



CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Families of Christ the King,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the school year.

We are now in the 5th week of the autumn term and the children have settled back into school and their new classes well. As this is my first term at Christ the King it has been wonderful to see how well the majority have settled into their early morning routines with great enthusiasm and I have thoroughly enjoyed walking around the classes to see them settling in.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who managed to attend our Meet the SLT at the start of term. It was great to see that you are supporting your children with their education.

Thank you with your continued support with our school uniform standards and in ensuring that the children arrive at school on time and ready to learn. This makes a huge difference to the sense of belonging that we are trying to foster throughout the school.

Over the next week, I will send out a letter outlining a change to our Relationships and Health Education (RHE) Curriculum which includes the statutory elements of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE). This change is brought about, as the Bishop has decreed that all schools in the Portsmouth Diocese follow this program. You will be able to access the program and see what your children will be learning during their time at school. I have had great success with this program in my previous schools, where the children have enjoyed the engaging videos and work, and am confident that they will do so here at Christ the King as well.

Once again, thank you for your warm welcome, and if I have not met you so far, please do come and find me on the gate.

God Bless.

Ms Ridguard

Headteacher

Families of Faith

September 2026

Good News from the Gospel	Prayer Corner	Families Faith in Action
6 September 2026 -Matthew 18:15-20 Be peacemakers and help others do the right thing. 13 September 2026- Matthew 18:21-35 (The Unforgiving Servant) Forgive others because God forgives us. 20 September 2026- Matthew 20:1-16 (Workers in the Vineyard) God loves everyone and is generous to all. 📖 27 September 2026- Matthew 21:28-32 (The Two Sons)- Actions speak louder than words.	Dear God, Help us to be kind, forgive others, share your love and always do what is right. May our words and actions show that we are followers of Jesus every day. Amen.	Be Kind, Forgive, Share and Do." Throughout the month can you : • Be kind to one person every day. • Forgive quickly when someone upsets them. • Share something they have. • Do one helpful action without being asked.

Nursery

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful and relaxing summer and enjoyed making lots of special memories together.

We would like to give a particularly warm welcome to all our new children and families who joined us this term. We have been so excited to get to know you and your children and look forward to working together throughout the year.

The start of the new term is an exciting term. We have spent the first few weeks helping children to settle back into Nursery routines, build friendships, develop their confidence and feel happy and secure in their environment.

Over the past few weeks, the children have been exploring "Our Wonderful World" topic. This has provided lots of opportunities for the children to learn more about themselves, their families, their feelings, their bodies and the people and world around them. We have loved getting to know each child and finding out about their individual interests, personalities and experiences. Our nursery children even had lots of fun icing biscuits to represent different faces and emotions.



We have enjoyed a range of stories, rhymes and songs linked to our topic. Children have been encouraged to develop their vocabulary, listen carefully, talk about their ideas, retell stories and explore early mark making. Our Sharing Library has continued giving the children the opportunity to take books home and enjoy stories with their families.



We greatly value the partnership between home and Nursery. It was so lovely to see so many parents attend our "Introduction to Tapestry session". Please continue to use Tapestry to share special moments, achievements, interests and experiences from home. These can provide wonderful opportunities for us to talk with your child and build on their interests at Nursery.

We are incredibly proud of how the children have settled, grown in confidence and developed their independence. It has been wonderful to see them make friends, try new things, share ideas and learn through play.



Stars of the Week



Bonnie

Emmanuel

Alex

Stellan

Serah

Zoe

Thank you for your continued support and for being such an important part of your child's learning journey.

Warmest wishes,

The Nursery Team

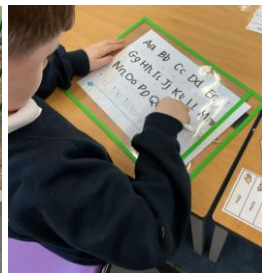
Ducklings – Miss Nyilas

Stars of the Week – Whole class, Layla and Diana, Zayd

A very warm welcome back to all our families, and a special welcome to the new children and families who have joined Ducklings this year. We have had a fantastic start to the school year, and it has been wonderful to see the children settling into their routines, building relationships, and engaging so positively in their learning.

