

The KET Newsletter

Summer 2025



ISSUE #07
July 2025

Welcome from the CEO

As another school year comes to a close, we have the privilege of looking back at all the wonderful achievements children have made, the successes they have enjoyed and the great opportunities their teachers have given them.

Across our schools Year 4, 6 and 8 children have been preparing to move to their new schools in September.

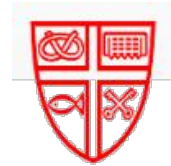
I feel they are really well prepared for the next stage in their education journey, and I know they will make us proud in the years to come. I wish them every success in all that they do.

I am sure everyone is ready for the summer holiday.

I hope you all enjoy a super break, and I look forward to seeing you all fully recharged in September.



Mr. Chris Wright
CEO - The Key Educational Trust



[Christ Church Academy](#)

[Christ Church CE First School](#)

[Oulton CE First School](#)

[St. Mary's CE Primary School](#)

[St. Peter's CE Primary School](#)

Christ Church Academy



CHRIST CHURCH ACADEMY
Excellence in Education

Summer Term Highlights

Y5 and Y6 were treated to a talk from one of the librarians at Stone Library. She explained all about the **Summer Reading Challenge** as well as the many other opportunities and events being hosted across our Staffordshire Libraries. There is a prize for the school with the most participants to complete the challenge so we are hoping it's in the bag for CCA!



A true highlight of the term was our amazing **Year 8 trip** to Paris. Students explored the very heart of French culture and history, which included a breathtaking visit to the Eiffel Tower, a visit to take in the spectacular views from the Sacré-Cœur in Montmartre. The group also enjoyed a scenic boat trip on the River Seine, taking in the iconic sights of Paris.



On Saturday 5th July, from 12–4pm, the grounds of CCA came alive with the vibrant energy of **Stone Rocks**—an annual extravaganza of music, dance, and community spirit. This year's event was bigger and better than ever, drawing an enthusiastic crowd.

Over 200 pupils took to the stage throughout the afternoon, showcasing their talents in a dazzling display of performances. The line-up included not only current students but also a number of past pupils, highlighting the lasting bond so many share with the school. From powerful musical acts to lively dance routines, every performance was met with rapturous applause and beaming smiles.



Creating the Centenary of Stoke-on-Trent Mural

Pupils from our **First Lego League team** have been helping local influencer StokielEgo Neil Walker in his aim to create the Stoke-on-Trent centenary logo out of Lego.

Pupils were looking for specific colour bricks from donations to be added to the model.

The finished model using CCA donations is now on display at the Potteries Museum and Neil aims to bring it to CCA.



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Year 6 recently enjoyed an unforgettable week at **Stanley Head** filled with exciting outdoor activities. The adventure began with canoeing, where pupils worked in pairs to steer their boats and paddle across the water. Next came crate stacking, a fun challenge that tested balance and teamwork as groups built towers as high as they could. They went on a scenic hike through the beautiful countryside, taking in the fresh air and stunning views.

The trip was a fantastic experience, helping pupils build confidence, learn new skills, and work together while having lots of fun. Year 6 came home tired but full of smiles after an amazing week away!



We had a special visit from Jane at **Furry Friends**, who introduced us to the wonderful world of animal therapy. A few lucky pupils got to spend time with three adorable guests: Sparkle the guinea pig, Shelly the tortoise, and Daisy the spaniel 🐹 🐢 🐕

Safe to say, it wasn't just the children who loved the cuddles! ❤️



Year 5 had a fantastic time during their annual **French and Arts Drop Down Day**! The children enjoyed an exciting French theatre production that brought the language to life, followed by creative painting sessions where they explored their artistic skills. They also took part in fun, active games, making the day both educational and full of energy. It was a brilliant way to celebrate language and creativity!

Everyone agreed it was a wonderful experience that combined learning with lots of fun!



Christ Church Academy recently hosted a wonderful **Celebration Evening at Christ Church**, bringing together pupils, families and staff to recognise the incredible achievements of the past year. The event was filled with pride and joy as students were presented with trophies and awards for their hard work, dedication, and outstanding contributions in a variety of subjects and activities.

It was a truly special evening, highlighting the talents and accomplishments of our pupils, as well as the values that make our school community so strong. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event, helping to make it a memorable occasion for all!



Christ Church First School



CHRIST CHURCH C.E. FIRST SCHOOL

The summer term is always busy and this year has been no exception. The children at Christ Church have been involved in all sorts of activities and events related to the curriculum or representing the school at various sporting events.

We started the half term with a celebration for VE Day. We decorated the playground and the children learnt all about the importance of VE day in lessons. One of our pupils, Lauren Goodman, won the Stone Town Council bunting competition and her winning design was made into splendid bunting which was hung all over the town and on our playground. We welcomed Councillor Jill Hood into school to present Lauren with her prize. We also had cakes during afternoon break, courtesy of the PTFA.



