term 1—Newsletter No. 2



Newsletter

Wk 3 - 18th September

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Dear CTK Families,

Thank you for an amazing first three weeks back at school. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back after the summer holidays and to see such a happy buzz around school. Classrooms are calm and purposeful, with children settling into their new work and teachers busy supporting them. What a fantastic start!

A huge welcome to all our new Reception children and their families as they join our CTK community. The children have been amazing already — making new friends, learning new routines and walking into school each morning with huge smiles, ready to learn. It has been lovely to see them settling in so confidently, and the Reception staff have had nothing but praise for them. Well done to all our Reception children, and a big thank you to their parents and carers for doing such a wonderful job of getting them school-ready.

All year groups have settled into school extremely well, with our normal routines now firmly back in place. The school is busy from the moment the children arrive in the morning until the end of the day, and it has been fantastic to see everyone embracing their learning and school life so positively.



Every child has been brilliant, and I am incredibly proud of them all. It has been a super start to the new school year, and we are looking forward to all the exciting learning and experiences still to come. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Best wishes, Mary Mainwaring



Phonics Evening

On Wednesday 23rd September at 6.00pm, the Reception and Year 1 staff will be leading an information evening for families on the teaching of Phonics.



The meeting will last about 45 mins and will include you how we teach phonics at CTK. Also explains how we teach reading and writing, and give you suggestions of how you can support your child with reading at home.

In the Year 1 presentation, there will also be information on the Phonics screening check which will happen in June.

At the end of the meeting, the staff will be around to answer any questions you may have with the teaching and learning of Phonics. The meeting is for adults only, so you do not need to bring your child.

A letter from your class teachers to invite you to come will be coming home.

CTK Dates for Terms 1 and 2

September 2026—Term 1			
Date	Class/Year Group	Event	Time
Monday 21 st	Years 1 to 6	School led clubs start – please refer to the clubs letter that will be sent out next week.	
Tuesday 22 nd	Whole School	Open the book assembly	2:45pm
Wednesday 23 rd	Year 5	Swimming lesson for Year 5 start	am
Wednesday 23 rd	Reception and Year 1	Phonics Parent's Presentation in school—a letter has been sent out to families	6:00pm
Friday 25 th	Whole School	Flue Vaccinations	am
Friday 25 th	Year 6	House Captains Hustings	pm
Tuesday 29 th	Whole School	Individual and Siblings (in school only) photos	morning
October 2026 —Term 1			
Date	Class/Year Group	Event	Time
Friday 2 nd	Whole School	Harvest Mass—more information to follow	10:00am
Sunday 4 th	Whole School	PTFA Cake sale at Tortworth Lake (more information to follow)	10:00am to 1:00pm
Wednesday 7 th	EYFS	Father Frank visiting Reception Class	11:00am
Tuesday 13 th	Whole School	Open the book assembly	2:45pm
Wednesday 14 th	New INTAKE 2027	CTK Open Morning – please email the school office for a space on a tour	9:30-11:30am
Thursday 15 th	EYFS	EYFS Visiting CTK church	am
Friday 16 th	Whole School	Rages to Riches collection	
Monday 19 th	Whole School	Parent's Evening- more information to follow (no school led clubs this week)	3:40pm – 6:40pm
Tuesday 20 th	New INTAKE 2027	CTK Open Morning – please email the school office for a space on a tour	9:30-11:30am
Wednesday 21 st	Whole School	Parent's Evening- more information to follow (no school led clubs this week)	3:40pm – 6:40pm
Thursday 22 nd	Whole School	End of term Celebration Assembly – all families welcome to attend	9:15am
Thursday 22 nd	Whole School	End of Term 1	3:15pm
Friday 23 rd	Whole School	INSET DAY -SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS	
Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2026 Half Term Holidays			

PE Kit Day:

Children are able to wear their PE kits all day on:

Reception - Thursday

Year 1 - Thursday

Year 2 - Tuesday

Year 3 - Monday

Year 4 - Friday

Year 5 - Wednesday (the class have a swimming lesson every Wednesday)

Year 6 - Tuesday



PE kit is: A white T-shirt, black shorts or joggers and trainers.

Please no football kit.