This month, we have been enjoying the story *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* Our carousel learning sessions for English and Maths are back up and running, with the children focusing on letter formation in English and place value in Maths. In RE, we have been learning about Creation and Covenant, thinking about God's wonderful world and how we can care for it. In Science, we have begun exploring seasonal changes, with a particular focus on the signs of autumn. In Geography, we are learning about our classroom, our school, and the country we live in. The children have also been busy developing their fundamental movement skills in PE, while in Music they have been singing songs about our senses and learning how to find and keep the pulse in music. In PSHE, we are focusing on self-awareness, helping the children to recognise their feelings, strengths, and preferences. Alongside our topic learning, we continue to develop our communication skills through our core word program where the children have already learned want, yes, and no. This term, we also welcome Mrs Sophie who comes each Thursday for Story Massage sessions.

We are very excited for all the learning and experiences that lie ahead. We look forward to a wonderful year together!



Reception – Mrs Burton & Mrs Uminska

We warmly welcome our reception children, especially those who have come from other nurseries. We have all been busy settling into our classrooms and becoming familiar with our new classmates, adults and routines.

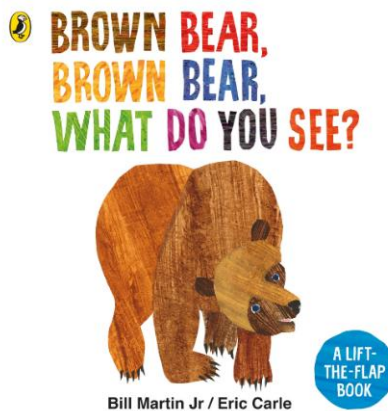
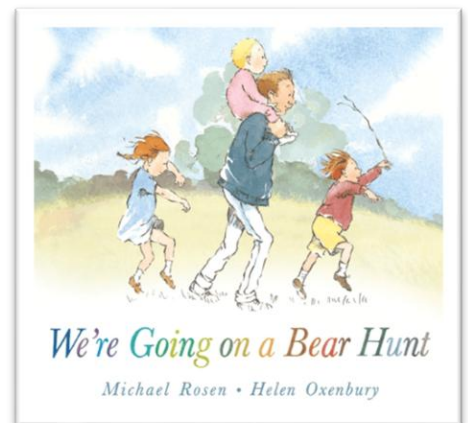


Children have embraced all the different areas of learning which we have been able to take outside with all this lovely weather. We've started our Ruth Miskin Phonics programme, and our first sounds are m, a, s, d, t.

We enjoyed RE exploring God's creation around our school, thinking about the things in our life that make us go wow! The children are beginning to learn the prayers we use for the morning, lunch time and afternoon.

Our theme this term is 'Bears, bears Everywhere'. We have been finding out about different bears such as the polar bear and the black bear. Our stories we have been looking at are:

We look forward to the coming weeks as we continue to establish expectations and routines, while deepening our learning about bears around the world through a variety of hands-on experiences both indoors and outdoors.



Year 1 /2– Miss Scott

We have had a fantastic start to the year in Year 1/2. The children have settled wonderfully into their new classroom routines and have embraced every learning opportunity with enthusiasm. We have been enjoying lots of practical, hands-on learning experiences across the curriculum.

In RE, we have been exploring Creation and Covenant and thinking about God's presence in creation. The children identified parts of God's wonderful world that make them stop and say "wow" and reflected on the beauty of creation around us. Inspired by these discussions, they created beautiful artwork celebrating the wonder of God's world and the special gift of creation.



In English, we have loved reading *Supertato*. The children have been using the story to inspire their learning through labelling, sentence writing and handwriting activities, while developing their confidence as young writers.



In Maths, we have been exploring place value to 10 using practical equipment and activities to deepen our understanding of numbers and how they can be represented in different ways.



