

This issue:

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of this term, there is so much for us to celebrate. Our students have taken part in, and helped to organise, a wonderfully broad range of events and activities across the school.

World Book Day was a particular highlight. Our aim was to promote a love of reading in all of our young people, and the day was a great success. The school was filled with an incredible variety of characters brought to life by both students and staff.

We were also honoured that a group of our students were invited to contribute to the consultation process for the selection of the new Bishop - a process overseen in part by the Prime Minister's Office. This was an exceptional opportunity for them to offer their perspectives as young people and to engage in a meaningful civic and church process.

Meanwhile, our Year 11 students are working hard as they prepare for their final GCSE examinations, and our Year 13 students are equally focused as they head towards their A level exams. Revision is vital at this stage, and we are proud of the commitment they are showing as they work towards their next steps. We are incredibly proud of their focus and determination.

Easter is a season of transformation, and I have been truly encouraged by the growth we see in our young people as they continue to embody our values of courage, compassion, and commitment. This term has been filled with students taking on new challenges and embracing fresh opportunities - something that has become a real theme across the school.

I look forward to the summer term and to continuing to celebrate the many achievements of our students.

Warmest regards

Chris Tomes
Headteacher

Message from the Headteacher
Page 01

Key Dates
Page 02

Ski Trip
Page 03

Sports Fixtures
Interhouse Results
Outside Achievements
Page 04

Performing Arts Showcase
Easter Church Service
A-Level Art Galleries Trip
Page 05

Ascot Bake Off
Valentines Bake Sale
Duke of Edinburgh Cooking Practice
Page 06

Film Studies Revision Day
Engineering Classic Car Visit
Page 07

Culture Week
Respect & Tolerance Teacher Training
Guardian Angels & Year 7 Ambassadors
Page 08

YPPP Programme
Prize Giving
Page 09

World Book Day
SEN Careers Fair
Iris Software Careers Trip
Page 10

Amanda Kirk-Booth
RBWM School Transport
Page 11

Kinship Carers Support Group
This is Lit Book Club
Datchet Village Fete
Page 12

Important Reminders
Links to advice and help
Half Term safeguarding notices
Page 13

PTA News
Uniform Donations
ParentPay
Free School Meals Applications
Page 14

Keeping In Touch
Page 15



Believe
to
Achieve

Key Dates

Start of Term 5

Monday 13th April 2026

Year 9 Student Progress Evening

Thursday 16th April 2026

Year 9 Assessment Week

Monday 20th April - Friday 24th April 2026

GCSE Art Exam

Monday 20th April & Tuesday 21st April 2026

GCSE Photography Exam

Wednesday 22nd April & Thursday 23rd April 2026

Earth Day

Wednesday 22nd April 2026

St. Georges Day

Thursday 23rd April 2026

A-Level Psychology Grade Booster Trip

Thursday 23rd April 2026

GCSE French & Spanish Speaking Exams

Monday 27th April - Friday 1st May 2026

Kinship Carers Meeting

Wednesday 29th April 2026

Start of Year 11 GCSE's

Thursday 30th April 2026

Year 12 Student Progress Evening

Thursday 30th April 2026

SEND Coffee Morning

Friday 1st May 2026

Bank Holiday - School Closed

Monday 4th May 2026

Year 8 Immunisations - HPV

Tuesday 5th May 2026

A-Level Art Exams

Tuesday 5th May - Wednesday 6th May 2026

A-Level Photography Exams

Tuesday 5th May - Friday 8th May 2026

A-Level Spanish Exams

Tuesday 5th May - Thursday 7th May 2026

Christian Aid Week

Sunday 10th May - Saturday 16th May 2026

Year 11 GCSE's & Year 13 A-Level Exams

Monday 11th May - Friday 22nd May 2026

PTA Meeting

Wednesday 13th May 2026

Duke of Edinburgh Expedition 1

Friday 15th May - Saturday 16th May 2026

Year 8 Assessment Week

Monday 18th May - Friday 22nd May 2026

End of Term

Friday 22nd May 2026

Ski Trip



Our school Ski Trip to Artesina and Prato Nevoso Italy was so much fun in February Half Term. Students and staff had the opportunity to step out of their comfort zones, try something new, and make memories that will last a lifetime.

We had a mix of experienced skiers and beginners, and with the support from our fantastic instructors and staff, everyone made amazing progress and showed great teamwork throughout the trip, despite it being very windy at the top of Artesina!

