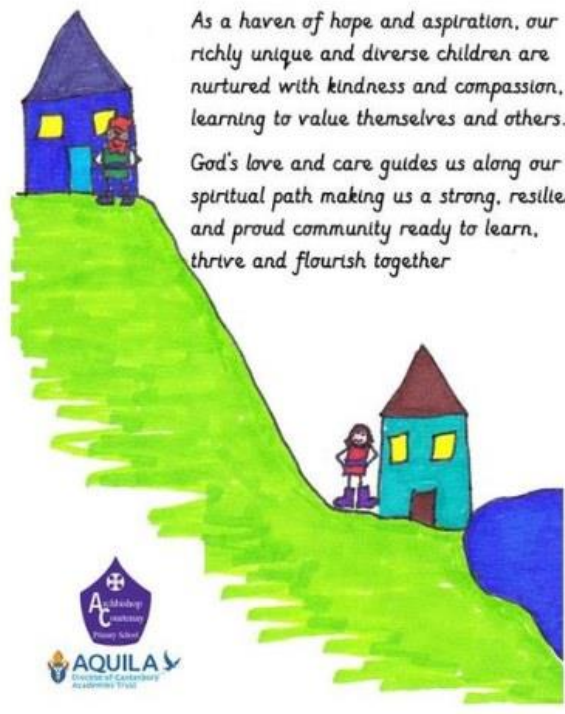




Archbishop Courtenay Primary School -
Friday 17th October FB



As a haven of hope and aspiration, our richly unique and diverse children are nurtured with kindness and compassion, learning to value themselves and others.

God's love and care guides us along our spiritual path making us a strong, resilient and proud community ready to learn, thrive and flourish together

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Dear Families,

Firstly, I want to apologise for the issues with the attendance reminders sent yesterday. It is clear there is a problem with the system, as some parents received incorrect information. We have reported this to the system administrators and are working to resolve it as soon as possible.

Please be reassured that we can see your child/ren's correct attendance percentage, as can you, via the MCAS App. The issue appears to be related to the notification process rather than the attendance data itself. Technology is great when it works!

As we come to the end of this term, what a fabulous time we have all had together! There have certainly been ups and downs along the way, but our children have been truly extraordinary throughout. There has been much fun and laughter, alongside a great deal of learning.

From Year 2 through to Year 6, our pupils have embarked on exciting new writing programmes which are already proving to be very fruitful. The quality of the children's writing is wonderful, and I am incredibly proud of their progress.

I must also congratulate all our children for the fantastic way they returned to school in September. A special mention goes to our youngest pupils in Little Darlings and Little Rashford, who have settled into school life so beautifully—they are a real credit to their parents.

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to the new families who have joined us in various year groups this term. We hope you feel happy and supported as part of the ABC community.

A reminder that our door is always open - if you need support, want some assistance or have a concern please come and speak to me or one of my team. We are not just here to keep the children safe, we are here for you too...

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 3rd November at 8:30am.

Sue Heather

Headteacher

[Volunteer](#)



Do you have a little extra time and a big heart? We'd love your help to make our school an even more magical place for our pupils!

Whether you're a classroom champ, a playground pal, a gardening guru, or a budding artist, there's a spot just for you! Here's how you can get involved:

Mural Magic: Fancy leaving your mark? Help us create a colourful mural that will brighten up our school walls and inspire our pupils every day.

Green Fingers Wanted: Love the outdoors? Join our gardening team to help grow beautiful spaces where children can learn and play.

Playtime Partners: Help supervise and support playtimes, making sure every child has fun and stays safe.

Classroom Heroes: Assist teachers with activities and learning, giving pupils that extra boost and attention.

Volunteering is a fantastic way to get to know our school community, meet other parents, and make a real difference in your child's day. No experience needed—just enthusiasm and a smile!

Interested? Please get in touch...We can't wait to welcome you to the team!

Let's make magic happen together! ✨

Safeguarding - Fake News and Disinformation



What's the problem?

Fake news is false or misleading information presented as genuine news.

Your child might have seen fake news online about world events and conflicts, like Russia's invasion of Ukraine or conflict in the Middle East. Images and videos might misrepresent events, or be from an entirely different conflict or situation.

More recently, AI has been used to alter or completely make up fake images and videos. In some cases, it's very difficult to spot what's real and what's fake.

Fake news and disinformation has also been linked to radicalisation by extremists and attempts to skew people's world views.

How can I help my child spot fake news online?

