Friday 20th November 2026

Churchtown Chatter

Newsletter 11



Joy



Acceptance



Connection



Independence



Growth



A message from the Headteacher:

There has been lots of exciting learning experiences and opportunities for the children to enjoy at Churchtown this week.

This week we have been celebrating Anti-Bullying Week, and it was wonderful to see so many children and staff wearing their odd socks on Monday! This year's theme, 'Break the Silence', has encouraged us to think about the importance of speaking up, showing kindness and making sure everyone feels safe, valued and included. These are such important messages for us all to remember.

Our Year 2 and Year 5 children enjoyed some fantastic science workshops with the Travelling Science Shows, providing lots of opportunities to explore, discover and develop their curiosity. Year 1 also had a wonderful trip to Imagine That! The children enjoyed a day full of hands-on learning outside the classroom and were beautifully behaved throughout. We were very proud of them all!

Looking ahead to next week, we have our much-anticipated Elf Shop! This will be an opportunity for children to choose a gift for someone important to them, and we know they will enjoy picking out something to surprise their adult with.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

from Mrs Payne

Contact:
01704 508500

Follow us on:
Twitter:
@ChurchtownSch

Facebook:
Churchtown Primary School

Attendance

This week's Attendance Champions are:

Class:

Juniper

for most improved attendance
at 97%!

The Year Group with the highest attendance this week is:

Year:

1



Churchtown PTA

CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2026



27th NOV

ELF SHOP

Children can bring in £3.50 to buy a gift for a special adult in their life

10th DEC



FESTIVE MUFTI

Pay £1 on Arbor to wear your own clothes and Christmas jumpers

14TH 15TH DEC



STORYTIME WITH SANTA

£3.50 includes a gift from Santa
Please pay on Arbor

Nursery – Year 4

15th DEC

CHRISTMAS MOVIE

3.20-5.15pm

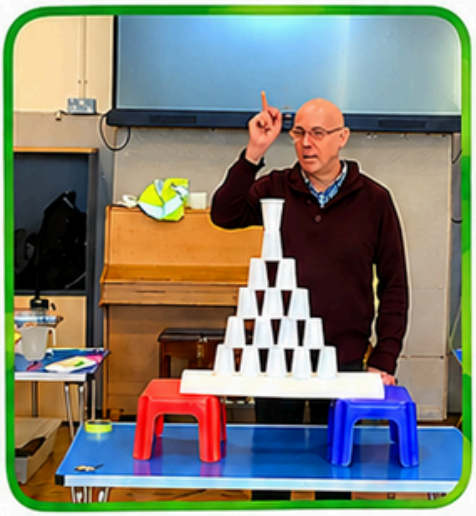
£3.50 on Arbor includes popcorn, sweet & drink

Year 5/6 only



Year 2 – Travelling Science Workshop









On Monday 16th November, Adrian the Travelling Science Man visited our Year 2 classes to deliver an exciting **Materials** workshop.

The children were fully engaged throughout and learned a great deal about the **properties** of different materials, why materials are suitable for particular purposes, and how some materials can **change**.

This linked perfectly with our Year 2 Science curriculum and brought their learning to life in a fun and memorable way.

Adrian certainly wowed us with his fascinating demonstrations and hands-on activities!

Science is so much fun!



Holiday Club

CLOSED

over the Christmas period

As we begin to look ahead to the Christmas holidays, we wanted to let you know that we will **not** be providing a Holiday Club over the Christmas break.

In previous years, we have found that demand for childcare during the Christmas holidays has been relatively low. Having reviewed attendance patterns over recent years, we have made the decision not to open during this period, ensuring that our holiday provision continues to be planned around the needs of our families and the level of demand.

We appreciate that holiday childcare is important to many families, and we understand that this may mean making alternative arrangements. We wanted to share this information with you in plenty of time to support your planning and thank you for your understanding.

Thank you

CHURCHTOWNS CHRISTMAS BONANZA

MAIN MEAL

Home Roasted turkey crown
Hand rolled pigs in blankets – contains gluten and soya
Roast potatoes
Carrot batons, peas and sprouts
Stuffing – contains gluten, may contain celery and milk
Yorkshire Pudding – contains gluten, eggs and milk
Topped with gravy – contains gluten and soya

VEGETARIAN

Vegetarian/vegan option differences
Roasted Quorn Fillet
Vegan Gravy

DESSERT

Chocolate Tree topped Muffins – contains gluten, eggs, milk
Deep filled mince pies – contains gluten and sulphur dioxide, may contain nuts

Christmas Mufti / Jumper Day!