Evenings were filled with games, group activities and time to take in their surroundings, as well as a night ski in the dark!



Prizes were given each day for a number of things including Courage & Bravery, Best Fall, Most Graceful Turns, Best Wipeout, Skier of the Day, Most Improved Skier, Best Photo and, of course, Skier of the Week.

Congratulations to our winners - Miller, Darcy, Sofiia, Alexa, Ostap, Amara, Fey, Fabian, Mbali, Aleksandra, Marcie, Oliver, Ali and Harry, Lulu, Robyn and David, and of course our Skier of the Week Harry Brown - showing great commitment to his skiing skills, showing compassion with the other skiers in the group, helping them along the way.



Life

in all
its

Fullness

Believe to Achieve



Sports Results

What a term it's been for the PE department, and our amazing athletes! A 6-0 win against Beechwood for the First XI Footballers. With Harvey netting a hat-trick, two for Beck and one for Alfie with practically his first touch. Shout out to Jaiden for holding the midfield and Nehemy whose long throws caused mayhem in the opponent's box.

Our U15 girls have continued their rich vein of form with a 3-2 win over Burnham Grammar. The girls managed to do this with only 7 players for the 9 a side game! Onto the next round.



The Year 8 girls Netball Team played in a tournament at Furze Platt. They won one match and were defeated in the other two, but it was an excellent evening overall, with great teamwork, effort, and lots of fun had by all. Well done to everyone who took part!

Special mentions also go to our Year 7, Year 10 and Year 11 Boys Football teams as well as our Year 7 girls Netball teams who played strong matches this term, but were unfortunately defeated by the opposition. We'd like to applaud all of their hard work and can't wait to see how they do next term.

Year 8 & 9 Interhouse Results

This term's winners of the hotly contested Interhouse Challenges for Year 8 and Year 9 are:



Year 8 Girls - Beckett House
Year 8 Boys - Faith House



Year 9 Girls - Victor House
Year 9 Boys - Beckett House



Outside Achievements - Congratulations Megan and Charlotte

Please join us in celebrating students Megan and Charlotte, who have done exceptionally well in sport outside of school this term.



Year 10 student, Charlotte, was called up to the South West U15 England Schoolgirl's Team. She played against the best other Under 15 girls in the country from the North, the Midlands and the South East. Charlotte also rushed back to play for Reading in their Berks and Bucks Cup Final.

and

Year 11 student Megan, who played for Middlesex U16 Girls Rugby Team in their match against Surrey.

MIDDLESEX RUGBY		SHIELDS Team U16 Girls vs Surrey 15th March 2026 2:00pm @ Old Reigatians
FORWARDS		FINISHERS
1 - Gabriella Nnadozie		Erlynn Sealey
2 - Caitlin O'Connell		Emily Cameron
3 - Keira Cheek		Eve Hartland-Pepiatt
4 - Megan Carpenter		Francesca Bergin
5 - Orla Taylor		Freya McKinnon
6 - Xenia Moore		Katy Wheatley
7 - Violet Lloyd		Lexie O'Brien
8 - Issie Williams		Molly Mishan
		Sophie Guy
		Lyra Neville
BACKS		Coaching Staff
9 - Amy Giddings		Chris Giff (Lead)
10 - Lillian Cattley		Jan Hudson
11 - Daisy Wright		Sophia Giff
12 - Enya McDermott		Rose Turner
13 - Oia Ulkstinaite		Lyra Campbell
14 - Pretty Anokye		Isa Kennedy
15 - Lois Bance-Percy		Rosie Hammons
		Chris Mason
		Edi Butler Jay
		Iwan Moore
		Team Physio
		Elle Pritchard
		Team Manager
		Jon Durrant

Performing Arts Showcase

During the final week of term, it was the annual Performing Arts Showcase where there was a wonderful celebration of talent and creativity. Our musicians, actors, and dancers worked hard this past term and they shone onstage. The Performing Arts Team are incredibly proud of all the students for their hard work, commitment and beautiful performances.



