



# CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we mark **Child Safety Week**, we would like to take this opportunity to reinforce the importance of keeping our children safe, both at home and when they are out in the community. Working together, we can ensure that all children feel secure, confident, and well-supported as they grow and learn.

At school, we will be engaging pupils in age-appropriate discussions and activities focused on recognising risks, making safe choices, and knowing how to seek help. We encourage you to continue these conversations at home.

## Keeping Children Safe at Home

The home should be a safe and nurturing environment. A few simple precautions can make a significant difference:

- **Supervision:** Always keep a close eye on younger children, especially around hazards such as kitchens, bathrooms, and stairs.
- **Online Safety:** Ensure children use devices in shared spaces, talk openly about their online activity, and remind them never to share personal information or speak to strangers online.
- **Fire Safety:** Check smoke alarms regularly, keep matches and lighters out of reach, and plan a simple escape route together as a family.
- **Medicines and Cleaning Products:** Store all substances safely out of reach and in locked cupboards if possible.

## Staying Safe Outside the Home

As children become more independent, it is essential they understand how to keep themselves safe outside:

- **Road Safety:** Encourage children to use safe crossing points, look both ways, and avoid distractions such as mobile phones when near roads.
- **Stranger Awareness:** Teach children to be cautious around people they do not know and to always inform a trusted adult where they are going and who they are with.
- **Cycling and Scooters:** Remind children to wear helmets and protective gear where appropriate.
- **Public Spaces:** Children should know what to do if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe—such as going to a trusted adult, shop, or safe place.

## Working Together

Children's safety is a shared responsibility. By maintaining open communication and modelling safe behaviours, we can help our children build confidence and resilience. Please take time this week to talk with your child about safety in a calm, supportive way.

If you would like further advice or resources, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our children safe.

Yours sincerely,

**Vanessa Bingham**

Headteacher

**Unfortunately, we had to close the school for 3 days due to extreme weather. In the unlikely event of further RED weather warnings then the school will be closed. Please make sure you check text messages and emails.**

**Reminder – If you need to talk to your child's teacher, you should contact the school office who will arrange a call back or meeting. If you would like to send in an Email, this should be sent into the [Admin@christtheking.reading.sch.uk](mailto:Admin@christtheking.reading.sch.uk) address and this will be forwarded onto the teacher. Emails should not be sent directly to the teachers.**

## Families of Faith

June 2026

### Good News from the Gospel

**June 7, 2026 – Solemnity of  
Corpus Christi**

**Gospel:** *Luke 9:11b–17*

Jesus feeds the five thousand with  
five loaves and two fish.

**June 14, 2026 – 11th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

**Gospel:** *Luke 7:36–8:3* (or  
shorter form: *Luke 7:36–50*)

A sinful woman anoints Jesus’  
feet; message of forgiveness and  
love.

**June 21, 2026 – 12th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

**Gospel:** *Luke 9:18–24*

Peter declares Jesus as the Christ;  
call to take up the cross.

**June 28, 2026 – 13th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

**Gospel:** *Luke 9:51–62*

Jesus sets out for Jerusalem;  
demands of true discipleship.

### Prayer Corner

Loving God,  
Help us to share,  
forgive, and do what  
is right.

Guide us to live our  
faith in our actions  
each day.

Amen.

### Families Faith in Action

Live your faith through kindness, courage,  
forgiveness, and action.

- **Share what you have** and include  
others- for example- Sharing food or  
belongings with someone who has less
- **Forgive and show love**, especially to  
those left out, for example- including  
someone who is left out at playtime
- **Do the right thing**, even when it’s  
difficult, for example, standing up for  
someone being treated unfairly

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

EYFS Collective Worship – 9am – 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Class Swap Day AM/International Day PM – 8<sup>th</sup> July

