

Churchtown Chatter

Imagine ... Believe ... Achieve...

Newsletter 37

Friday 18th July 2025



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<https://twitter.com/churchtownsch> &

<https://www.facebook.com/ChurchtownPrimarySchool>

As we reach the end of another school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements and memories we've shared together. It's been a year filled with growth, resilience and joy—and I couldn't be prouder of our children and our whole school community.

From exciting curriculum projects and sporting triumphs to creative performances and community events, this year has truly showcased the spirit, talent and determination of our pupils. I would like to thank the team of dedicated staff and supportive families for the part you have played in making our school such a caring and inspiring place to learn and grow.

Today, every child is coming home with a medal—a small but special token recognising their part in something big. Earlier this term, every pupil took to the school field to run and raise money for our Churchtown Playground project. Their enthusiasm, effort and community spirit shone through, and we wanted to make sure that each child knew just how much their contribution mattered. The idea to buy medals came from Alex and Sergio, who were moved by a moment of pure honesty from a child after a run, asking *"Mrs Payne, will we get a medal like you did for running the London Marathon?"*

Thanks to their thoughtfulness, today we get to say: *"Yes, you will—and you've earned it."*

To our Year 6 pupils, who are now ready to take the next step on their journey—congratulations. You leave us with wonderful memories, and we wish you all the very best as you move on to secondary school.

As always, we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, refreshed and ready for another exciting year ahead. Until then, I wish you all a restful, safe and happy summer break.



Holidays during term time

Family holidays during term-time are discouraged and will not be authorised.

Mrs Payne will not grant any leave of absence during term-time unless it is due to a very exceptional circumstance.

Applications for leave of absence are made in advance and parents/guardians are asked to complete a leave of absence form which can be found on the school website. Alternatively, paper copies are available at the front office.

Applications for leave need to be made at least 2 weeks in advance and will be refused to parents/guardians who take their child on holiday without seeking approval from the school first. This could consequently result in the absence being unauthorised and a penalty notice being issued by the local authority.

Children are always keen to tell their teachers and friends about holidays so there is a good chance that we know about it before we receive the request!

Sefton Immunisation Team



Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Has your child missed a vaccination?

It's not too late, contact the team on
0151 247 6130 to book an appointment.

Various clinic dates are available across Waterloo,
Southport, Litherland and Maghull.

Please click [here](#) to access further information on our
letters page in relation to this.

GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK

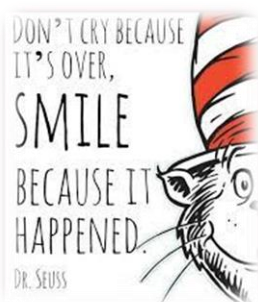
We have said a sad farewell to our fantastic Year 6 pupils today. They sang emotive songs during their leavers' service at St. Cuthbert's Church, to celebrate their time at Churchtown. For lots of families, this is the end of an era. We wish them all well at high school and beyond and look forward to hearing about their future successes.

The children all received a leavers' certificate and a personalised keyring to commemorate their time with us. We also awarded prizes to the children in the table below – well done to all of them!

"We started out as branches of a seedling oak tree; over the years we grew tougher but now it's time to break free."

Just as acorns fall, we will make our own way, but in our hearts and our roots, Churchtown will stay".

**Harriet E
(Former pupil)**



How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.



Award for Respect: For showing respect to all individuals	Annabelle S – Cedar Esther B – Sycamore Harrison H - Aspen
Award for Love of Learning: For always showing that passion for learning	Holly K – Cedar Pearle J – Sycamore Bram G - Aspen
Award for Fun & Happiness: For showing a consistent happy and positive attitude to school life	Alfie P – Cedar Sophie H – Sycamore Matilda H - Aspen
Award for Friendship & Family: For being kind & caring and nurturing our safe and friendly environment	Daisy S – Cedar Rio-Komani J – Sycamore Willow W - Aspen
Award for Skills for Life: For showing independence and determination	Sarah M – Cedar Sophie C – Sycamore Nina L - Aspen
Award for Growth & Development: For always trying their best and developing confidence in their own abilities	Nicholas G – Cedar Gabby A – Sycamore Maggie R - Aspen
Award for Courage: For showing grit and determination	Ozzy H – Cedar Hope G – Sycamore Laura W - Aspen
Musicians of the Year (boy/girl): For outstanding progress and for inspiring others to achieve in music	Hollie M – Cedar Jake J - Sycamore
Sportsperson of the year (boy/girl):	Kerem C – Sycamore Lilly R - Aspen
Modern Foreign Languages Prize:	Oscar E-H - Aspen
Headteacher's Prizes for Excellence: For commitment to their studies and to school and for being role models	Madison C – Cedar Bailey L – Sycamore Zofia K - Aspen