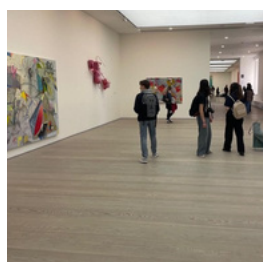
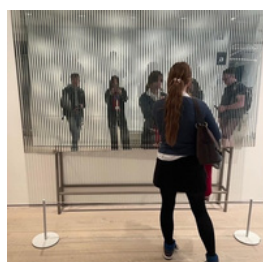
Easter Service

In the last week of term our school community came together for our annual Easter Church Service - a special moment of reflection, celebration, and togetherness. Students and staff gathered to hear readings that shared the Easter story, accompanied by thoughtful prayers and beautiful musical performances from our talented students and school choir.



A-Level Art Galleries Trip

Our A-Level students spent an inspiring day exploring two of London's most iconic galleries last week. From contemporary installations at the Saatchi Gallery to world famous masterpieces at the National Gallery, students had the opportunity to observe different artistic styles, techniques, and ideas across the centuries.



Life

in all
its

Fullness

Believe
to
Achieve



Ascot Bake Off

We were delighted to be invited to showcase our Food Tech skills again at the annual Ascot Bake Off this term. Students from schools across Slough, Bracknell, Reading and RBWM competed in a baking challenge, with this years theme being "Honey". Students were asked to design, bake, decorate and present their creations along with a mood board documenting their journey from sourcing local ingredients to final presentation. Our three Year 7 students made it through all the heats to arrive in the final held at Royal Ascot Racecourse. Although the judges were impressed with our submission, particularly using honey from bees kept by a fellow Churchmead student, we sadly didn't win a prize this time. Congratulations to Nathan, Alisha and Alfie for all of their hard work.



Valentines Bake Sale

Our Eco and Baking Clubs cooked up a storm for the Valentines Bake Sale. There were lots of sweet treats and on theme cakes available for staff and students to buy to help raise money.

The Eco Club are working towards their Eco Schools Green Flag Award and hope to put the money raised towards a new recycling bin in the canteen. The Baking Club were raising money for cooking supplies.



Duke of Edinburgh Cooking Practice

Our Year 9 students have been working hard on their Duke of Edinburgh Awards. This term they've been practicing their outdoor cooking, planning and learning about what nutrition is necessary for an expedition. We're looking forward to seeing them put it into practice in May.



Film Studies Revision Day

This Study Day focused on revising and developing students' appreciation of the core ideas of the subject through a range of activities, clips and discussions. Students received insight and guidance on topics such as how to analyse a film using precise, technical language, context and representation. There was also the opportunity to engage in Q&A sessions to help clarify and cement ideas in preparation for the exams.



Engineering - Classic Car Visit

Our Key Stage 4 Engineering students had a fantastic opportunity this term to explore a range of classic cars, thanks to a special visit organised by former student Tim Williams. The cars drew plenty of attention, as they gave students the chance to see iconic engineering and automotive design up close. Students discussed the difference between new and old engineering and had hands on experience of the difference in the design and aesthetics of classic vs modern cars.



Life

in all
its

Fullness

Believe
to
Achieve

Culture Week



This term we celebrated the amazing diversity that makes our Churchmead community so special. Students enjoyed African drumming sessions, beautiful henna art, cultural films at lunchtime, and a brilliant Talent Show filled with music, dance, and performances that showcased their heritage and creativity. We ended the week with Cultural Dress Day, where students and staff proudly wore traditional clothing, filling the school with colour and cultural pride. A huge thank you to our Sixth Form students for helping organise the activities, and to everyone who took part. The week was a wonderful reminder that our differences make us stronger and that we have so much to learn from one another.



Respect & Tolerance Teacher Training

Our Respect and Tolerance Training Day for the trainee teachers went really well. They had a very interesting day where they engaged in seminars in the morning and then with a faith panel in the afternoon. Year 7's had a wonderful opportunity to meet with the nine faith representatives in the Chapel for engaging discussion activities during Period 5.



Guardian Angels and Year 7 Ambassadors

We'd like to introduce our newest cohort of Churchmead Guardian Angels and Year 7 Transition Ambassadors. After a very strong round of interviews and applications, 17 students shone with their ideas and compassion for student wellbeing to form the new team of Guardian Angels. We'd also like to introduce a newest student leadership programme, Year 7 Ambassadors. These students really wanted to focus on improving Year 7 wellbeing when they join secondary school. They are going to be in charge of organising sports, clubs and events only for Year 7's and helping them with transitions within Term 6 and Term 1 of school. Congratulations to them all.