Reception New Classes AM – 14<sup>th</sup> July

Yr 6 Leavers Play – 16<sup>th</sup> July

Reports to go home/ Nursery Last Day – 17<sup>th</sup> July

Reception/Nursery Home Visits – 20<sup>th</sup> July

Yr 6 BBQ after school – 20<sup>th</sup> July

Yr 6 Leavers Mass – 21<sup>st</sup> July

Reception/Nursery Home visits – 21<sup>st</sup> July

End of Term finish 1.30 - Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Start of New Academic Year – 3<sup>rd</sup> September



## **School Uniform- Please ensure your child/ren come to school in correct uniform**

Navy-blue sweatshirt or cardigan with or without school badge

White polo shirt with or without school badge

Skirt or dark grey trousers with white or grey socks

Sensible shoes - Trainers, jelly shoes or sling-back sandals are not acceptable for general wear.

Boots may be worn in winter to and from school; however, pupils must change into black shoes once in school

Religious head coverings, where worn, should be in school colours or black

Children come into school in their PE kit on their PE day

PE Kit consists - T-shirts should be in the child's house colour (red, green, yellow or blue), White t-shirts are acceptable with navy shorts and plimsolls.

Tracksuits in black or navy may be worn and trainers are acceptable when P.E. is outside, but not for indoor P.E. sessions

Children are not permitted to wear jewellery in school. Only small, simple studs in pierced ears and wrist watches are acceptable

"Smart" watches are strictly prohibited.

Children should not wear jewellery to school on PE days

If children do attend school with jewellery, they will be asked to cover or remove objects before Physical Education lessons or any other lessons where the wearing of such items constitutes a potential safety risk

Teachers and other members of staff do not take responsibility for the safe keeping of jewellery which has been removed.

Mid to long length hair should be tied back. Hair accessories should be minimal and should be brown or black.

No markings should be shaved into hair or on scalp and hair dye, both temporary or semi-permanent is not permitted unless authorised as part of a school event.

The wearing of make-up, nail varnish or false nails is not permitted.

The wearing of temporary tattoos is not permitted.

In consultation with the headteacher, exceptions on the grounds of medical evidence may be granted.

## Nursery

Welcome back to our Summer 2 term! We hope you all had a wonderful half – term break and looking forward to the exciting few weeks ahead. We have lots of fun learning experiences planned for the children as we continue to explore, discover and grow together. Summer 2 is always a busy and exciting terms, filled with outdoor learning, special events, and opportunities to celebrate children's achievements.

This term we have been learning about "Our Wonderful World" and exploring the amazing places, people, animals, and environments that make our world special.

Through stories, creative activities, discussions, and play, the children have been discovering different countries, cultures, landmarks and habitats.

As part of learning, we encouraged the children to think about kindness, respect, and looking after the environment through activities such as planting and caring for nature.

The beginning of this term the children have been learning about life cycles and exploring how living things grow and change. We are very excited to be welcoming some caterpillars into nursery and to observe their incredible transformation into beautiful butterflies.

The children will be watching the caterpillars grow bigger each day, from their chrysalises, and eventually emerging as butterflies. This hands-on experience encouraged curiosity, observational skills, and discussions about the natural world. We will be talking about the different stages of the butterfly life cycle and learning lots of new vocabulary.



As we approach the end of the academic year, we are preparing to celebrate our oldest children as they get ready for their exciting next steps to Reception.

Our Nursery Graduation will be a special opportunity to recognise the children's achievements, growth, and wonderful memories made during the time with us. We are incredibly proud of how much they have learned and developed, and we look forward to celebrating this milestone together.

Thank you to all the dads, grandads, and special father figures who joined us for our Father's Day activities. The children had a wonderful time-sharing learning, playing and crafting together and creating such special memories. We appreciate your support and hope you enjoyed celebrating with us.





We have had a fantastic time preparing for our Nursery Sports Day! The children have been showing great enthusiasm, determination, and teamwork as they have been practicing a variety of fun races and physical challenges. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they participated and try their very best.



In Religious Education this term, the children have been learning about Pentecost and its importance in the Christian faith. Through stories, discussions, and creative activities, the children explored how the Holy Spirit came to Jesus' disciples and helped share God's message with others.