£1 Donation to PTA

Thursday 10th Dec

£2.90 per meal

Churchtown Primary School

Rooted in kindness, growing through hope.

Rotary SHOEBOX SCHEME

Final Deadline!

Tuesday 24th November 2026

All filled shoeboxes must be returned by this date.

Still need a shoebox?

We have some available in school.

Please bring **£3** in a named envelope and a shoebox will be sent home.



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

W APP

AGE RESTRICTION 12+ on the App Store; 'Everyone' on Google Play

Developed in Germany, this social networking app is called 'W App' in the Apple Store and Google Play but is also branded as 'Slay' in some territories. Aimed primarily at teens and marketed as a 'zero-negativity' zone, it asks users to connect with others from their school. They are then asked a positive question (such as "Who is the nicest person?") and shown four people from their school to choose from. All users from a school can appear in the poll: not just those a child is friends with. The app is mainly anonymous – but *does* offer clues to reveal who selected you for each question.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

FAKE ACCOUNTS

There is no verification when signing up to W App. Once someone joins, they can see all users at their school and add them if they wish. Users provide their name, gender, school and grade – but are also able to change these (aside from their name) as often as they like. This concerned our expert: predators could potentially keep attempting to build connections with children at different schools.

PROFILE OVERSHARING

Young people tend to have multiple social media accounts, so it's vital their identity is protected online. By default, W App shares someone's school and grade, while users choose whether to share their full name, photo and other social accounts. Most people appear to select this – making it easier for someone to build up a picture of who they are, what they enjoy and where they go to school.

SPAMMING CONTACTS

The app's activity feed notifies a user when they have been put forward for a poll. They're then given the option to reveal the initial of the person who nominated them, by inviting a friend to join the app. The friend doesn't have to sign up, but they *will* receive a 'get the app now' text, followed by a link. This process could result in texts being continually sent to a child's contacts.



CATFISHING RISKS

As well as invented fake accounts, users could also sign up and pretend to be someone else from their school. By joining under another person's name (possibly with their photo), they can take part in polls while masquerading as that other person. Some polls hint at an attraction or crush, which – if deliberately misused by imposters – could result in misunderstandings and embarrassment for teens.

SUBSCRIPTION COSTS

W App is free to download and use, but there is also a 'gold membership' package (costing £4.99 per week) available. Subscribing allows users to reveal the names of people who selected them in polls (slightly defeating the point of it being an anonymous app), gives unlimited hints and offers exclusive play modes – all of which may tempt a curious young user into spending their money.

REPEATED USE

Like most other social media platforms, W App wants users to log in regularly. Every time someone completes a set of 12 polls, they earn virtual coins. These can be cashed in for perks such as being included in random polls (so that more users will see them) or adding their name to their crush's poll. This may not seem much of an incentive currently, but that may alter as the app evolves.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS FRIEND REQUESTS

Talk to your child about the risk of sharing their other social accounts, especially on anonymous platforms where there is no verification – so a user could be anyone. If someone they don't normally talk to at school approaches your child via W App and suggests connecting on TikTok, Snapchat or Instagram, emphasise that it's safest to confirm it with that person face to face before accepting or replying.

BE MINDFUL OF REJECTION

The polls in W App are designed to be complimentary rather than negative. However, never being nominated or picked by their peers could leave a child – especially a status-conscious teen – feeling ignored and isolated. If you think that W App is having this effect on your child, it might be time for a supportive reminder that social media doesn't reflect someone's true worth or popularity.

PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

It's crucial that trusted adults regularly remind children about the importance of not sharing too much of their personal information online (and demonstrate it on their own social accounts, where possible). W App automatically displays the user's school on their profile – but if your child *does* want to use the app, you can advise them to only enter their first name and not to upload an image of their face.

DO SOME 'APP ADMIN'

Before letting your child download W App, you may want to (via their device's settings) disable the option to make in-app purchases: £4.99 per week for the subscription can soon mount up. Likewise, if a friend's use of W App is causing your child to be inundated with texts inviting them to sign up too, you could suggest asking that friend to stop selecting your child's name from their contacts list.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/w-app-anonymous-polls/id1645858841 | https://www.slay.cool/
https://techcrunch.com/2023/01/19/german-teens-went-crazy-for-this-compliments-app-and-now-vcs-are-backing-its-next-phase/

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 19.07.2023

PTA
HOME & SCHOOL TOGETHER

CHURCHTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENTS' WALKING GROUP

WALK, TALK

& RAISE A LITTLE FOR OUR SCHOOL!

Fresh air, friendly faces and a good cause!