Well done!

Well done!

Well done!



Summer Holiday Challenge 2025

Activity 1

One of our Learning Destinations 'Outline Art' is running a Summer Postcard Project where you can design and create a different postcard every week. Week 1 is nature, 2 is Continuous line drawing, 3 is animals, 4 is Draw your home, 5 is Collage, 6 is Favourite Food, 7 is Favourite people. Follow them on socials for more information @outlineartsuk

Activity 2

Take part in this years Summer Reading Challenge 'Story Garden'. Register with your name & school at your local library. We will get the list of students who have completed it and will add 10 credits.
<https://readingagency.org.uk/the-summer-reading-challenge-2025-story-garden-takes-reading-to-the-great-outdoors/>

Activity 3

The Women's UEFA Euro 2025 football Championships is running from 2nd July – 27th July.

Design a poster with 5 key facts. Name your favourite players of the tournament and who you think will win. You could also research the different countries that are taking part.

Activity 4

Stay active at home by creating your very own indoor games activities...check out some ideas by going on the website below, write down what you've done and send some pictures. You could do bowling with empty bottles or frying pan cricket!
<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/activities/indoor-activities-for-kids/>

Activity 5

Create a picnic with different foods using as many colours of the rainbow as you can. Try to be as healthy as possible. We can't wait to see your creations! Check out some ideas below.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/collections/healthy_recipes_for_kids

Activity 6

Have a go at some easy and fun science experiments at home. Have a look at the below website, follow the instructions and make sure you take a picture to show us how you've got on.
<https://www.mikewithkids.com/post/here-are-two-weeks-worth-of-fun-and-easy-science-experiments/>

Activity 7

Learn a new skill! The summer holidays are a long time so think of a new skill you'd like to learn, write a description of what you have learnt and how you've learnt it. You could learn to ride a bike, Plant some vegetables, Bake a cake, Learn sign language. Don't forget to send us a picture so you can get your credit.



Collect extra Children's University credits during the Summer break by completing this challenge. Each activity is worth 1 credit -unless stated otherwise when you take evidence of your activity to your teacher or send it to your local Children's University. Send it to SeftonCU@elevate-ebp.co.uk



Your local Boots Pharmacy that is providing NHS Pharmacy First Service over the Summer Holidays is
Southport Cambridge Road
131-135 Cambridge Rd
Southport
PR9 9SD



How Pharmacy First can help you

Pharmacy First provides easy access to prompt advice and treatment including prescription medicines, where appropriate, for seven common conditions. Here is the list of common conditions covered alongside the age criteria:

- Sinusitis (12 years and over)
- Sore throat (5 years and over)
- Earache (1-17 years)
- Infected insect bites and stings (1 year and older)
- Impetigo (1 year and older)
- Shingles (18 years and over)
- Uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTI) in women (16-64 years)

Please note other eligibility criteria apply. If you are outside of the criteria a pharmacist may still be able to provide advice and care such as suggesting an over-the-counter treatment or if required refer you to another healthcare provider.

How to access Pharmacy First



Step 1 - Simply walk into a participating Boots Pharmacy & ask for help. Or you may have been referred by an NHS provider, like NHS 111, or your GP practice.



Step 2 - Our pharmacist will take a few details & assess your condition



Step 3 - Our pharmacist will talk to you about the most suitable next steps based on your condition & symptoms presented. This may include prescription treatment, informing you about pharmacy medicines, (the ones that are kept behind the counter) or an in-store product that could help.