Children are not allowed to wear earrings for PE. Only stud earrings are allowed in school.

All long hair must be tied back.

CTK PTFA Update

A new exciting role has become available at the school: the chair position at our Parent-Teacher Association. We are looking for a personable, responsive and organised individual to lead the charity. You will be the link between the school and the volunteers and overseeing every event – it's all about communication! This is an incredibly fulfilling role – so much is achieved at Christ the King thanks to the PTFA and the friends you make along the way make all the difference. Please contact us, we would love to have a chat and tell you a bit more.

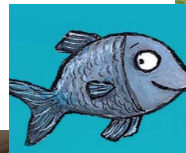
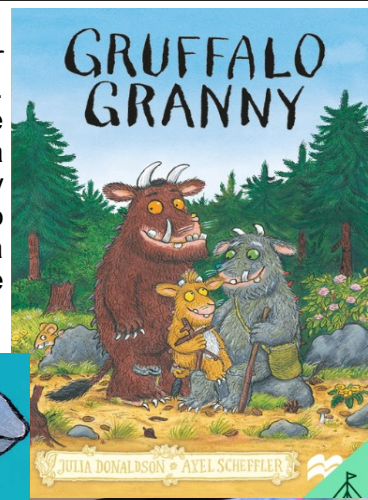


As you have read above our wonderful PTFA Chair Amel is stepping down from the role. Amel has been amazing in the role and led many funding raising projects with the support of our incredible PTFA which have made a huge difference to the children at CTK. Thank you so Amel and we will all miss you!

Gruffalo Granny

On Friday 11th September, Year 1 and 2 came together and along with 6,000 other schools across the country watched a very exciting live session with the British Library. First, Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler read and performed the Gruffalo (with a little help from some other actors). Then they answered some questions, before Julia Donaldson read her brand new story Gruffalo Granny, which was only released the day before. She told us that we were only the third audience that she has read Gruffalo Granny to! Finally, Axel Scheffler drew Gruffalo Granny for us to watch. It was such a fantastic session and we were so excited to listen to this fabulous new story, read by the author herself!

When asked which of her characters Julia Donaldson thought she was most like she said Tiddler, as he was always late for school and likes to make up stories just like Julia herself.



Helen Bell our Thornbury Mayor at CTK

This week, pupils at CTK were lucky enough to meet the Mayor of Thornbury. Helen came into lead a whole school assembly for us. She introduced herself and her role in Thornbury and explained how the Thornbury Town Council works and what they do as part of their responsibilities. We were able to ask her lots of interesting questions such as why the Mundy's no longer has a splash pad and what the plans are for this going forward. We also talked about how they decide how to spend money and what projects they spend them on and why and discussed local parks and plans for developing these further in the future. We are learnt more about Thornbury Town Council and the important work they do.

Written by Year 6



Year 5 and 6 Open Days for Secondary School

The Application for Year 6 pupils to apply for a secondary school place closes on 31st October 2026. All Year 6 children have received a letter from South Gloucestershire Council with all the information on how to apply for a place for Year 7.

Many Secondary schools are having open days and are welcoming families from Year 6 and 5 to visit the schools and to meet staff.

The Open days are:



Castle School— are running a number of day-time tours around the school. Tours are organised for the following dates in October for two weeks from Friday 2nd October to Friday 16th October 2026.

All tours will run from 8:30am to 9:30am with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Open Evening on Thursday 1st October 2026. The school will be open for tours between 5:00 to 7:30pm. Please go to the website to book on a tour.

<https://www.thecastleschool.org.uk/Open-Evening-Autumn/>

Marlwood School — Open evening is on Thursday 8th October and are having open days. The Open Evening is an 'open house' event so there is no need to book a place, just come and have a look around and meet the staff.



To book a tour of the school during the day phone the main reception on 01454 862525.



St Bede's Catholic College —Open Evening is on Thursday 1st October from 6:00pm—8:00pm. Please phone the school office 0117 3772200 or email contact@stbcc.org for more information.

KLB have held there open evening on Thursday 24th September 2026 and you can contact the school office on 01453 842227 or email info@klbschool.org.uk to book an open morning tour for Tuesday 29th & Wednesday 30th September 2026, 09:15am to 10:30am.