The children enjoyed listening to the Pentecost story and learning about the symbols associated with it including flames, doves, and the wind. They took part in a range of activities such as creating colourful flame artwork, making doves, and talking about how we can show kindness, friendship and care towards others.

Our learning about Pentecost encouraged children to think about belonging, helping other, and celebrating together as a community. The children showed great curiosity and enthusiasm and enjoyed sharing their ideas throughout the topic.







## Ducklings – Miss Nyilas

## Stars of the week- Fathima and Akosua, Ezekiel and Aron, Blake

June has been a very busy month for Ducklings! At the beginning of the term, we read Owl Babies and now have moved onto our final book for the year the Tiger Who Came to Tea. The children have been enjoying the carousel learning we have been doing practicing our fine motor skills, mark making, and sorting and matching all while focused learning has been taking place alongside. We have continued this carousel learning into our Maths lesson where the children continue to build their number fluency. For RE we continue to look at Pentecost and the importance of being kind and knowing that God is the Holy Spirit who is there to help us when we need it.

In Science, we continue to look at plant growth; we started an experiment where we planted peas to see which environment they would grow best in and will be collecting the data from that very soon.

In DT we have been exploring different types of fabric and textures to eventually make our own classroom bunting! We have continued our History lessons on transportation by exploring our public transit systems. We hopped on the Reading bus from school into town where we met a guide at Reading Station where we got on a train to Newbury. We talked about where to buy tickets, who to look for when we need help and enjoyed a lovely day out.

**We also celebrated Father's Day, the dads and children enjoyed a lovely afternoon stay and play.**

Finally, we end June with our last trip to Ufton Court with the Ark. We definitely ended on a hot one, but the children still managed to enjoy the day with shelter building, nature painting, and lovely nature walk. We are on the home stretch for summer!











## Reception – Mr Taplin

### **Literacy**

Our Literacy work has centred around the theme of minibeasts. The children have spent time exploring a wide range of tiny creatures and using descriptive language to talk about what they observed. They practised using adjectives to describe colours, patterns, movements and textures. Many children enjoyed comparing different minibeasts and discussing their similarities and differences. We also completed some instruction writing. The children learned how to organise their ideas into clear, ordered steps and used imperative verbs (cut, put, add, stack) to write their own instructions for making a bug hotel. They thought carefully about the materials minibeasts might enjoy and how to create a safe and welcoming habitat.

### **Religious Education**

In Religious Education, our focus has been Pentecost. We explored the story, discussing how the disciples felt before and after receiving the Holy Spirit. The children learned about the symbols associated with the Holy Spirit - wind, fire and the dove, and what these symbols represent. Throughout the month, we also reflected on the gifts and talents we each have. The children shared thoughtful examples of times they have shown kindness, courage or creativity and we talked about how these gifts can be used to help others in our school community.

### **Maths**

Maths this month has involved hands-on exploration and practical learning. We spent time developing an understanding of 2D shapes, learning to identify shapes by their properties and spotting them in the world around us. The children enjoyed sorting shapes, describing them using mathematical vocabulary and using them to create imaginative pictures and patterns. Alongside our shape work, we dedicated time to strengthening fluency with number bonds to 10. Through games, songs and practical activities, the children became increasingly confident in recalling pairs of numbers that make 10.

### **Expressive Arts & Design**

Our creative work this month has been wonderfully varied. The children explored colour, pattern and texture while painting minibeasts, paying close attention to the details that make each creature unique. They also created a range of paper plate minibeasts, transforming simple materials into butterflies, spiders and snails. One of the highlights of the month was making ladybirds and bees from recycled egg boxes. This project encouraged the children to think about how everyday materials can be reused in imaginative ways, and they were very proud of their finished creations. I loved seeing their brilliant creations! Their artwork has brought lots of colour and character to our classroom displays.

## Understanding the World

To deepen our understanding of our topic, we spent time outdoors on a minibeast hunt. Over several sessions, the children explored different areas of the school grounds, searching under logs, in the grass and around plants to discover what creatures live in different habitats. They used magnifying glasses and observation pots to look closely at each minibeast, noticing how they moved, where they hid and what they might need to survive. This helped the children develop curiosity, care for living things and early scientific thinking.