Thames Valley Police YPPP Programme



On Thursday 26th February 2026, Year 10 students took part in an off-site visit to the Thames Valley Police Training Centre in Sulhamstead, Reading, where they spent time with officers from both the Canine Unit and the Drone Unit as part of their ongoing involvement in the YPPP Programme.

During the visit, students observed practical demonstrations, asked questions, and gained a deeper understanding of the specialist work carried out by these highly trained teams. The experience helped to strengthen their engagement with the programme and provided valuable insight into policing, teamwork, and community safety.



Prize Giving Evening



Always a highlight in the school calendar, our annual awards night was a huge success. Seeing students from across all year groups be recognised for their hard work and achievements across the curriculum. With special thanks to our guest speaker Reverend Andreas Sistig.



Life

in all
its

Fullness

Believe
to
Achieve

World Book Day



Once upon a time... Churchmead School celebrated World Book Day! With this year's theme of Fairytales, Fantasy and Folklore, students and staff embraced the spirit of storytelling with fantastic creativity and enthusiasm. From well-known characters to imaginative interpretations, it was wonderful to see so many people taking part and celebrating the stories that inspire us.

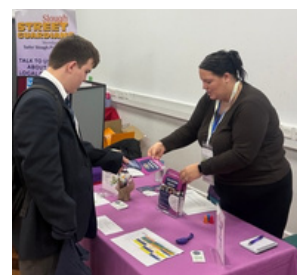


At lunchtime in the library, students had the opportunity to take part in a range of activities designed to encourage exploration of different kinds of literature and to engage with reading in new and enjoyable ways. It was great to see so many students getting involved and discovering more about the joy of books.

A huge well done to our brilliant students and staff for making the day such a fun and memorable celebration of reading.



SEN Careers Fair



Some of our Year 11 students attended the Slough and Langley SEN Careers Fair, where they had the chance to explore a wide range of future pathways. Throughout the event, they met employers from different industries, connected with professionals who shared insights into their careers, and asked thoughtful questions about the skills and qualifications needed for various roles. Students also took part in a practical CV writing workshop, where they learned how to present their strengths, experiences, and ambitions with confidence. The Fair gave them a valuable opportunity to think about their next steps and discover new possibilities for life after Year 11. They returned feeling engaged, informed, and truly inspired by the experience!

Year 9 Trip to IRIS



Throughout the morning, the Year 9 girls took part in a number of sessions linked to International Women's Day and career development. These included an introduction to IRIS Software, insights into the importance of International Women's Day within the company, an employee career-journey talk, and a recruitment activity. The visit ended with a Q&A session where students had the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about careers in the industry.

Sad Passing of Amanda Kirk-Booth

Our Churchmead community said goodbye to a friend, a dedicated teacher, and a role model to her students. Daniya Kayani, who left Churchmead in 2014, shared this fitting tribute to Amanda Kirk-Booth: "Today I want to speak about Amanda Kirk-Booth, and I already know there aren't enough words. Amanda had this incredible creativity. I'll never forget one assembly where she broke down "Picking Up the Pieces" by Paloma Faith. She unpacked it, she dissected it, but most importantly, she brought it to life. She showed us how every lyric, every camera angle, every costume choice, every edit meant something. She inspired the living daylights out of me, and I know I'm not the only one. She poured it into everything she did for her students, and you could always see it, as clear as day. My career has been shaped because she helped open doors I didn't even know existed. And I feel so lucky, because a few years ago, I got to see Amanda again, and I told her all about my career too. I got to show her that the spark she lit in me had grown into something real, and that memory, is a gift I will always carry. So yes, we will grieve. Yes, we will feel the emptiness of your absence. But every time we create, every time we inspire someone else the way you inspired us, we will be honoring you. And just like that song you once brought to life for us, we will carry you, in every piece we learn to pick up from here."



RBWM School Transport



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
WINDSOR AND
MAIDENHEAD

If you live in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, your child may be entitled to school transport assistance. You can check eligibility and make an application on the RBWM website below:

<https://rbwm.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/community-information/information-and-advice/schools-and-education/school-transport/about-school-transport>

Existing students who already receive school transport assistance do not usually need to reapply (unless they were told their transport award was limited to the current school year). Reminders will be sent to the parents of students who need to make a new application for the new school year.