Tell them to ask themselves:

- **'What's the source?** Is it a reputable news source, and are mainstream news outlets reporting it too?
- **When was it published?** Check the date an article was published, as sometimes old stories are shared on social media. This could be an accident, or it might be to make it look like something happened recently
- **Have you seen anything similar elsewhere?** What happens if you search for it on Google or check it using a fact-checking website like Full Fact?
- **Do the pictures look real?** Images might have been edited. They might also be unrelated images that have been used with the story
- **Why might this have been created?** Could someone be trying to provoke a specific reaction, change your beliefs, or get you to click a link?

Encourage them to **read beyond the headline** too. Many people share stories having just read the headline, then discover the actual story is quite different.

Point them to the government's SHARE checklist (<https://sharechecklist.gov.uk/>) and advice from Childline (<https://bit.ly/3oYfsgd>) too.

For more information about fake news, take a look at Educate Against Hate's [resources and guidance](#).

Wrap Around Information



Wraparound:

<https://archbishop-courtenay.cbfs.uk>

Breakfast (7:30am-8:30am) £4

Social Club (3:15pm-4:15pm) £3

Wraparound (3:15pm-6pm) £12

Tax-free childcare vouchers = 20% off

Universal credits = claim up to 85% back

FOR SUPPORT CONTACT:

archbishop-courtenay@cbfs.uk

01444 523 335

Dates for Diary



Friday 17th October - Last Day of Term 1

Monday 3rd November - First Day of Term 2

Tuesday 4th November - Year 6 visit to Canterbury Cathedral

Thursday 6th November - EYFS Tour 9am & 2pm

Friday 7th November - Remembrance Service at All Saints Church

Collective Worship



This week in Collective Worship, we've been exploring some powerful and important themes, rooted in our school values and biblical teaching.

We began the week by reflecting on our school value of Respect, thinking about what it truly means. We shared that respect is about seeing the value in every person – treating others with kindness, fairness, and care.

We looked at how the Bible teaches us that God made everyone in His image. This means that everyone is special, equal, and worthy of love and dignity, no matter their background, beliefs, or appearance. We also had thoughtful discussions about the world around us, recognising that sometimes not everyone is treated with respect – especially women and girls. We reflected on how God calls us to be part of making things better by treating everyone with the value and kindness they deserve. The children shared lovely ideas about how we can show respect every day, especially in our classrooms and playground: listening to others, using kind words, including everyone, and looking after our shared spaces.

Later in the week, we looked at the story of Jonah, learning about what it means to share the right message, even when it's difficult or people don't want to listen.

Jonah's journey reminded us that doing the right thing isn't always easy, but it is important — and that God gives us courage and second chances. We reflected on how we can be brave in standing up for what's right, even when it feels hard.

Reception



As we come to the end of our very first term in school, we want to take a moment to celebrate just how far your children have come! It's been a wonderful start to their learning journey – they have settled beautifully into school life, made new friendships, developed routines, and shown incredible curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. We're so proud of every single one of them!

Here's a little peek into what we've been up to this week:

✨ **Phonics Focus:** This week we learned four new sounds: *h*, *b*, *f* and *l*, and introduced our first tricky word: "**the**". The children have been confidently recognising and practising these sounds and are now beginning to spell simple words each day by segmenting and blending the sounds they've learned. It's been brilliant to see their confidence growing with early reading and writing!

✍️ **Drawing Club – Room on the Broom:** We've continued our magical adventures with *Room on the Broom*, focusing this week on the character of the dragon. The children produced some fantastic drawings and described the dragon using CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words such as *red*, *big*, and *fat*. In our adventure time, the children imagined

which animals they would take on their very own broomstick – we had some creative and thoughtful ideas, including *giraffes*, *bunny rabbits*, and even *gorillas*! Their detailed drawings and storytelling skills were a joy to see.

1 2
3 4 **Maths – Repeating Patterns:** Our maths learning has taken a colourful turn with repeating patterns! The children have explored patterns using colours, shapes, and everyday objects. We practised both 2-element and more complex 3-element patterns. From red-blue-red-blue to peg-bear-block-peg-bear-block, the children showed brilliant pattern-spotting and creating skills.

Topic – People Who Help Us:

We've been learning all about the amazing people in our community who help us. From firefighters to doctors and police officers, the children shared what they know and asked fantastic questions. They used construction toys to build their own emergency vehicles – we had some very imaginative and well-thought-out designs!

This week, we also took part in **Restart a Heart Day**, learning about the importance of helping others and how we can keep people safe in an emergency. It's truly amazing to look back and see the growth in confidence, communication, and independence already – and it's only the first term! Thank you for your continued support. We can't wait to see what the next term brings!