## Year 1 – Miss Scott

Stars- Bella, Cherry, Vinnie and Chinasa

June has been a wonderfully busy and enjoyable month in Year 1, with lots of hands-on learning and exciting experiences across the curriculum. In English, we have really enjoyed reading *Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish* and *The Odd Egg*, using these stories as inspiration for our own ideas. The children have been taking part in regular short burst writing activities, focusing on improving their handwriting, spelling and sentence structure, and developing their confidence to write more independently.

In Maths, we have been learning about time, money and capacity. The children have been practising telling the time to the hour and half past, recognising coins and solving simple money problems, and exploring capacity through practical activities. The capacity lessons were a particular highlight, as the children loved investigating with water, comparing amounts and using different containers—especially during the warmer days.

In Science, we have been learning about ocean protectors and thinking about how we can care for our environment. The children particularly enjoyed creating their own rock pools, using their knowledge of sea creatures and habitats to design and build them.

In DT, we have begun exploring moving vehicles, looking at how wheels and axles work. The children are very excited to design and create their own moving vehicle in the coming weeks.

Thank you so much to everyone who joined us for our Father's Day afternoon—it was so lovely to celebrate with all our special people and share this time together. We would also like to say a big thank you for your support on Sports Day; it was a fantastic day and the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part.





## Year 1/2 – Mrs Uminska

### English

We had great fun with two lovely books this term: *Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish* and *The Odd Egg*. The children kept busy writing in short bursts, exploring prefixes, and describing objects.

### Maths

A wonderfully hands-on term! We've been telling the time, putting events in order, and learning all about money — we even played shop! We also explored capacity, with plenty of practical activities along the way.

### Science

Science took us underwater, and making our very own rock pools was a real highlight. We also dipped into life cycles, which tied in beautifully with our PSHE learning.

### Geography

The children have been fascinated learning about Zambia! They especially enjoyed comparing our school to a school in a little village there. They can now recognise the Zambian flag and even know what shape the country reminds people of.

### RE

We've been learning about Pentecost, and the children were absolutely wonderful. They even became journalists for the day, taking the chance to interview one of the disciples — they loved it!

### PSHE

We talked about how much we've all changed since we were babies, and the children learnt the different parts of the body too.

### Computing

The children have been busy coding using Junior Scratch! They learnt how to start, write, and run a short programme all by themselves — a brilliant achievement.

### PE

In PE we're currently working on athletics, and we also spent some time practising for our Sports Day celebration.

### Father's Day

What a special occasion this was! The children worked so hard learning their poem, and it was lovely to see them present it to their dads. A real treat for everyone.

A big thank you to everyone who came along to Sports Day too — the children had a brilliant time! Please stay safe and keep cool in this hot weather.



**Stars of the Week**

**05.06.26 - Bryson & Nora**

**12.06.26 - Harper & Alice**

**19.06.26 - J'Dore & Bella**

**Maths Ninja's**

**05.06.26 - Bryson year 5/6 White band**

**12.06.26 - Kewyn White band**

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June Year 3 visited Douai Abbey for a procession. The children learned about the Holy Communion and walked around the grounds.



On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, the class participated in this year's SPORTS DAY! Well done to all the children for their hard work and effort. Congratulations to **St James'** house for winning this year.

## Year 4 – Miss Thompson

### English

In English, we have been reading *The Rhythm of the Rain* and exploring the fascinating journey that water takes around our world. We have been amazed to discover how one tiny droplet can travel through rivers, oceans, clouds and even living creatures as part of the water cycle.

Today, we are going to become scientists and write a letter explaining what happened to Isaac's water droplet and the journey it made. We will use our scientific knowledge to explain each stage of its adventure, using accurate vocabulary and clear explanations.