Fancy getting out for a walk, meeting other school parents and raising a little money for our school? No fitness experience needed – just come as you are!

OUR FIRST WALK

THURSDAY 14 JANUARY 2027

6:00PM | MEET AT THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE

WHEN
Every Thursday at 6:00pm

WHERE
Meet at the school entrance

THE WALK
Around one hour on local, manageable routes

DONATION
Minimum £1 per person, per walk. **All donations go directly towards supporting our school.**

Come every week, once a month or whenever you can.
No commitment, and everyone is welcome.
Dogs and children welcome too (dogs on a lead, please).



Walk a little. Chat a lot.
Make a difference.

FANCY JOINING US?

WhatsApp Georgina on 07742 160 138

TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST OR FIND OUT MORE · SCAN THE QR

Churchtown Open Mornings

Join us for our Churchtown Open Morning and discover all that our school has to offer!

We are delighted to invite prospective families to visit Churchtown, explore our facilities, and experience our welcoming school community.

🏫 Tour our school and learning environments
👩‍🏫 Meet our dedicated staff and pupils
🌳 Discover our excellent indoor and outdoor facilities
📚 Learn more about life at Churchtown
💬 Ask questions and find out what makes our school so special

Upcoming date now open:
📅 **Date: Friday 8th January**
⏰ **Time: 9:30am – 11:00am**
Book Here

Places are limited, and the booking forms will close once capacity is reached.

-







We Love

CHURCHTOWN

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

BOOK YOUR TICKET NOW!

Friday 5th February 2027

7PM ARRIVAL · THE MASONIC LODGE, SOUTHPORT

£35 PER PERSON

£10 deposit by the end of November to secure your space

Welcome glass of prosecco ✦ Three-course dinner ✦ Raffle

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY

♫ Hayley Murray ♫

ADULTS ONLY

The response has been amazing — don't miss out!

Come with friends or get a table together through your class WhatsApp group.

Email the PTA to book your ticket or find out more:

churchtownpta2@gmail.com

PTA
HOME & SCHOOL TOGETHER

Brought to you by the Churchtown Primary PTA

Every ticket includes a £10 donation to the PTA

We Love CHURCHTOWN

Your questions answered

FRIDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2027 · 7PM ARRIVAL · THE MASONIC LODGE, SOUTHPORT

Your questions answered

How do the tables work?

Tables seat **up to 10 people**. They can be a mix of **couples and singles**, from **one class or a mix of classes**, whatever works for your group.

Can friends and family come too?

Yes! The night is open to **friends and family from outside the school** too, so bring along whoever you'd like.

Do I need to pay a deposit?

Yes, we're now collecting deposits. Please pay a **£10 deposit per person** by the **end of November** to secure your space. Pay by bank transfer to **Churchtown Home School Association**, sort code **60-20-11**, account **72915854**, using your name as the reference. The **remaining balance** is paid in January.

Where does the money go?

It's a **fundraiser for the PTA**, helping towards **school trips, musical instruments, football kits** and much more. A sell-out would raise more in one evening than about **five mufti days** put together!

What does the evening include?

A **welcome glass of prosecco** and a **three-course meal**, plus a fabulous **raffle** with lots of local prizes and **live entertainment by Hayley Murray**, who's also a mum at the school.

Can my business donate a raffle prize?

We'd love that! We're looking for **raffle prizes**, so if you'd like to **showcase your local business**, please email the PTA at **churchtownpta2@gmail.com**.

Why the Masonic Lodge?

Michelle, who runs the venue, is also a mum at the school. We're keeping it really **local**, with a real **community feel**.

Are there vegetarian options?

Yes. The three-course meal includes **vegetarian options**, and you'll be able to **choose and pre-order** your meal nearer the time.

Is there a dress code?

No dress code. **You do you!**

For more information, please contact your WhatsApp PTA member or email churchtownpta2@gmail.com

PTA HOME & SCHOOL TOGETHER | *Brought to you by the Churchtown Primary PTA*

APPLY FOR A SCHOOL PLACE

Is your child born on or between 01/09/2022 and 31/08/2023?

If so, your child is due to start school September 2027!



You MUST apply for a school place online before 15 January 2027

For more information or to make an application, scan our QR code or go to **www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool**

sefton.gov.uk 0151 934 3590
admissions@sefton.gov.uk

Sefton Council

CHURCHTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM DATES: 2026-2027

AUTUMN TERM 2026

Inset Day	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Inset Day	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Term commences	Thursday 3rd September 2026
Inset Day	Friday 23rd October 2026
Half term	Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2026
Term ends	Friday 18th December 2026 (school closes at 1.30pm).