Lauren and her winning bunting.

On 9th June, children from Year 3 took part in a cricket Festival held at Milford Hall Cricket Club. This is the second year the school has taken part and this year, the team managed to come first in the Inspire group.

This was a busy week, as the choir also took part in Eccleshall Music Festival on 13th June. This is a great event as a number of schools gather and perform together during the morning and perform their pieces to their families in the afternoon. The CCFS children performed alongside children from Christ Church Academy and St Mary's Primary School.

Throughout this half term, we have also held our Family Worships on a Thursday morning. Each class has shared their learning over the course of the term and it was lovely to hear them speaking so enthusiastically about their learning, from planting fruit, vegetables and flowers and visits to the park, to the work of the artist Van Gogh. Each class had something new to discuss and share.

On 20th June, we had our school sports day and family picnic. Every child took part in at least 2 races and we were so proud of how all the children supported and encouraged each other, even if there was a bit of cheating in the egg and spoon race!

Pupils in Reception and Year 1 were treated to a visit from the Bug Lady. This is always a great visit as she brings all sorts of creepy crawlies with her. This year, the children held giant snails, tarantulas and giant millipedes. The children fully enjoyed the sessions and overcame their fears.



Giant snail or tarantula anyone?

As part of drowning prevention week, we welcomed a swimming instructor into school to help the children how to stay safe near water. This was a very useful workshop as we live there is a canal and a river in Stone. Children also took part in water safety activities during their school and private swimming lessons.

On 23rd and 24th June, Year 4 completed their transition days at middle school and the other children moved up a class so that we could welcome our new starters. Suffice to say, everyone is excited for September now.

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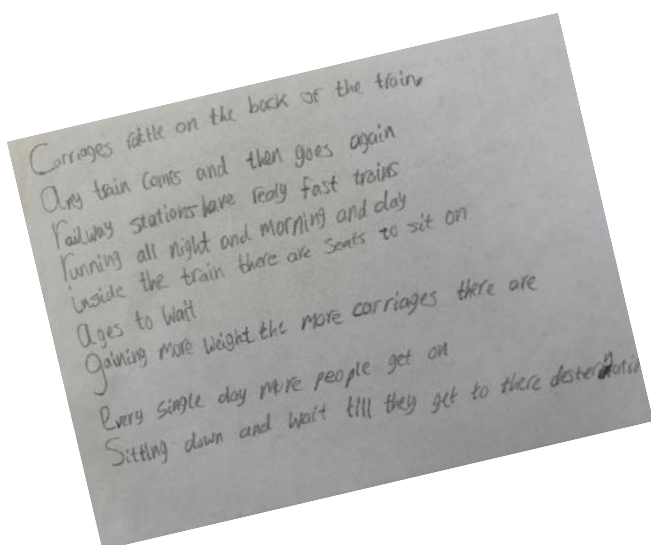
On Wednesday 2nd July, children from Year 3 visited Stone Station as part of the Railway 200 celebrations. The children had written poems celebrating rail travel and they took part in a history quiz and some bee-related activities thanks to the Bumblebee Conservation Trust. We had a lovely morning and the children particularly enjoyed the free gifts, biscuits and juice!



Poems read in the station



Bumblebee puppet making!



Poetry by Isla Wickers (Year 3)

On Saturday 5th July, the choir took part in Stone Rocks, performing 2 songs, taking part in the Big Sing coordinated by Mr Harrison at CCA and also performing the dance they did at the Gatehouse Theatre for Stafford's Gotta Dance. The children love this annual event and were lucky enough to have a backing pianist this year in the shape of Mr Cannon (also from CCA). The children performed really well and it is always amazing how confident they are at such young ages. We thoroughly enjoyed the day.



Choir & dancers performing at Stone Rocks



To end the year, pupils in Reception and Year 2 visited Wolseley Bridge for a day of exploring nature. They took part in pond dipping activities and followed nature trails around the park. They had a great time and this was a lovely way for them to end their school year.

With heavy hearts, we approach the final week and we look forward to our Leavers' Service in church which is always full of memories and songs. We wish our Year 4 all the very best of luck as they begin the next chapter of their school careers at middle school.

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OULTON FIRST SCHOOL
Hand in hand Learning together

We have finally reached the end of the academic year and what a busy summer term it has been at Oulton! Thank you to our school community for helping us create another successful year.



EYFS

Pupils in EYFS enjoyed spending time with their dads in a den building session to celebrate Father's day.



During the summer term, EYFS children have had weekly forest school session. Reception have spent time at Kibblestone and Ladybirds on the school site.



Pupils have also been busy planting and watering in their allotment – growing carrots, lettuce and strawberries to name but a few!



KS1

Pupils in KS1 have had a very exciting term counting down to their duckling eggs hatching. Three out of the six eggs were successful and the runner ducks have now been rehomed with one of our families.



