



Churchfields Infants' School

Weekly Newsletter

Growing Together: Every Day In Every Way

Autumn Term, Issue 6
9th October 2026

Value of the
month
Caring

Big Read October 2026

We would like to say a big thank you to the families who attended our Big Read last Friday. We had a fabulous turnout and the children loved reading with you. Please continue to enjoy reading together at home. You can see more pictures on our website, [here](#).



Philosophy Friday

Have a go at this question at home with a grown-up!

Would you rather hear the worlds best joke or the worlds best story?

Why?

DIARY DATES:

Parent Consultations
12th & 22nd October

Reception Phonics Workshop
12th October 9-10am
see below

Year 1 Phonics Workshop
19th October 9-10am
see below

Half Term
26th October - 30th
October

INSET Day
2nd November

Attendance Bear

The Attendance for the week is as follows:

1st Penguin 99%

2nd Starfish, Octopus & Jaguar 98%

3rd Turtle 97%

Well done everyone!



Special Assemblies This Week

Thank you to Helen from the Christian Education Project who visited this week to talk to us about **Harvest**, a time in which Christians show gratitude for the food they have as well as raising awareness of hunger around the world.

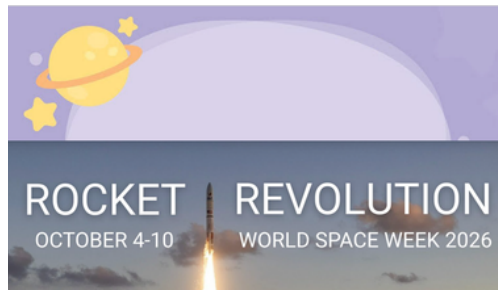


This week is **World Space Week**, an international celebration of science and technology, and how they make life better for everyone.

This year's theme is Rocket Revolution and the children had a special assembly about rockets on Wednesday. In the assembly the children learnt how rockets work and saw how the newest rockets are almost completely reusable.

The children were encouraged to:

- look up at the night sky
- stay curious
- work together like a mission team
- take care of Earth



How To: Make a Balloon Rocket
A simple rocket activity for children!

Materials

- 1 Balloon
- String
- 1 Straw
- Scissors
- Tape
- 2 chairs or objects to attach string to

Safety First!

- Ask an adult to help with scissors and tape.
- Keep the string away from faces.

Why Does It Work?
Air rushes out of the balloon in one direction. That push sends the balloon rocket in the opposite direction.

The Process

1. Tape one end of the string up high.
2. Blow up the balloon, but do not tie it. Hold the opening closed.
3. Tape the straw onto the balloon as shown.
4. Thread the string through the straw. Tape the other end of the string lower, or ask someone to hold it.
5. Move the balloon to the low end of the string.
6. Let go and watch it zoom!

Pro Tip: Students can experiment with cutting the straw to different lengths as an additional engineering challenge to see which length works best.

Reception & Year 1 Phonics Workshops

Mrs Osborne is inviting you into school to learn about our phonics lessons and exciting phonics scheme - Little Wandle.

Information will be given on the daily phonics lessons and you will also find out about reading practise sessions. You will also get to experience a mock phonics lesson taught by Mrs Osborne live!

The first workshop is for all **Reception** families. It will be on **Monday 12th October** at **9am**.

The second workshop is for all **Year 1** families. It will be on **Monday 18th October** at **9am**.



Letter Formation Whiteboards

Non-cursive letter formation whiteboards (& pen) are now available for Reception families to purchase from the school office.

We are asking for a minimum donation of £5 (card or cash), but anything extra is greatly appreciated as all profits will go towards new books for the school.

They will also be on sale at the Reception Phonics Workshop, where Mrs Osborne will discuss the importance of correct letter formation.



Thank you, PTA!

Growing Together: Every Day In Every Way

Our Reception children are thoroughly enjoying their fantastic new outdoor equipment, kindly funded by the PTA. We are incredibly grateful for the PTA's ongoing support and hard work in raising funds through the many events they organise throughout the year. Every ticket purchased, raffle entered and event attended helps to provide opportunities and resources like these for our children, and we thank our whole school community for making this possible.



PTA Halloween Circus

There's still time to book your tickets for the PTA Halloween Circus! Join us for an evening of spectacular circus entertainment, Halloween surprises and family fun under the Big Top.

Not only will you enjoy a wonderful community event, but you'll also be supporting the PTA's fundraising efforts for the children.

Get ready for a spooktacular adventure under the Big Top! Happy's Circus Halloween Special is at Churchfields Junior School field on **Friday 23 October** (from 4pm) and **Saturday 24 October** (from 1pm).

With thrilling circus acts, Halloween fun, spooky surprises and the chance for children to come in costume, it's set to be a fantastic event for the whole family.

Tickets are selling fast, so be sure to book yours [here](#) and join us for an unforgettable Halloween celebration!



PTA Halloween Cake Sale

Calling all bakers! We need your help. The PTA are organising a Halloween cake sale on **Thursday 22nd October from 3pm**.

Please bring your baked donations into the school office starting from **Monday 19th October**, and make sure to include an ingredients list with your homemade donations (see attached poster).

All cakes must be **NUT-FREE**.

- The school gates will open **from 3pm** to ease congestion and so our younger children can choose their cakes safely with an adult.
- You may buy cakes before collecting your children, if easier.
- Please be patient as it may get busy. There will be a **queueing system** in-place to help with the business of the sale.
- Please remember to donate cakes as we can only sell what we have.