This is our final piece of writing in Year 4, so we will use all the skills we have developed this year, including ambitious vocabulary, varied sentence structures and accurate punctuation. This is our chance to show just how much we have grown as writers and finish Year 4 with a piece of writing we are proud of.

### Maths

In Maths, we have been learning about angles, perimeter and area, developing our problem-solving and reasoning skills along the way. We have enjoyed applying our knowledge to a range of practical and challenging activities that have helped us to become more confident mathematicians.

Next, we will begin our unit on Roman numerals, which we are incredibly excited about! It is a topic we have been looking forward to all year, and we cannot wait to learn how the Romans represented numbers and compare their number system to the one we use today. We are eager to take on this new challenge and continue growing our mathematical knowledge.

### Science

In Science, we have been learning about muscle fatigue and investigating what happens to our muscles when they are used repeatedly. Through a range of practical activities and experiments, we have explored ways to improve muscle endurance and recover more effectively after exercise.

We have also been carrying out exciting investigations into electricity, including attempting to power a light bulb using a lemon! This has helped us develop our scientific enquiry skills and deepen our understanding of how energy can be transferred in different ways. We have thoroughly enjoyed thinking and working like real scientists as we test our ideas and make discoveries.



## **Sports Day.**

**Year 4 did an amazing job during Sports Day and showed fantastic teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event. We were especially proud of the children who volunteered to take part in more than one race to support their team, demonstrating great commitment and resilience.**

**There was plenty of excitement and encouragement from everyone, making it a wonderful day for the whole year group. A huge congratulations goes to St James' Team, who were crowned the overall winners! They were absolutely delighted with their achievement, and it was lovely to see everyone celebrating their success together. We are incredibly proud of all the children for their effort, enthusiasm and positive attitude.**

**Star of the week**

**-Jesse and Victoria**

**-Year 4**

**Arnas and Myra**

**-Henry M and Henry N**

## Year 5 – Miss Webb

This month has been very busy in Year 5. We have been reading a creepy fairy-tale called 'The Lost Happy Endings' and writing our own versions. We also read a book called 'Millions' about two brothers who find a bag filled with lots and lots of money and thought about what we would spend lots of money on.

Money and time were our topics in maths, deepening our knowledge of these concepts!

In geography we have been studying earthquakes around the world and the impact on the environment and people.

Our science lessons have been learning about the many uses of space blankets, and we even got to try one on!

Bridges were our topic in DT, and we learnt about what parts of them hold the weight and created our own. We even tested them with weights to see whose bridge was the sturdiest.

## Year 5/6 – Mrs Powell



Stars of the Week



May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Nikola and Olesia

June 5<sup>th</sup>: Elliot and Sahan

June 12<sup>th</sup>: Alba and Lexi

June 19<sup>th</sup>: Lukasz and Wiktorja

SATs may have finished last month, but Year 5/6 have continued to focus on developing their writing throughout June in preparation for their end of year writing assessments. The children have been working incredibly hard, studying *The Island* by Armin Greder in Master Readers and *Floodland* by Marcus Sedgwick in English.

We are currently exploring discussion texts and the children are now choosing the topics for their own pieces. Popular ideas so far include whether footballers are paid too much, whether mobile phones should be allowed in school and whether SATs should be abolished.

In RE, we explored the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit as the season of Pentecost came to a close. The children are now learning about the seven Sacraments and considering how these Sacraments can shape and guide our Christian journey.

In DT, the class have been designing and testing different bridge structures, applying their understanding of strength, stability and materials. Meanwhile, their recent artwork - inspired by Friedensreich Hundertwasser - is now proudly on display in the KS2 corridor art gallery.

Our Year 6 children recently completed a sponsored walk to raise money for their Leavers' Hoodies. Thank you to everyone who has already sent in sponsorship money. Please ensure any outstanding contributions are returned to school as soon as possible.

We are very excited to be holding our Year 6 Enrichment Week next week, with trips planned to Dinton Activity Centre, Go Ape, Chessington, Marwell Zoo and the cinema. It promises to be a memorable and enjoyable week as the children approach the end of their time at Christ the King.