Life
in all
its
Fullness

Believe
to
Achieve



Churchmead Datchet Kinship group

Wednesday 29th April '26
10:30am to 12.00pm
Churchmead School, Priory Way, Datchet, SL3 9JQ
Free parking in the school's car park

A brand new peer support group for kinship carers in Datchet and surrounding area

- a chance for kinship carers to meet, listen and support those in similar circumstances
- free to join for anyone who is raising someone else's child - a group for adults only
- tea and coffee provided

We'd love to see you there!
Please contact Keren if you have any questions and to let us know you would like to come along
email: keren.beddow@kinship.org.uk
or call/text: 07961 049807

Charity Registration 284225

New Kinship Support Group

We are delighted to be hosting a new Kinship Support Group for anyone who is raising someone else's child, as a carer.

If this is you, please join us on:

Wednesday 29th April 2026

10.30am

Tea and coffee provided

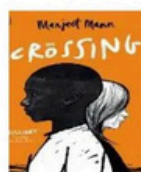
A wonderful opportunity to meet, listen and support others in similar circumstances.

This is an adult only peer support group, which will be run regularly until the spring.

We look forward to welcoming you, however if you have any questions you can reach out to Keren from Kinship -

keren.beddow@kinship.org

07961 049 807



Join the 'This is Lit' Book Club!

- Be part of a brand-new national reading project in 2026!
- Read exciting, modern books chosen especially for young people.
- Get FREE books, badges, posters and take part in fun activities.
- Join author interviews, podcasts and student competitions.
- Share your opinions – your reviews help shape future GCSE English!
- Open to all students in Years 7–13 who love reading or want to read more.



Come and see Mrs Ovenden in E4 if you are interested. The club will run every Tuesday lunchtime.



Save the Date - Datchet Village Fete



We are delighted to be hosting Datchet Village Fete again this summer on:

Saturday 4th July 2026

We're looking volunteers and stall holders so if you'd like to get involved, please contact scstanford@aol.com

We'll share more details closer to the time with what's in store, so watch this space!

Important Reminders



- If you need to collect your child during the school day for an appointment, please remember to email the school at office@churchmead.org with evidence of the appointment, and what time you will be collecting beforehand.



- A reminder that if a student feels unwell while at school, they must come to the school medical office to be assessed. We will then decide the most appropriate next steps, including calling home if necessary. A gentle reminder that we are a no mobile phone school.



- Please also be reminded that we are an ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL. This is to protect our students and staff who have allergies. Please do not send your child to school with any food that contains nuts.

[Links to advice and help](#)

Online Safety

[Safer Internet Day Top Tips and Advice Pages | Childnet](#)
[11-18s | CEOP Education](#)

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Young Minds – www.youngminds.org.uk

YoungMinds is the UK's leading charity committed to improving emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people.

[Shout: the UK's free, confidential and 24/7 mental health text service for crisis support | Shout 85258](#)

You can also contact Kooth [Home – Kooth](#) - Free online counselling support



Support and Advice for Parents

[Support & advice for parents | NSPCC](#)
[11-18s | CEOP Education](#)



[Half Term Safeguarding Notices](#)

Safeguarding you all continues throughout the half term.

If you have any safeguarding worries or concerns you can email:

safeguard@churchmead.org

If you feel as though you need someone to talk to, remember you can contact

Childline: <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Or

KOOTH: [Home - Kooth](#)



If a crime is being committed or you feel like you are in immediate danger, you must contact the police on **999**



Life

in all
its

Fullness

Believe
to
Achieve

PTA News

If you'd like to know more about what Churchmead's PTA do and how you can support or join us, why not come along to the next meeting? We're always looking for volunteers and members of the community to get involved.

Email pta@churchmead.org to find out more.

Churchmead School PTA are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us and the school so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us.

It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page by following this link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/churchmeadpta>



Uniform Donations



The school office are looking for any donations of pre loved school uniform still in good condition. We currently have a shortage of skirts of all sizes and small blazers. If you have anything you'd like to donate, please drop it to main reception.



ParentPay

A polite reminder to all parents and guardians to regularly check your child's ParentPay account, and add funds as soon as needed.

Free School Meals Applications

It's quick and easy to apply for Free School Meals.

