

CHURCHMEAD SCHOOL

October 2025 Newsletter



This issue:

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of a vibrant and successful term, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on some of the highlights and share our gratitude for the continued support of our Churchmead community.

Our new Year 7 students have made a fantastic start to their journey with us. They have settled in brilliantly, and we are proud of how well they have embraced life at Churchmead. Similarly, our Year 12 students have begun their A Level and Sixth Form programmes with enthusiasm and focus, and we're delighted with the progress they are already making.

We are thrilled to share that our school has, once again, achieved record-breaking results this summer for GCSE and A Level. Results in our Sixth Form courses placed us in the top 25% of Sixth Forms nationally. This is a remarkable accomplishment, and we are incredibly proud of our students and staff for their dedication and commitment. As we look ahead, our Sixth Form courses for next year are already filling up. We encourage all Year 11 students to complete their applications over the Half Term break to secure their place.

Our after-school programme has been thriving, with excellent attendance across a wide range of activities - from sports clubs to revision sessions for older students. We look forward to continuing this momentum after the Half Term break.

As we mark the season of harvest in the Christian calendar, it's a time to give thanks. Our growing school community has had many opportunities to live out life in all its fullness, inspired by the teachings of Jesus.

Wishing you and your family a restful and enjoyable Half Term break.

Warm regards,

Chris Tomes
Headteacher



Message from the Headteacher
Page 01

Key Dates
Page 02

Welcoming our new students
Alps Gold Award
School tours available
Page 03

Fitness Centre fundraiser
Sports kits sponsors
Generous donation
Page 04

Interhouse sports challenge
U15 ESFA girls football win
Year 8 boys football Win
Netball success
Page 05

GCSE Art & Photography
GCSE Film Studies
GCSE Food Technology coursework
Page 06

Sixth Form UCAS Discovery Day
Year 8 Heathrow STEM workshop
Supporting charities
Page 07

New Kinship Support Group
Windsor Lions Christmas Gift Market
Page 08

Important Reminders
Links to Advice & Support
Safeguarding Notices
Page 9

PTA News
Uniform Donations
Lockers
Free School Meals Applications
Page 10

Keeping in Touch
Page 11



Believe
to
Achieve

Key Dates

Start of Term 2

Monday 3rd November 2025

Year 11 Student Progress Evening

Thursday 6th November 2025

Year 11 PPE's

Monday 10th November - Friday 21st November 2025

National Anti-Bullying Week

Monday 10th November - Friday 14th November 2025

Children In Need Day

Friday 14th November 2025

Year 13 Student Progress Evening

Thursday 20th November 2025

Flu Immunisations

Friday 21st November 2025

Kinship Carers Support Group

Wednesday 26th November 2025

A Level Business Studies Grade Booster Trip

Wednesday 26th November 2025

Inset Day - School Closed

Friday 28th November 2025

Music Trip to Windsor Panto

Tuesday 2nd December 2025

Christmas Production - Christmas on Earth II

Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th December 2025

Year 11 Sixth Form and College Application Deadline

Friday 12th December 2025

Christmas Church Service

Tuesday 16th December 2025

Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 17th December 2025

Last Day of Term 2

Friday 19th December 2025

Start of Term 3

Monday 5th January 2026

Welcoming our new students



It's always a pleasure welcoming our students back after the summer. The new Year 7 and Year 12 students had a day to settle in and meet new friends and teachers, before the whole school joined them. It was a great start to the school year.



Alps Gold Award

We're proud to announce that our Sixth Form has been awarded the Alps A Level Gold Award 2025, placing us in the top 25% of Sixth Forms and Colleges nationally! This award reflects our commitment to outstanding teaching, high expectations and exceptional student progress.



School tours available

With our best ever GCSE and A Level results, there's never been a better time to consider Churchmead for your Year 6 and Year 11 students when they change schools next year. The deadline for secondary school applications is Friday 31st October 2025 and Friday 12th December 2025 for Sixth Form and Colleges. If you missed our Open Evening, we would be happy to show you around during the school day. To arrange a tour, please email office@churchmead.org.

Life

in all
its

Fullness

Believe
to
Achieve

Fitness Centre fundraiser

As you know our Fitness and Learning Centre underwent a huge amount of work over the summer to provide us with some much needed new classroom and learning spaces.

We are now fundraising to upgrade the new Fitness Suite and it's equipment.

If we reach our goal of £15,000, Sport England have committed to matching it, bringing the total to a whopping £30,000.

But we can't do this without you. Please consider contributing, no matter how big or small, using the link below. Providing up to date sports equipment and technology will benefit so many local children.

bit.ly/4niGRX



Sports kits sponsors

We'd like to share our thanks to Horler and Oakwood Estates in Datchet for sponsoring some of our sports teams with new kit this season. Our boys football kit, sponsored by Oakwood Estates, looks great on the pitch and we're excited for our girls football and netball teams, sponsored by Horlers, to show off theirs as they compete against other local schools.