In Science, we have been learning about different materials. The children particularly enjoyed setting up a recycling station in the classroom, where they sorted objects according to the material they were made from and discussed how we can help to care for our environment.

In Geography, we worked together to create a large map of our school grounds. As part of our learning, we explored the school environment and thought carefully about where new plants and trees could be grown to improve the grounds. The children used directional language and simple compass points to describe locations and routes around the school before presenting their ideas and explaining why they had chosen planting areas.

We are incredibly proud of the positive start the children have made and look forward to sharing more of their learning and achievements with you throughout the year.



Stars of the Week - Charlie, Daniella, Fred and Tiffany



Year 1/2 – Miss Webb

We have had a great start to Year 2 and have settled in really well. We have learnt lots of new things!

English- we have been reading a book called *The Bear and the Piano* about a bear who discovers something strange in the woods and learns to play the piano and becomes famous but realises he just wants to be with his family. We thought about how the Bear might feel going to the city without his family but being so famous and successful. We then created our own versions with different animals such as chickens or dragons and had our characters learn different instruments.

Maths- maths has been all about place value and using our knowledge of 'more than' and 'less than' on numbers up to 100!

Science - in science we have been learning about materials and their properties. We have discussed why certain materials are better for different things (like why bricks are great for building houses) and how we can describe the properties of each material (e.g. bricks are heavy and rough).

Geography- in geography we have been exploring the globe and how parts of our world can be categorised- into oceans and continents. We also have looked more closely at Great Britain and the countries and capital cities inside it.

RE- the focus of RE has been the Creation Story and we have reenacted key events from Genesis such as Noah's Ark.

We are so proud of how hard the children have been working in this next stage of their learning journey and can't wait to share more with you as the school year progresses.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Cherry

Osher

Hannah

Kadin

Ruby-Mae

Osher

Year 3/4 – Mr Taplin

We have had a fantastic start to the term in Year 3/4 and have enjoyed lots of exciting learning across the curriculum. Here is a snapshot of what we have been exploring so far...

English

In English, we have been reading and studying *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura. The children have enjoyed following the adventures of the main character as he travels back in time to the Stone Age. We have focused on using adjectives and expanded noun phrases to add detail and description to our writing (for example, '*the cold, rocky cave*'). We have also been recapping simple sentences and learning how to write compound sentences using conjunctions such as *and*, *but* and *so* to join ideas together and make our writing more interesting.

Maths

This term, our focus has been on number and place value. We have been learning to:

- Read and write numbers up to 1,000 – YEAR 3
- Read and write numbers up to 10,000 – YEAR 4
- Recognise the value of each digit in a number.
- Compare and order numbers.
- Partition numbers into hundreds, tens and ones to help us understand their value and solve problems efficiently – YEAR 3
- Partition numbers into thousands, hundreds, tens and ones to help us understand their value and solve problems efficiently – YEAR 4

The children have worked hard to build confidence and accuracy in their mathematical thinking.

History

In History, we have begun our exciting topic on the Stone Age. We have discovered how people lived during this period, including their homes, food, tools and daily lives. The children have enjoyed comparing Stone Age life with modern life and learning about how people adapted to survive. We have also explored archaeological evidence and what it can tell us about the past.

Religious Education

In Religious Education, we have been learning about the Creation Story. The children have explored the Christian belief that God created the world and discussed the importance of creation for Christians today. We have reflected on themes such as gratitude, responsibility and caring for our world and enjoyed sharing our own thoughts and ideas during class discussions.

Stars of the Week:

11th September : Sebastian and Navaneeth, 18th September : Nora and Jaleel, 25th September : Emilia and Bryson

Year 3/4 – Miss Thompson

Welcome to Year 3/4 with Miss Thompson! We have had a fantastic start to the year and are excited to share all of the wonderful learning that will take place throughout the coming months.