If you would like to volunteer to help on the day, or any of the other PTA events, please contact the PTA via their email address:

pta.churchfields@gmail.com



Curriculum Briefings

As individual Parent Consultation meetings approach (for Reception, Year 1 & Year 2), **we ask all families have watched their child's curriculum briefing video** beforehand. Many of the questions you may have about your child's learning, curriculum and expectations for the year are answered within these presentations, helping to make consultation meetings as productive as possible.

QR codes and links for each year group's curriculum briefing are displayed outside each classroom, allowing you to quickly and easily access the relevant video for your child.



Parent Consultations

Parent Consultation Meetings are a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and celebrate their achievements. To enable our consultations to run as smoothly as possible we ask that:

- All children are collected promptly so that teachers have time to prepare for the first appointment.
- You arrive 5 minutes before your allocated time where you will be able to view some of your child's work until the teacher is ready.
- You try to find alternative child care for your child as it is not always appropriate to discuss settling and progress in front of your child. If this is difficult, we will have a crèche in Acorns room.
- If your appointment is before 4:30 and our after school clubs are in operation, please enter via the Year 1 gate and enter the classrooms via the outside, classroom door. Please also leave the same way. This will help us to keep our school site secure. For appointments after 4:40, please go through the Year 2 gate and enter through the hall doors.
- Curiosity, Art Skills and Craft Clubs will take place in the Nursery and parents should collect from the Nursery building.
- For children with EHCPs or IEPs we will hold a full review meeting in November so there is no need to book an appointment.

We look forward to meeting you to discuss your child's progress.

Enrichment Contributions

Thank you to families who have made contributions to our enrichment fund. Our leaders plan a full programme of events, trips, visitors and experiences that enrich our curriculum and the personal development of our children. Like other schools, for these to go ahead we rely on our families to contribute towards the cost.

If you have not done so already, please log on to Parent Pay [here](#) to make your contribution. So far, only 50% of parents have paid the contribution.

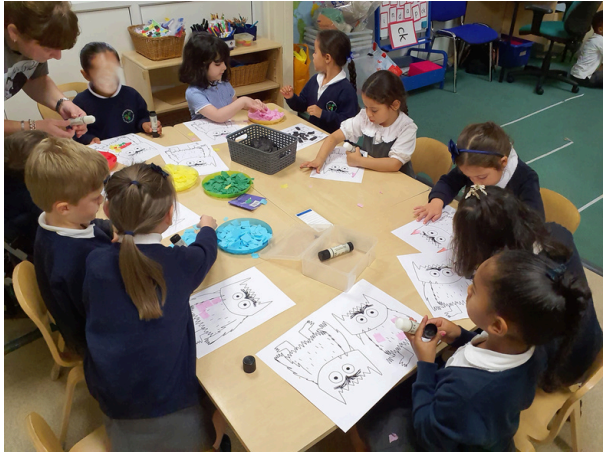
We need your contributions for these opportunities to take place. The fund pays for:

- Entrance fees for museums, wildlife centres and other venues.
- Experts, workshops and experiences within school.
- Additional staff cover to ensure safety for all if we leave the school site.



Reception and The Colour Monster

This week in Reception, the children have been thinking about their emotions. The children looked at the story 'The Colour Monster'. We guessed how each monster was feeling and talked about times when we felt these emotions. The children came up with some great ideas about what they could do if they felt particular emotions, such as "when you feel cross you can take a deep breath" and "I give my mum a cuddle when I feel sad". The children also enjoyed making their own colour monsters and sorting pictures of different emotions.



Mark Making with Nursery

We love mark making in the nursery and we have been exploring lots of different ways to draw and make marks - including chalking and drawing in shaving foam!



Nursery Tours

We will soon be hosting tours for prospective families for September 2027 entry. The dates are as follows:

- 22 October at 9.30am
- 12 November at 9.30am
- 26 November at 9.30am
- 10 December at 9.30am
- 7 January at 9.30am
- 21 January at 9.30am



To request a place on a tour please complete the following google form:

<https://forms.gle/btgugjCTRQIEGcs6A>.

Please note that completing this form this does not guarantee you a space on our tour. We will notify you by email once your place has been assigned.

Weekly Maths Challenge

Have a go at one of the below challenges:

Reception

Can you collect a range of items (e.g. leaves, conkers, stones...) from the outdoor environment and make a repeating pattern using these?

Can your grown up make a new pattern for you to continue?



Years 1 and 2

Ask an adult if you can look at some coins in their purse or your money box.

1. How many different coins can you find?
2. How many 10p coins have you got?
3. Can you put the coins in order of size or group them into the same colours? Which coins are not the same shape as the others?
4. Practise writing the numbers on the coins. Are there any numbers that you do not have coins for?
5. Are there any other types of money that are not coins? You could try putting the coins under the page and making rubbings of them.



E-Safety Tip of the Week!

Talking about E-Safety

Start a conversation with your child/ren about using the internet safely.

Perhaps you could use these question prompts below:

How do you stay safe online?

What tips do you have and where did you learn them?

Do you know where to go for help and where to find the safety tools on your favourite apps and games?

What could you do if being online is making you feel worse rather than better?

What could you do if you saw that a friend online needed some help or support?



NSPCC

Phone:
0208 505 0386



Website:
www.churchfieldsinfant.com

internet
matters.org

Be Internet Legends.

E-mail:
admin@churchfieldsinfants.redbridge.sch.uk