Generous donation

We received a very generous parent donation of £100 towards our gym equipment fund from Mr Chris Johnson of Frontline Solutions. Mr Johnson also provided an excellent service free of charge to our Music Department - thank you Frontline Solutions!

Interhouse sports challenge

The results are in! Our Interhouse sports challenge has been a huge success this term, with all year groups playing futsal, which is a type of football. We're delighted to announce the winners for each year group:



Year 11 - Teresa
 Year 10 - Faith
 Year 9 - Beckett
 Year 8 - Faith
 Year 7 - Faith



U15 ESFA girls football win



What a game for the girl's first football match of the season! Drawing 1-1 at half time and following a rousing team talk from Miss Spencer, the girls really turned it on to win 9-1 at the end of the game. 6 goals for Charlotte W and Evie S bossing the middle of the park.

Year 8 boys football win

What a start to the football season for the Year 8 boys with a 5-0 win over Long Cross School. Special mentions to Jimmy, Jeevan and Frank for scoring the goals and Jacob for defending and saving two from the opposition.



Netball success

A huge congratulations to our incredible Year 7 and Year 9 netball teams for a fantastic start to the season! Year 7 had an impressive 6 wins out of 9 matches, showing off their hard work and determination. Special mentions go to Sophie, Poppy and Olivia for their outstanding performances and exceptional teamwork. Year 9 had 7 wins, 4 losses and 1 draw. A great opportunity to learn, grow and show their fantastic sportsmanship. Special mention goes to Florence for the energy she gave at every match.



Life

in all
its

Fullness

GCSE Art & Photography



Our Year 10 GCSE Art & Photography students took a trip out to The Sculpture Park in Farnham to support their coursework. Students followed the trails and took images using the different camera settings, and used pen techniques to create a double page spread in their project books.

GCSE Film Studies

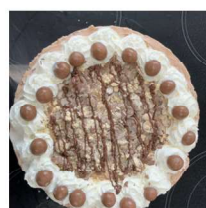
Our Film Studies students had the opportunity to visit the Sky TV studios in Osterley. They had a fantastic behind the scenes tour of the facilities and got hands on experience of filming techniques, editing and production.



GCSE Food Technology coursework



Our Year 11 Food Technology students were tasked with preparing an exotic dessert as part of their GCSE coursework. Challenged with stepping beyond the usual cupcakes and traditional cakes, we had some really tasty options including tiramisu, sticky toffee sponge and a chocolate gateau showing off their creativity and skill.



Sixth Form UCAS Discovery Event at St Mary's University



The Year 12 cohort attended the UCAS Discovery Day at St Mary's University this term.

UCAS Discovery Events bring together universities, colleges, employers, and apprenticeship providers under one roof. It's a chance to explore options after school or college and get expert advice on next steps. Students can discuss apprenticeship options as well as meet employers to find out more about real-world career options.

Year 8 Heathrow STEM workshop

Thanks to our friends at Heathrow and Learning to Work, our Year 8 students recently took part in an exciting two hour STEM event, where innovation and teamwork were at the heart of the challenge. Students worked collaboratively to design and build a robotic car, which they then manoeuvred across a detailed template of Heathrow Airport. The activity tested their creativity and problem-solving skills, while highlighting the importance of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in real-world applications. From brainstorming designs to overcoming technical hurdles, students demonstrated resilience and ingenuity throughout.



Supporting charities



We had a whole school non-uniform day shortly before the end of term in aid of Unicef, to celebrate a great return to school. Thank you to all those who donated. We can't wait to update you with the amount we raised.

Our Gold Tie Prefects have also been selling poppies at Form Time on behalf of the Royal British Legion. There will still be time to buy one after Half Term. The suggested donation is £1 or more if you choose.

Life

in all
its

Fullness

Believe
to
Achieve

New Kinship Support Group



For family or friends who step up to raise a child.



Churchmead Datchet Kinship group

Wednesday 26 November
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: 1092975

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 26th November 2025
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

Windsor Lions Christmas Gift Market

Maidenhead Lions
Saturday 8th November
Christmas Gift Market

**No entry fee
donation only
Parking available**

Christmas Gifts, Craft Stalls,
Tombola, Mystery Gift Bags,
Refreshments.



St. Joseph's Parish Hall
Cookham Road, SL6 7EG
11.00 - 3.30pm

Maidenhead Lions will be hosting their Christmas Gift Market
Saturday 8th November 2025
11.00am - 3.30pm
St Josephs Parish Hall, Cookham Road,
SL6 7EG
Free entry and Parking

Tasty homemade refreshments will be available thanks to the Tangent Ladies group, and there will be a wide variety of gift stalls which include local honey, jams, sauces and chutneys, crochet and hand made items, 3D printed, handmade and resin gifts, vegan beauty products, jewellery and lots more - all perfect for Christmas gifts.

