Headteacher Newsletter

Christ the Sower

Issue 2

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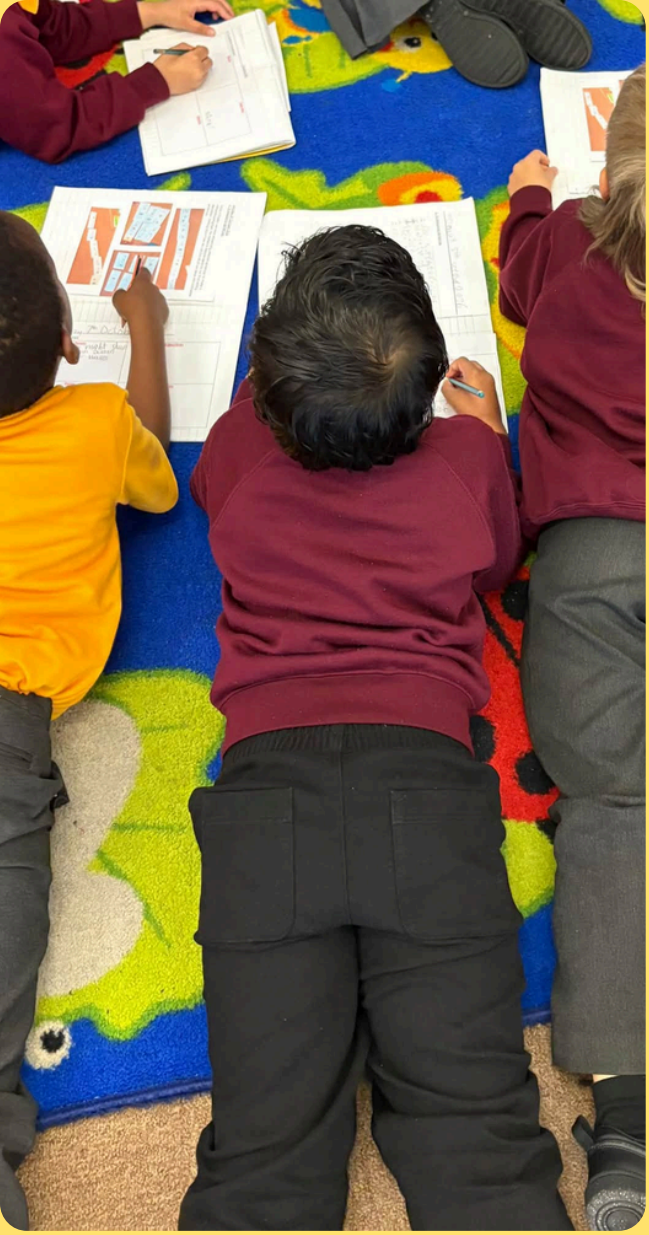
What a busy term so far!

An update from Miss Nugent

I hope you all had a lovely half-term break. It's hard to believe how much we've fitted into the first half-term since my last newsletter. School has been full of activity, with children enjoying a range of enrichment opportunities and making strong progress in their learning. It's been lovely to see the enthusiasm they bring into their classrooms.

We spent the whole of October celebrating Black History Month through our lessons and assemblies. We also enjoyed our Harvest Festival, led by Year 3 and Year 4. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the food bank collection organised by our School Council. It was lovely to see our school community coming together to support local families.

We've also held elections for pupil leadership roles across the school. These give children the chance to represent their classmates, take on responsibility and play an active part in school life.



Behind the scenes, staff have been working hard on a new approach to the teaching and supporting of writing called ***Colourful Semantics***. It uses colours to help children understand what different words and clauses are doing in a sentence, and how they fit together. This helps them build sentences that are clearer, more accurate and more interesting. We'll share more about it on our website in the coming weeks.

You may have noticed that our website has recently been updated. We're now working hard to add more to the parent and pupil pages to make it easier to find information and keep up with what's happening in school.

We heard from last summer's parent survey that clear communication matters to families, and this is one way we're working to respond.

You can read more about some of these events and developments in the articles below. I hope you enjoy catching up on everything we've been doing.

Mel Nugent
Executive Headteacher

"A welcoming and inclusive school. The 'CARE' culture is the heartbeat of the school."
SIAMS 2025

Our Head Boy and Girl

The election of our Head Boy and Head Girl is an important milestone in the school year, and one we look forward to.

After listening to the candidates' speeches, every child in school was invited to vote. Staff also cast a vote for the Head Team, considering each candidate's conduct, attitude to learning, behaviour and ability to be an exemplary role model.

The standard of candidates was so high this year that, for the first time in several years, we have also appointed deputies. We are delighted to welcome them to the Head Team.



Our Head Boy, Head Girl and deputies take on an important and responsible role. They represent CTS as ambassadors, lead tours for prospective parents and help at key events throughout the year, including collective worship, parents' evenings and meetings. It is essential that they embody our CARE values and set a positive example across the school.

We are so proud of every child who put themselves forward and of the thought and effort they brought to their speeches. Congratulations to our newly elected Head Team! Yaseen- Head boy, Samrret - Head Girl, Keiron - Deputy Head boy Juliet - Deputy Head girl.