Here are a few important reminders:

- PE lessons take place on Wednesdays.
- Homework is due every Friday.
- Library time is on Tuesdays, when children have the opportunity to change their reading books and enjoy reading for pleasure.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure that your child has a happy, successful and rewarding year in Year 3/4.

English

In English, we have been enjoying our class text, *Stone Age Boy*. The children have been exploring the key parts of a sentence and learning how to make their writing more exciting by using expanded noun phrases, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions and powerful adjectives. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they carefully choose ambitious vocabulary and add more detail to their writing.

In Master Readers, we have been thoroughly enjoying *Warrior Monkeys*. The exciting story has captured the children's imaginations and led to lots of enthusiastic discussion. We are all eagerly waiting to discover what is hidden inside the volcano and cannot wait to find out what happens next in the adventure!

Maths

In Mathematics, we have been focusing on place value and developing our understanding of the value of each digit in a number. The children have been reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers, as well as using practical resources to deepen their understanding. It has been fantastic to see their enthusiasm and growing confidence as they explain their mathematical thinking and tackle new challenges.

Science

In Science, we have been learning about Animals Including Humans. The children have enjoyed exploring the different parts of the human body and learning how our bodies help us to move, grow and stay healthy. One of our favourite activities was using the Skeleton Song to help us remember the names of the bones in our bodies. The children loved singing along and were amazed by how quickly they could

recall the different bones. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity, enthusiasm and confidence grow throughout this topic.

Music

In Music, we have been exploring Stone Age music and learning about the sounds people may have heard during the Stone Age. The children have had lots of fun taking part in musical activities and developing their musical skills.

Stars of week

25/09/26- David E and David N

18/09/ 26 – Reizl and Millie

11/09/26- Kooper and Maria

Year 5 – Mrs Sandhu

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope you and your children have settled in well, and that the return to the routine of school mornings, packed lunches and homework has been a smooth one. The children have made a wonderful start to Year 5 — they have settled into their new classroom, new routines and new expectations with real maturity, and it has been a pleasure getting to know them all over these first few weeks.

Maths

We have completed our first unit on Place Value. The children have been partitioning numbers into thousands, hundreds, tens and ones, comparing and ordering numbers up to 1,000,000, rounding to a given degree of accuracy, and learning to read and write Roman numerals up to 1,000. We have also explored powers of 10 and what happens to a number when it is multiplied or divided by 10, 100 or 1,000, and the children have been encouraged to explain their reasoning aloud and in writing, not just find an answer. A few minutes of times-tables practice at home each week continues to make a genuine difference to fluency and confidence in class.

English

In English, our lessons have been planned around the powerful text *No Ballet Shoes in Syria*, which the children have really engaged with. Each week we are focusing on a different reading skill — predicting, questioning, clarifying, summarising, retrieving information and inferring meaning from clues in the text — so the children build a genuine toolkit for tackling any book with confidence. It has provided a wonderful springboard for rich class discussion, comprehension work and thoughtful writing tasks. Alongside our reading, our writing unit has focused on crafting powerful, atmospheric setting descriptions: building a rich bank of sensory vocabulary, using expanded noun phrases, similes and personification to bring a scene to life, and experimenting with fronted adverbials to add variety and cohesion to our sentences. The children have been planning, drafting and editing their own setting description step by step, growing in stamina and confidence as writers along the way.

RE

In RE, we are exploring Creation and Covenant, reflecting on some of the big questions at the heart of our faith. We have been thinking about the wonder of creation and our responsibility to look after the world around us, and we have begun to explore the idea of covenant as a special kind of promise between God and his people, looking at key figures from the Old Testament and the promises associated with them. The children have enjoyed sharing their own reflections and questions during our RE discussions, and we have been really impressed by the thoughtfulness of their contributions.

It has been a busy and productive start to the year across every subject, and the children should be very proud of their efforts so far. As always, please do keep an eye on book bags and school bags for reading records, letters and homework, and remember that homework is set on a Friday and should be returned by the following Thursday. Thank you, as always, for your continued support at home — whether that's

hearing your child read, practising times tables together, or simply asking them about their day — it makes such a difference to how well they settle and succeed at school.