Year 1 & 2



What an amazing last week of term we have just had! It has been incredibly busy, but I can confidently say it was one of the most enjoyable weeks the children have experienced this term.

History

The highlight was undoubtedly the Victorian virtual workshop, where our children truly embraced the theme by dressing up as Victorian children. Their enthusiasm was contagious, and it really helped set the scene for a fascinating exploration of the British Empire. Throughout the workshop, pupils engaged in various hands-on activities. They created their own Victoria Cross medals, delving into the bravery and courage associated with the awards. The experience didn't stop there; the children also made dip pens and had the chance to use ink to write cards as Victorians would have. This not only enhanced their writing skills but also sparked intriguing conversations about history and how communication has evolved over the years. Furthermore, they crafted beautiful commemoration plates, which will serve as lovely reminders of their learning journey. They truly soaked up fascinating facts about Queen Victoria, cementing their understanding of a pivotal period in British history.

Special Event

As if that wasn't enough excitement, the children also participated in a "Restart a Heart" lesson organised by the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Service. This was an invaluable opportunity for the children to learn an essential life skill—performing CPR. Using their beloved teddies as practice dummies, they were able to apply their newfound

knowledge in a fun and safe environment. We're so proud of them for taking this initiative seriously and gaining skills that could save lives.

In Science, the children embarked on an exciting investigation to explore taste and smell. This hands-on activity not only engaged their curiosity but also allowed them to link their sensory experiences with their scientific understanding. Watching their eyes light up as they discussed their findings was a delight, and they came away enriched with insights about their senses.

⊕ = Maths

In Maths, we've continued focusing on addition and subtraction within 20, where the children have been mastering how to add three one-digit numbers and solidifying their understanding of number bonds to 10. They've been practicing counting on, which has strengthened their confidence in numeracy.

All in all, it has been a week full of learning, creativity, and joy. As we approach the end of term, we would like to thank you for your continued support and encouragement. Here's to a well-deserved break for everyone!

Have a wonderful half term.

The KS1 team.

Year 3 & 4



We've had a wonderful end to term 1 Lower Key Stage 2. The children have been working hard all week to finalise their work and complete subject based assessment tasks. They have tackled tasks with motivation and enthusiasm. Here's a look at what we've been up to:

English

This week we have focused and reflected on Floella's life story and have written in role as Floella, to her Grandma back in Trinidad, telling her all about our adventure and life in England. The children have mostly been writing independently using their mastery Keys to create highly emotive and detailed letters, sharing the Good, the not so good and the amazing elements of Floella's life and journey. Today the children have been editing and publishing their writing.

Maths

This week we have been focusing in on our use of place value when adding two numbers and what happens when we need to exchange, tens, hundreds and even thousands! It's been a bit of a bumpy road, but most of us have remembered to start adding from the ones column on the right hand side and moving across the place value columns to the left side of the page and recording any tens/hundreds/thousands before moving onto the next column. We have tackled this physically, with equipment and expanded place value BEFORE using the traditional column method! We are Maths masters!

PE

In PE this week we have completed both of Netball and Gymnastics units with mini games and sequenced performances. Watching the children's confidence and understanding develop throughout throughout the term has been inspirational and to see their confidence and commitment develop has been remarkable. Well done everyone!

RE

We have finalised our learning and understanding of **Genesis 1**, and have been reflecting on the creation story, the story of Adam and Eve and the Parable of the lost son and why it is important to look after each other, the world and ask for forgiveness and say sorry when we do things we perhaps shouldn't. Mrs Eades reviewed our class Big Books and was really impressed with our ideas, reflections, written work and illustrations.

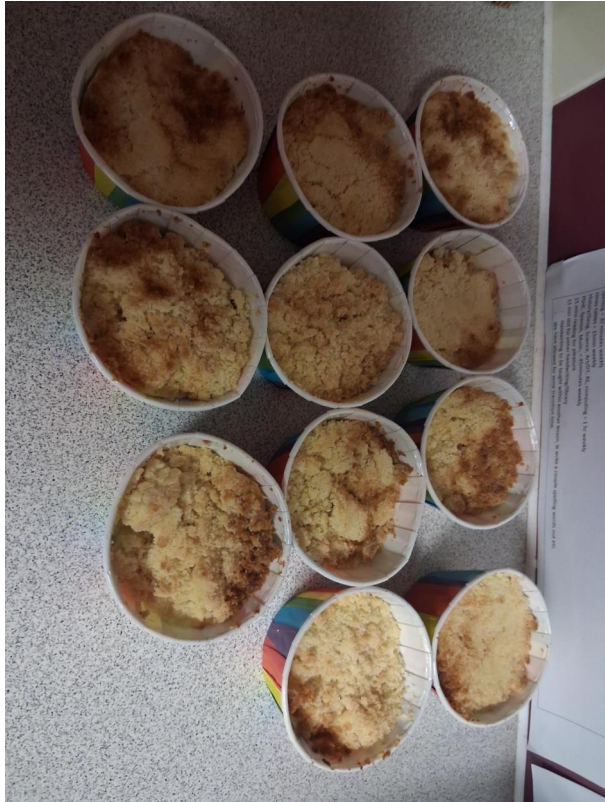
Looking Ahead to Term 2:

It will be darker and colder in term 2 in the mornings. Children **MUST bring a named coat to school EVERYDAY**. To help parents across the school we will set all homework on FRIDAYS to be completed by the following THURSDAY. If you can continue to support with Reading Eggs, Mathseeds and Mathletics. Please continue to read with your children at home daily as this makes a huge difference to their language acquisition and vocabulary, as well as helping to develop their speaking and listening skills.

If you haven't already done so, please can you send in named *wellie boots and wet weather trousers* for TERM 2 and 3 our site gets very muddy!

Have a wonderful 2 week half term and we will see you fresh, ready and recharged on **Monday 3rd November**





Year 5 & 6



🌟 This Week in School 🌟

✎ English

This week, the children have been working on their **final writing pieces**. They have written **diary entries** focusing on **three key moments in Matthew Henson's life**. We are incredibly proud of all the children and the hard work they have put into producing such thoughtful and detailed writing! 📄 🤝

🙏 RE

In RE, we have finished our topic on **Creation and Genesis 1**. The children created some **amazing posters and artwork** to show their understanding of the story of Creation. 🌍 🧠

🎨 Art

Our young artists have completed their **final sketches of Maidstone**, inspired by the incredible skills of **Stephen Wiltshire**. The results are stunning, and the children have really shown great attention to detail! ✎ 🖼️

🏛️ Special Event – Greek Workshop

Thursday was a very exciting day! The children took part in a **Greek workshop** and had an amazing time. They learned all about the **Spartans** and took part in a variety of activities:

- Made **mosaic tiles** 🟩

- Created **Laurel wreath headbands** 🌿
- Designed **charm bracelets** ✨
- Carved **soap sculptures** 🍂

It was wonderful to see the children so engaged and creative throughout the day! 🎉

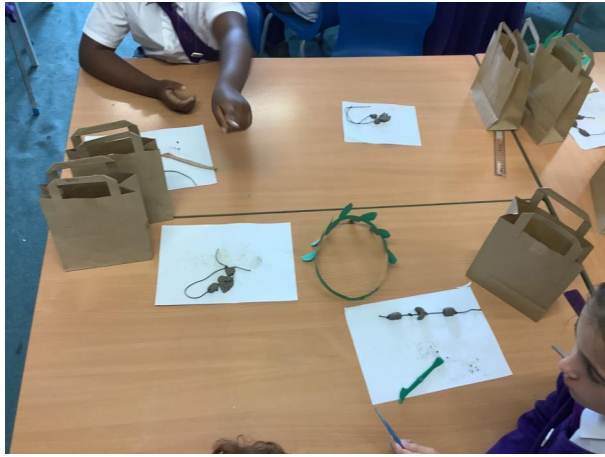
👉 Looking Ahead

As the **dark mornings and evenings** approach and the **temperature drops**, please ensure your child brings a **named coat** to school every day.

- Continue with **homework**: Reading Eggspress, Athletics, and Spellings 📖
- If you haven't already, please bring in **named wellies and waterproof trousers** so the children can enjoy playing **in all weathers** as our site does get very muddy. ☁️👢

Thank you for your continued support! Have a wonderful 2 week half term and we will see you fresh, ready and recharged on **Monday 3rd November**





The ABC Archie Awards





1 - This week our four Archie's are back in action and ready to go off on their half term adventures - whilst the children are away for 2 weeks the Archie's will be helping across the school getting the rooms and site ready for term!

This Weeks Winners are:

KS1: Evelyn: for being a fantastic role model and for being a good friend to everyone. She polite, respectful and very helpful.

LKS2: Eugenia: For always ensuring that everyone is ok and offering to help in her own time to get jobs and tasks completed.

UKS2: Arianna, for always following the the school values and always checking in on adults and asking if they need help or support with tasks.

Well done to all of our wonderful pupils who are showing such pride in their learning and compassion for others wellbeing in their actions. You truly do make our school a wonderful place to belong!

Contact Us



We are here to help you so please never be afraid to get in touch

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