House Captains

Congratulations to our Year 6 House Captain team for 2026–27, elected by the whole school community to represent their houses: **Poppy and Harrison for Yellow House, Jasper and Romeu for Red House, Samuel and Daniella for Blue House, and Georgia and Ella for Green House.**





Our House Captains will take part in Celebration Assembly each week, act as role models for the children in their houses and take on leadership responsibilities throughout the year.
They will also play an important role on Sports Day, representing and supporting their houses. We are very proud of them all.

Harvest Festival

Harvest has been a special time in school, and Year 3 and Year 4 helped us mark it by leading a Collective Worship for the whole school. They reminded us why we celebrate Harvest: to give thanks for the food we eat, to think about how fortunate we are, and to remember that not everyone has enough. We were very proud of the way they led us in reflecting on the importance of gratitude and generosity.
We also asked families to bring in food donations for the MK Food Bank, and you really did us proud. Together, you filled two full shopping trolleys. **Carter and Daniella, our Year 6 School Council representatives,** accompanied Mrs Evans and myself to deliver the donations to the food bank in Bletchley. It was a lovely opportunity for our school councillors to represent the school and take part in supporting our local community.





The children also put a great deal of creativity into our competition for the best-filled Harvest donation boxes. Congratulations to **Oliver in Year 3, and Alaia and James in Year 1,** whose boxes were chosen as the winners. Their colourful, carefully decorated boxes are pictured below. Thank you to everyone who donated food or helped their child take part. Your generosity made a real difference to our Harvest celebrations.







Remembrance at St Mary's



In preparation for Remembrance Day, Year 6 visited St Mary's Church in Shenley Brook End for a special service. Gill Rees talked to the children about local heroes who lost their lives in conflict, several of whom are buried in the churchyard. The children visited the Roll of Honour memorial and helped decorate the church with hundreds of crocheted poppies, creating a beautiful tribute. This is an annual tradition for Year 6 at CTS, and one we value greatly.
Helping our children feel connected to their local community is incredibly important to us.

Another important CTS tradition is our annual Remembrance assembly, led by Year 5 and Year 6, which will take place next week. It gives our oldest children the opportunity to share with the school what Remembrance means to them.



I just wanted to say how much we enjoyed the visit from Year 6 yesterday and how well the pupils behaved. They were a credit to the school and will be warmly welcomed back for future visits. Please let the children know how much we appreciated their contribution to Remembrance at St Mary's and their enthusiastic community engagement.

Church Warden November 2026





Black History Month



Throughout October, each year group learned about an inspiring Black figure and what their life and achievements can teach us.

This year's UK theme was "Honouring Our Communities", so we also thought about how people's ideas, talents and actions can make a difference to others.

- ***EYFS*** *learned about* ***Lewis Hamilton*** *and how determination can help us work towards our goals. The children designed racing helmets showing things they are proud of.*
- ***Year 1*** *learned about* ***Mae Jemison,*** *exploring how people can achieve things that once seemed impossible. They created "Reach for the Stars" artwork about what they would like to achieve or discover.*
- ***Year 2*** *learned about* ***Benjamin Zephaniah*** *and how poetry can help us express our ideas, feelings and experiences. The children wrote and illustrated their own poems.*
- ***Year 3*** *learned about* ***Walter Tull,*** *discussing his achievements, the barriers he faced and the courage he showed. They created profiles to share what they had learned.*
- ***Year 4*** *learned about* ***Levi Roots*** *and how ideas, interests and hard work can create opportunities. They designed their own products and brands.*
- ***Year 5*** *learned about* ***Claudia Jones*** *and how people can use their voices to challenge problems and create change. They planned campaigns about issues in school or the community.*
- ***Year 6*** *learned about* ***Kanya King,*** *considering how one idea can create opportunities and recognition for others, and why representation matters. They designed their own school awards.*

Exploring these lives gave children a chance to think about how people's ideas, determination and creativity can influence the world around them. It was also a lovely opportunity to celebrate the different backgrounds and experiences that are part of our CTS community.

We want every child to feel that their own story belongs here, while growing curious and respectful about the stories of others.





Anti Bullying Week



This year's Anti-Bullying Week theme was "Break the Silence". In our lessons, children talked about what bullying is and how it differs from a one-off falling out or unkind behaviour. They thought about what they could do if someone was being left out, how to speak up safely and when to tell a trusted adult.

Our youngest children in EYFS practised welcoming words, Years 1 and 2 came up with helpful things to say when someone feels left out, and our older pupils discussed bullying, being left out and how being an upstander can help. We also marked Odd Socks Day, celebrating the things that make each of us unique.







The children brought these ideas together in our whole-school display, "Everyone Belongs Under Our Umbrella", inspired by The Big Umbrella.

EYFS made raindrops with welcoming words, Years 1 and 2 created speech bubbles, and children in Years 3 to 6 drew self-portraits. Year 6 also worked together to create six larger figures. The display shares our message: we notice when someone is left out, include others and speak up when something is wrong.

I was really impressed by how thoughtfully the children expressed their ideas and explained how they can help everyone feel included.