Year 5 Team

Year 5/6 – Mrs Powell

Welcome to Year 5/6

We have had a fantastic start to the new school year in Year 5/6. The children have settled into their new routines and have already shown enthusiasm, determination and a positive attitude towards their learning. It has been a pleasure to see their confidence growing each day and we are very much looking forward to getting to know the children better as we continue our learning journey together.

This year promises to be filled with exciting learning opportunities, new challenges and memorable experiences. I am excited to support the children as they develop both academically and personally, helping them to achieve their very best. I would also like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful Year 5/6 class support staff - Miss Dallimore, Mrs Tucker, Miss Dye and Mrs Shuttleworth - whose dedication, care and hard work make such a positive difference every day. Their support helps create a nurturing and successful learning environment for all of our children, and we are incredibly grateful for everything they do.

Please take a look at our new school website, especially our class page under the 'Children' tab. You will find regular updates and useful documents attached.

Date for your Diary

Our class Mass will take place at Christ the King Church on Wednesday 30th September at 9.30am. It would be lovely to see as many families at the Mass as possible.



September Stars of the Week



September 11th: Whole Class

September 18th: Logan, Issa, Damarai

September 25th: Luca, Yash

September Maths Ninjas:

Shodan: Anaya, Damarai. Issa, Jamal, Jaxon, Logan, Luca, Oscar-James, Yash

Nidan: Damarai, Logan, Oscar-James

Sandan: Damarai, logan

Year 6 - Mrs Bloom

Welcome to Year 6! We are delighted to welcome your child to their final year of primary school at Christ the King. This is an exciting and important year, filled with opportunities for children to grow in confidence, develop independence, and take on greater responsibilities as role models within our school community.

Throughout the year, we will continue to provide a broad, engaging and challenging curriculum that encourages every child to achieve their very best. Alongside preparing for the transition to secondary school, Year 6 pupils will enjoy a range of memorable experiences, including educational visits, enrichment activities, leadership opportunities and special events.



Stars of the Week



The whole of Year 6

Isaac & Ethan

Freya & Newel

Math Ninjas

Shodan: Olessia, Davayah, Klarke, Zach, Wiktorja, Genelia, Gabriel G, Gabriel N, Kassie,

Samuel, Isaac, Tenzing, Ewa, Franek & Newel.

Nidan Zach, Wiktorja, Genelia, Gabriel G, Gabriel N, Kassie, Samuel, Isaac, Tenzing, Ewa, Franek & Newel.

Sandan: Zach, Wiktorja, Genelia, Gabriel G, Gabriel N, Kassie, Samuel, Isaac, Tenzing, Ewa, Franek & Newel.

The Ark – Mrs Machado/Mrs Allwood

This month we have been focusing on settling back into the school routine and making new friends. In science we have been looking at Plants and we grew our own cress. In history we are learning about kings, queens and castles and how they used to live. In R.E we have been learning about Creation and covenant and singing 'He's got the whole world in his hands.

Reminders

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 address, and this will be forwarded onto the teacher. Emails should not be sent directly to the teachers.

Entrance

From September all children should be coming into school through the Exbourne Road entrance or Lulworth Road - Ark entrance if previously agreed, where there will be staff to greet your child in the morning. All Children coming in through the Durham Close entrance will be marked as late and the gate will only be accessible to children arriving late after 8.50am, when other gates are locked.

School meals

The cost of School meals will be increasing to £2.97 in September. Years 3-6, all meals need to be paid for on the day or in advance and not in arrears. They can be paid for by cash or cheque to Caterlink.

If you know your child is going to be late then you need to call the school to order a meal before 9.30am otherwise you will need to provide a packed lunch, as meals are cooked to order.

Medication

If your child has been prescribed medication by the Hospital or GP and it needs to be taken during school hours, please ensure it is given to the school office and not any other member of staff.