**We have also planned an exciting programme for our Year 5 pupils in school, including a drama workshop, a special Science Space focus, an athletics PE session, a theme-park design maths project and a standalone writing project which will also look at the effects of global warming.**





## Year 5/6 - Mrs Bloom

SATs may have finished last month, but Year 5/6 have continued to focus on developing their writing throughout June in preparation for their end of year writing assessments. The children have been working incredibly hard, studying *The Island* by Armin Greder in Master Readers and *Floodland* by Marcus Sedgwick in English.

We are currently exploring discussion texts and the children are now choosing the topics for their own pieces. Popular ideas so far include whether footballers are paid too much, whether mobile phones should be allowed in school and whether SATs should be abolished.

In RE, we explored the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit as the season of Pentecost came to a close. The children are now learning about the seven Sacraments and considering how these Sacraments can shape and guide our Christian journey.

In DT, the class have been designing and testing different bridge structures, applying their understanding of strength, stability and materials. Meanwhile, their recent artwork - inspired by Friedensreich Hundertwasser - is now proudly on display in the KS2 corridor art gallery.

Our Year 6 children recently completed a sponsored walk to raise money for their Leavers' Hoodies. Thank you to everyone who has already sent in sponsorship money. Please ensure any outstanding contributions are returned to school as soon as possible.

We are very excited to be holding our Year 6 Enrichment Week next week, with trips planned to Dinton Activity Centre, Go Ape, Chessington, Marwell Zoo and the cinema. It promises to be a memorable and enjoyable week as the children approach the end of their time at Christ the King.

We have also planned an exciting programme for our Year 5 pupils in school, including a drama workshop, a special Science Space focus, an athletics PE session, a theme park design maths project and a standalone writing project which will also look at the effects of global warming.

**Congratulations Finley for winning the KS2 Penalty Shootout at the summer fair.**



## The Ark – Mrs Machado

Our class enjoyed an exciting enrichment visit to Ufton Court, where we took part in a range of outdoor learning activities. The children worked together to build shelters in the forest, developing teamwork, problem-solving and resilience skills. They also explored nature through leaf printing, using rubber mallets to create beautiful prints, while learning about different plants and textures. Another highlight was becoming wildlife detectives, identifying animal tracks, feathers and other markings in the forest to develop their observation and investigation skills. It was a fantastic day of hands-on learning and adventure in nature.



The children did exceptionally well during Sports Day, showing great enthusiasm, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event. They took part in a variety of races and activities, cheering on their classmates and giving their best effort in every challenge. It was wonderful to see their confidence, teamwork and perseverance on display, making the day a fun and memorable celebration of sport and achievement.





# Reading Central Library Opening Day

## Thursday 18 June 9am - 7pm

Join us at 9am as we open the doors for the first time!

Rhymetimes with the Mayor will be at 10.15 and 11.15am.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Find us at Reading Central Library, Civic Offices,  
Bridge Street, RG1 2LU  
2 minute walk from The Orade  
[www.reading.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.reading.gov.uk/libraries)



**Reading**  
Libraries

# CHESSFEST

FRIENDS • FAMILY • FUN



Brought to you by

**CSC**

Chess in  
Schools and  
Communities



Proudly supported by

**[XTX]**  
MARKETS

## ChessFest returns - 12th July



There are now just three weeks to go before ChessFest returns to Trafalgar Square on **Sunday 12th July 2026, 12pm-7pm**. Once again, we'll be taking over the whole square for a day of free, family-friendly chess activities, including:

- Free **chess lessons** from a CSC tutor
- **Simultaneous displays** by the top Grandmasters in the country including Mickey Adams and Gawain Jones
- **Giant** chess sets
- Speed chess galore in the **Challenge the Chess Master** tent
- **Living chess** with actors, replaying famous games of chess on our giant board
- **Puzzle-rush**: pit your wits against fiendish chess puzzles on ChessKid.
- Watch chess masters battle it out in game of **giant blitz**, a test of skill and stamina.