SPRING TERM 2027

Inset Day	Monday 4th January 2027
Term commences	Tuesday the 5th of January 2027
Half term	Monday 15th - Friday 19th February 2027
Term ends	Thursday 25th March 2027 (school closes at 1.30pm).



CHURCHTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM DATES: 2026-2027

SUMMER TERM 2027

Term commences	Monday the 12th of April 2027
Bank Holiday	Monday the 3rd of May 2027
Half term	Monday the 31st of May - Friday the 4th of June 2027
Term ends	Tuesday the 20th of July 2027 (school closes at 1.30pm).
Inset Day	Wednesday the 21st of July 2027

Bank holiday - Monday 3rd May 2027



CHURCHTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM DATES: 2027-2028

AUTUMN TERM 2027

Inset Day	Wednesday 1st September 2027
Term commences	Thursday the 2nd of September 2027
Half term	Monday 25th – Friday 29th October 2027
Inset Day	Monday 1st November 2027
Term ends	Friday 17th December 2027 (school closes at 1.30pm)

SPRING TERM 2028

Inset Day	Tuesday 4th January 2028
Inset Day	Wednesday 5th January 2028
Term commences	Thursday the 6th of January 2028
Half term	Monday 21st – Friday 25th February 2028
Term ends	Friday 7th April 2028 (school closes at 1.30pm)

SUMMER TERM 2028

Term commences	Monday 24th April 2028
Half term	Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2028
Term ends	Wednesday the 19th of July 2028 (school closes at 1.30pm)
Inset Day	Thursday 20th of July 2028





CHURCHTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
Sunday 29th November	Churchtown Village Christmas Light Switch on (12noon-6pm)
Tuesday 1st December	Robins Class Assembly - 2.15pm
Wednesday 2nd December	Swans Class Assemby - 2.15pm
Monday 7th December	Buttercups Singalong (2.30pm)
Friday 4th December	Owls Class Assembly - 2.15pm
Tuesday 8th December 2026	Year 3 Roman Educational Visit to Chester
Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th December	The Past Presents - Year 4 Egyptian Days
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Jumper/Dinner Day
Thursday 10th December	Reception Nativity Singalong Show (at St Cuthberts Church 10am)
Friday 11th December	Year 5 Carol Concert (at St Cuthberts Church 9.30am)
Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th December	PTA Santa Story Time
Monday 14th December	Early Years and KS1 Party Day
Tuesday 15th December	KS2 Party Day
Tuesday 15th December	PTA Christmas Movie Night (years 5 and 6)
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Assemblies In Church
Friday 18th December 2026	End of Term- School closes at 1:30pm for Christmas Holidays

New additions to the diary in red

Date	Event
Monday 4th January 2027	INSET Day
Tuesday 5th January 2027	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Monday 15th - Friday 19th Feb 2027	Half Term Week
Thursday 25th March 2027	End of Term - School closes at 1.30pm

New additions to the diary in red

CHURCHTOWN Butterflies WRAPAROUND CARE

Butterflies Holiday Club

Age: Nursery (Buttercups) – Y6
Time: 7.30-5.30 Location: Dining Hall
Entrance/Exit: Butterflies Door
(previous F4K/BC entrance/exit)
Price: £30.00
Food: Snack provided school
Packed lunch to be provided

Nursery Snowdrops (open 51 weeks of the year)- closure dates 2026/27

CLOSED- Thursday 24th December (Christmas Eve)
CLOSED- Friday 25th December (Christmas Day)
CLOSED- Monday 28th December (BH Boxing Day)
CLOSED- Thursday 31st December 2026 (NYE)
CLOSED- Friday 1st January 2027 (NYD)

2026/27 Term Dates

Tuesday 1st September 2026	INSET Day
Wednesday 2nd September 2026	INSET Day
Thursday 3rd September 2026	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Friday 23rd October 2026	INSET Day
Monday 26th- Friday 30th October 2026	Half Term Week
Monday 2nd November 2026	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Friday 18th December 2026	End of Term- School closes at 1:30pm for Christmas Holidays
Monday 4th January 2027	INSET Day
Tuesday 5th January 2027	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Monday 15th- Friday 19th February 2027	Half Term Week
Thursday 25th March	End of Term for Easter Holidays
Friday 26th March- Friday 9th April 2027	Easter Holidays
Monday 12th April 2027	Back to school, rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Monday 3rd May 2027	Bank Holiday
Monday 31st May- Friday 4th June 2027	Half Term Week
Tuesday 20th July 2027	End of Term - School closes at 1:30pm for Summer Holidays
Wednesday 21st July 207	INSET Day