PLEASE NOT ANTIBIOTICS WILL ONLY BE ADMINISTERED IF THE DOSAGE IS 4 TIMES A DAY, EVERY 6 HOURS AND NOT FOR 3 TIMES A DAY WHICH IS EVERY 8 HOURS.

The medication needs to be in its original packaging with a pharmacy label on it. You will be required to complete a medication form which is available from the school office.

If your child has an allergy or Asthma please make sure you come to the school office to complete medical forms and ensure your inhalers or medication is in date.

Collection times

All classes from Reception to Yr 6 will finish school at 3.20 from September.

Absence

The correct procedure to report an absence is to call in on 0118 9015434 and leave a voicemail on the absence line. Please **DO NOT** email in as these can be easily missed if staff are off site. Messages should be left before 9am with child's name, class and reason.



Christ the King School Prayer

Dear God above, so kind and true,
Thank You for our friends and
teachers too.
Help us learn, work hard, and play,
And care for others every day.
Bless the sick and those in need,
Guide our hearts in word and
deed.
Amen.



[Message from Thames Valley Police](#)

Thames Valley Police are receiving reports of parents and children riding electric scooters to and from school. It is illegal to ride an electric scooter in public areas. These scooters will be seized under the Road Traffic Act and parents will get a visit from Children Services.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

National Poetry Day – 2nd October 2026

Rosary day – 7th October 2026

Reception Open Morning & Evening – 3rd November 2026

Remembrance Day – 11th October 2026

Penitential Service in hall at 2pm for KS2 – 3rd December 2026

Nursery Performance 10am – 10th December 2026

Christmas Jumper day -10th December 2026

Christmas Dinner - 10th December 2026

Reception Nativity – 9.15am and 2.30pm – 11th December 2026

KS1 & Ducklings Nativity 9.15am & 2.30pm – 15th December 2026

Year 3/4 & Ark Carol Concert 9.15am and 2.30pm – 16th December 2026

End of Term - 18th December 2026

Music Lessons Available

Mr Harrison will continue to come into school to provide Piano and Drum Lessons on a 1-2-1 or grouped lesson basis from September.

If you would like your child to have music lessons, please come into the school office to complete the registration form.

Lessons are subject to availability.

MUSIC LESSONS

CHRIST THE KING PRIMARY SCHOOL



Drum lessons

WHO ARE THE LESSONS FOR ?

Instrumental lessons will be available to all Christ the king pupils, and will offer pupils the opportunity to start lessons in learning an instrument.

WHEN AND WHERE ARE LESSONS CONDUCTED ?

Instrumental lessons will be conducted during school time and will be taught in our dedicated music room.

WHO WILL BE CONDUCTING THE LESSONS ?

All lessons will be conducted by Mr Harrison, who is a professional instrumental teacher.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST ?

Pupils have the option to choose to have grouped lessons or individual lessons.

Grouped lessons: 2 pupils (20 minutes) -	£8 per pupil
Individual lessons 1 pupil (20 minutes) -	£16 per pupil

HOW CAN I SIGN UP MY CHILD FOR LESSONS

Lessons are subject to availability, but Mr Harrison aims to start pupil's lessons as soon as possible once an application and first payment has been received.

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 should bring 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 and 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.



Premier League
Kicks



Premier League Kicks

Play football | MakeFriends |
Tournaments | Workshops |
RFC Experiences



RFC Dome
(Behind SCL
Stadium)

Every Monday
(excluding bank holidays)
8 - 13 year olds
5:30pm - 6:30pm

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP:



kicks@readingfc.co.uk



0118 907 2161



FREE



Teen Writing Group

AT WOKINGHAM LIBRARY

JOIN IGNITING WRITING,
WOKINGHAM LIBRARY'S TEEN CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

FACE TO FACE SESSIONS EVERY SATURDAY
(EXCEPT SCHOOL HOLIDAYS)