Please click [here](#) to access copy letter on our website in relation to school being open on:
Tuesday 29th July 2025 from 1pm until 3pm
for quiet reflection & support for pupils, parents, carers and staff.



GOOD BYE and GOOD LUCK

As the school year draws to a close, we would like to wish the following staff good luck as they move on to pastures new:



Mrs Finney



Miss Van Der Spuy



Mrs Hunt



Mrs Bowling

Thank you to the staff above who have worked with us over this academic year!
Your work has been invaluable whether it has been teaching classes, supporting whole classes, small groups or individuals or supporting in our school office.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed working with you and building good working relationships, which has only led to their success. Thank you for the commitment you have given to Churchtown Primary School.

Best of luck with the next steps in your careers!

Support available over the Summer Holidays

Sefton Children's Social Care (CHAT) 0151 934 4013 or Emergency Duty Team 0151 934 3555.

Lancashire Children's Social Care 0300 123 6720 or Emergency Duty Team 0300 123 6722.

Sefton Family Advice and Support Team (FAST) 0151 934 4545

Sefton Women's And Children's Aid - 0151 922 8606 or help@swaca.com

24hr National Domestic Abuse Helpline - 0808 2000 247

Childline - 0800 1111

NSPCC - help@nspcc.org.uk

If you require support for a person under 18 experiencing a mental health crisis please contact **CAMHS** on 0151 293 3577.

If you feel that you need help immediately call for an ambulance on 999 or attend the nearest **A&E**.

If you require support regarding domestic abuse, you can attend a local chemist and ask for ANI (Action Needed Immediately)

ANI is a codeword scheme that enables victims of domestic abuse to discreetly ask for immediate help in participating pharmacies.

Online Safety

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

School Summer Holiday Programmes

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/8767/be-active-guide-summer-2024-final-digital-010724.pdf>



Talk with your child about responsible use of their phone

Discuss what is okay and not okay to use their phone for. Talk about time limits and expectations of where the device can and cannot be used, this could include things like the phone being charged outside their bedroom overnight.



Discuss what to do if something upsetting or worrying happens

Give them the strategies they need in case something concerning happens whilst they are using their device. This could be to lock the screen and tell an adult, to make a report to the platform they are using, or to block the user.



Explore parental controls

Take a look at the controls available both on the phone itself and on your home Wi-Fi. Talk these through with your child too. Parental controls are a helpful tool, but an open conversation with your child is the most important thing.



Punctuality



The school gates open at 8:40am and children are expected to be in school for **8.50am** ready for their morning register.

Children are marked as arriving late to school if they arrive after 9am. If they arrive after 9:20am, they will receive an unauthorised absence for their morning mark. Poor punctuality can affect a child's overall attendance percentage.

Children who arrive late will need to enter school via the front office. Mrs Welsh will sign in any children who are late using the InVentry system, which is located by the front office.

Parents and guardians of children in nursery and reception are expected to wait with their child until it is convenient for the child to be taken to class. **Please be mindful** that staff will need to leave the class that they are in to come and collect any children who are late. This can be disruptive for other children and we do not always have the capacity to collect children from the office straight away.

Punctuality is closely monitored and if we have concerns regarding a child's attendance, parents/guardians will be contact by Mrs Welsh (Attendance and Pastoral Support).

We acknowledge that anybody can have a morning when they are late due to unforeseen circumstances. However, persistent lateness is not acceptable and unauthorised absences can result in the local authority issuing penalty notices.

Here is a reminder of how poor punctuality can affect a child's learning opportunities:

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equal days' worth of teaching lost in a year
5 minutes	3.4 days
10 minutes	6.9 days
15 minutes	10.3 days
20 minutes	13.8 days
30 minutes	20.7 days

We would like to stress that we are here to support our children and families and we will continue to do all we can to help in situations where we can.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding punctuality or attendance in general, please ask to speak to Mrs Welsh who will be based in the main office from September 2025.

Thank you for your continued cooperation with this matter.