Maidenhead Lions will be running a tombola for you to try your luck on and a mystery gift bag stall.

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 a NUT FREE SCHOOL. This is to protect our students and staff who have nut 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](#)



Churchmead School
Life in all its fullness

[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**



Churchmead School
Life in all its fullness

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. If you have anything you'd like to donate, please drop it to main reception.

Lockers

We currently have a limited numbers of lockers available for hire across all Year groups. Please contact finance@churchmead.org to register interest/more information for your child.

Free School Meals Applications

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

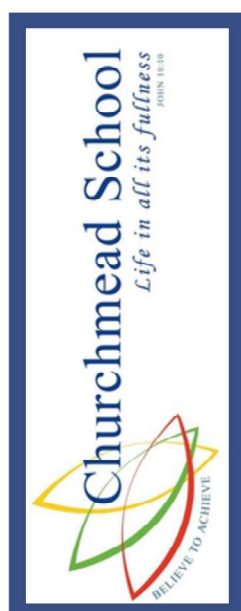
Scan the QR code or visit

<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)

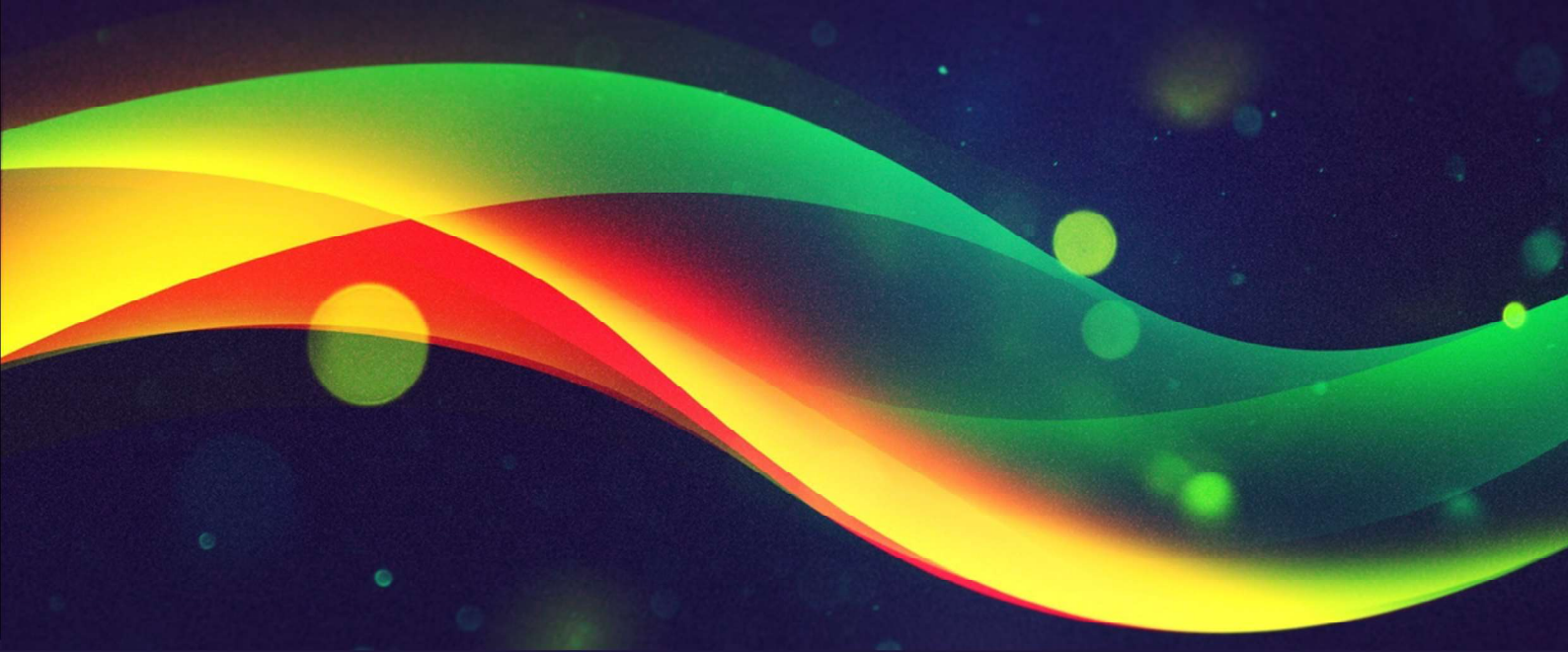


[@ChurchmeadSch](https://www.x.com/ChurchmeadSch)



www.Churchmead.org

Life
in all
its
Fullness



CHURCHMEAD SCHOOL