SESSION FOR YEAR 6-8 9.45AM TO 11.15AM
SESSION FOR YEAR 9-13 11.45AM TO 1.15PM

THE SESSIONS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO ALL
YEAR 6 TO YEAR 13 STUDENTS

SESSIONS WILL INCLUDE:

- FUN WRITING ACTIVITIES
- USEFUL WRITING TIPS
- GROUP DISCUSSIONS ON STORY IDEAS

ALL SESSIONS NEED TO BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE
TO SIGN UP FOR SESSIONS, VISIT THE EVENTS PAGE ON OUR
WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.WOKINGHAM.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES](https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries)



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Igniting Writing, Wokingham Library

Creative Writing Club for Year Six



Dear Parent or Guardian,

To introduce myself, my name's Alex Baker and I run a group called **Igniting Writing**. If you've never heard of Igniting Writing before, it's a **creative writing club for Year Six pupils and above, based at Wokingham Library**. Writing can sometimes be seen as a solitary activity, so the aim of the club is to bringing together young writers to share their ideas, make friends and develop their story writing skills in a fun and relaxed group environment.

Sessions are free to attend and feature fun writing activities, useful writing tips and group discussions. Each session focuses on a different writing topic each week, from building settings and creating characters to exploring sci-fi and fantasy worlds, so there's something for everyone. Both beginners and more experienced writers are welcome and face-to-face sessions are held at Wokingham Library every Saturday (excluding school holidays) at the following times:

Session for Year 6-8 pupils, 9:45am to 11:15am

Session for Year 9-13 pupils, 11:45am to 1:15pm

Places for Igniting Writing sessions are limited, so attendance must be booked in advance. **Please sign up for Igniting Writing by visiting Wokingham Library's event booking page (<https://wokingham.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/EVENTS?HOMEPRMS=EVSESPARAMS>) and typing Igniting Writing into the 'search for library events' box. Alternatively, please email libraries@wokingham.gov.uk or call the Wokingham Library reception on 0118 978 1368 to register.**

Since forming back in 2014, Igniting Writing has helped thousands of young writers gain confidence and improve their storytelling, received invites into more than 50 local schools and been recognised through several local awards, including the Wokingham Town Council Civic Award 2020, the Wokingham Borough Council Covid-19 Roll of Honour and the Wokingham Mayor's Honour Award 2024. Igniting Writing also has partnerships with several literary agencies and publishing companies, who offer discounts for their books, prizes for writing competitions and authors to be guest speakers at our sessions. The companies we've teamed up with are Bonnier Books (<https://www.bonnierbooks.co.uk/>), Zuntold (<https://www.zuntold.com/>), Simon and Schuster Children's Books (<https://www.simonandschuster.co.uk/p/ChildrensPublishing>), Scholastic (<https://www.scholastic.co.uk/>), Alice Sutherland-Hawes Literary (<https://ashliterary.com/>), Faber and Faber (<https://www.faber.co.uk/>), Sweet Cherry Publishing (<https://sweetcherrypublishing.com/>), Hashtag Press (<https://www.hashtagpress.co.uk/>), Otter-Barry Books (<https://www.otterbarrybooks.com/>), Holroyde Cartey (<https://www.holroydecartey.com/>), Candy Jar Books (<https://www.candy-jar.co.uk/books/>), Bloomsbury Children's Books (<https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/childrens/>), Usborne (<https://usborne.com/gb/>), Hachette Children's Group (<https://www.hachettechildrens.co.uk/>), the Emma Press (<https://theemmapress.com/>), Tiny Ghost Press (<https://www.tinyghostpress.com/>) and Nina Douglas PR (<https://www.ninadouglaspr.com/>).

To read more information about the group, you can find us online:

Website: <https://directory.wokingham.gov.uk/kb5/wokingham/directory/service.page?id=Wi6ijfJao4E>

Blog: <http://ignitingwriting.tumblr.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ignitingwriting>

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Regards,

Alex Baker, founder and group leader of Igniting Writing

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