Important Information About the Start of Term

It is important to inform you about the first day back in September, Wednesday 3rd September. Following the success of having children attend in smaller groups last September, we are recreating the same welcoming atmosphere but this time with all children in school for the full day, instead of just coming in for an hour.

All children will be met on the yard at 8:30am on the first morning by their class teacher. Children will be expected to wear full school uniform for their first day back in school. Look out for your child's class and their class name, which will show you where to line up. The classes will then begin to enter the building from 8:40am.

Once the teachers have taken the classes into their classrooms, the children will be registered for the morning. They will then do three activities in smaller groups:

- One third of the class will stay with their teacher and teaching assistant to do "get to know me" activities.
- Another third will go to the hall for a welcome back assembly to discuss class and school expectations.
- The final third will be able to play on the new school playground after we have shown them all the areas and discussed how they are to be used.

We will be emphasising that the children use the playground for its intended purposes. For example:

- The stage can be used for acting, singing, and dancing
- The climbing area is for climbing
- The picnic tables are for sitting, colouring, and reading
- The seating areas are for sitting

Wednesday 3rd September will be the first day the children get to see the new playgrounds, and it will be very exciting! The only rule we ask for the new yard is that children do **not** play on the climbing areas in the main yard **before school, between 8:30 and 8:40 am**. They can use the whole yard at break, lunch, and after school between 3.10 and 3.20pm (if you are waiting to collect a sibling).

After school, if children want to use the climbing areas, this is at the discretion of parents or guardians, who are responsible for their children's safety at that time. **However, before school, climbing on the climbing areas is not allowed.**

Staff will be on the yard in the mornings to ensure children are not on the climbing areas, but please help us by reminding your children of the rules and encouraging them to stick to them. The reason for this rule is that not all children have an adult with them before school, so we cannot ensure they are being properly supervised. In preparation for the exciting new playgrounds, we will also be talking to the children before we break up for summer.

From the second day onwards, teachers will no longer come out to collect the children. Instead, children will go into class as normal, using the playground doors from 8:40 am.

Finally, we really appreciate that children ride their bikes or scooters to school, as this helps with parking around the school — thank you! However, once children reach the school gates, we ask that they walk their bikes and scooters to park them safely in the bike shed until the end of the school day.



Some of our pupils in Year 4, Amelia B, Nylah, Cian, Roman, Eliza, Amber, Etta, Cosima and Maya have all been busy making bracelets and other crafts to sell and raise money for Bebe's Hive and Elsie's Story.

**They have raised the grand total of £160!
Well done to you all!**

Elsie's Story



Date	Event
Tuesday 29 th July 2025	Churchtown Primary School open for quiet time & reflection from 1pm until 3pm
Monday 1 st September 2025	INSET Day (whole school closure including Butterflies Holiday Club & Snowdrops Nursery)
Tuesday 2 nd September 2025	INSET Day (whole school closure including Butterflies Holiday Club & Snowdrops Nursery)
Wednesday 3 rd September 2025	Back to school – rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Thursday 4 th September 2025	Parent/Guardian Y6 Robinwood Meeting in the Early Years Hall – 3.30pm-4.00pm
Wednesday 10 th September 2025	Meet the Teacher Meetings – 3.15pm, 3.45pm & 4.15pm
Thursday 23 rd October 2025	Break up for half-term (normal times)
Friday 24 th October 2025	INSET Day
Monday 3 rd November 2025	Back to school – rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text in red is a new addition to the calendar 	



Nursery Snowdrops (open 51 weeks of the year) – closure dates (2025)

CLOSED – Monday 25th August 2025 (Summer Bank Holiday)
CLOSED – Monday 1st September 2025 (INSET Day)
CLOSED – Monday 2nd September 2025 (INSET Day)



Butterflies Holiday Club.....

will be open to Churchtown Primary School Children on the following dates:

Monday 21st July 2025 – INSET Day
Tuesday 22nd July 2025 – INSET Day
Wednesday 23rd July to Friday 29th August 2025 – Summer Holidays
CLOSED – Monday 25th August 2025 (Summer Bank Holiday)
CLOSED – Monday 1st September 2025 (INSET Day)
CLOSED – Monday 2nd September 2025 (INSET Day)