Scan the QR code or visit

<https://apply.cloud-foredu.org.uk/ofsm.rbwm>



Your child will be eligible for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment & Support Allowance
- Support under V1 of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of state pension credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,900
- Working Tax Credit "run on" - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credits



Please contact Heidi David if you need any help applying - hdavid@churchmead.org

Keeping in Touch



01753 211 330



office@churchmead.org



[@ChurchmeadChurchOfEnglandvaSchool](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchmeadChurchOfEnglandvaSchool)



[@Churchmead_insta](https://www.instagram.com/Churchmead_insta)

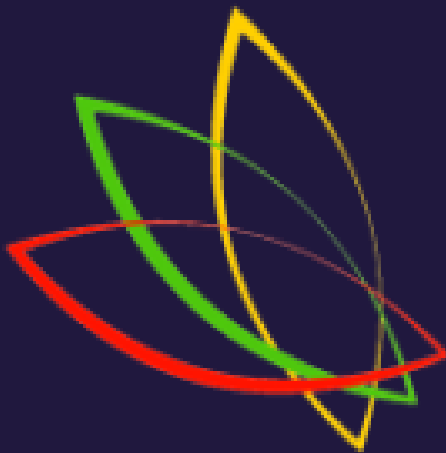
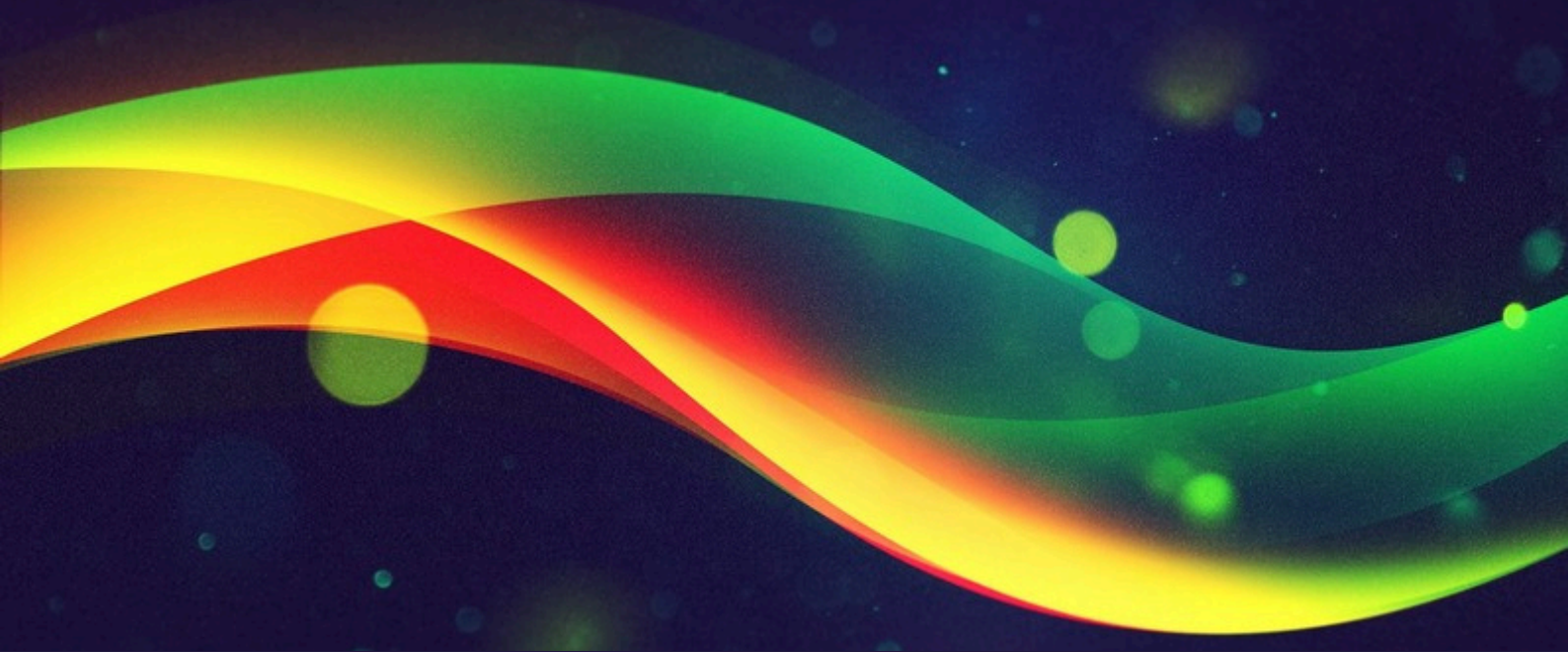


[@ChurchmeadSch](https://www.twitter.com/ChurchmeadSch)



www.Churchmead.org

Life
in all
its
Fullness



CHURCHMEAD SCHOOL