KS2

KS2 pupils took part in Bikeability this term, some pupils learning to ride a bike and others completing level 1.



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In June, Class 3 visited Trentham Monkey Forest and Trentham Gardens. They learnt about the impact of humans on monkey habitats, monkey lifecycles and communication and many other facts. It was wonderful to see monkeys and their babies up close. In the afternoon, they had a guided session by the ranger and learned all about how humans and beavers work together on creating habitats for other animals. They are now able to see the signs that show that beavers are living in an area.



Sports Day/Family Picnic

This year we combined our sports day with a family picnic and a summer fayre, organised by our PTFA, which raised an incredible £720!



Flower festival

St John's Church, Oulton, celebrated 150 years of worship this year and celebrated with a flower festival. Each class created a miniature garden and the whole school visited the festival where they were treated to a drink and biscuit.



Choir events

The choir have sung at several events over the summer term, including the Alzheimer's Society, Stone Rocks and at the St John's Church fundraiser.



Dear Lord, thank you for guiding us through this school year. We are grateful for the lessons learned, the friendships made, and the growth we've experienced. Please bless us with a safe and restful summer, and prepare us for a new year of learning and discovery. Amen

St Mary's, Mucklestone.



Bishop's Blessing



St Mary's welcomed the Bishop of Stafford (The Rt Revd Matthew Parker) on Friday 6th June. The Bishop led a wonderful service of blessing and dedication of our newly built extension.

Our year 5 and 6 pupils were very excited to move into this brand-new classroom. This also creates additional teaching space in our Early Years unit for Nursery and Reception pupils, with its own dedicated indoor and outdoor learning areas.

The service was also a celebration of our school joining The Key Educational Trust. Mr Chris Wright the CEO of the Multi Academy Trust, joined parents, friends and members of the church and community, in our act of worship. The pupil worship leaders led the liturgy, the children sang beautifully, and Bishop Matthew looked splendid in his vestments, mitre hat and crook.



Summer Planter Competition

The gardening family circle, who take care of the outside presentation of our school, encouraged the pupils to plant a planter of their own. The competition helped to raise funds for the PTFA, and the school looked beautiful too. The gardening family are responsible for watering and weeding the pots, to keep our outside areas looking wonderful.



The green fingered winners were delighted to win seeds and gardening kits. Happy planting!

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Woodland Walk

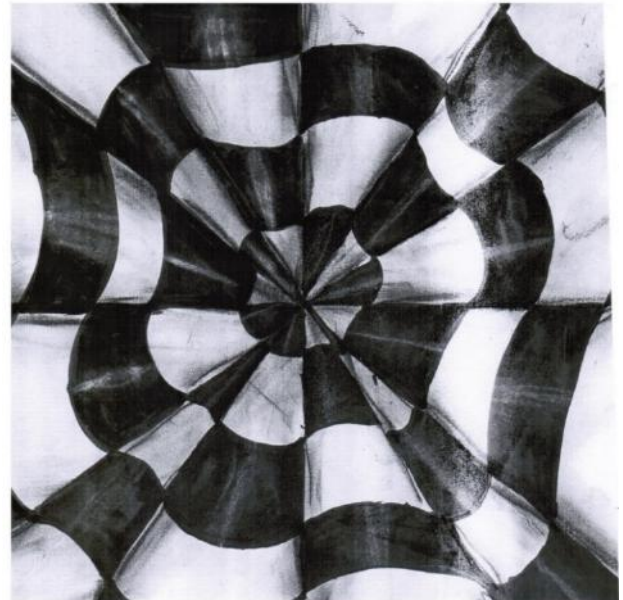
All pupils enjoyed making the most of our rural locality – on a woodland walk. A nature trail and quiz was organized for the children as a learning opportunity and wellbeing walk. The woodland was so peaceful and full of exciting new facts.

St Mary's Art Gallery!



We have some very talented artists. Penelope completed an observational drawing of our new classroom! We thought the detail and perspective was fantastic. Class 4 explored the work of and created these monochrome optical illusions. We used white to highlight and grey to shade. It

created the most fantastic 3-dimensional effect. Parents couldn't believe their eyes!

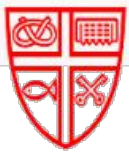


Sports Day

Well done red team!!! The winners of a very exciting and energetic sports day. The children took part in traditional races and were very supportive of each other. Older buddies helped the younger children and Time4Sport assisted Mr. Cohen in preparing and running the event. The parents and friends of St Mary's had a super morning in the sun and joined in with the parent races! Children who displayed one of our Christian values were awarded a value ribbon.



St Peter's, Caverswall



Summer Fair



What an amazing turn out we had for the Summer Fayre. The little rain shower didn't stop families enjoying themselves. Miss Buckley got extremely wet on the wet the teacher stand, we had pony rides, ice cream, bottle tombola and a stall selling fathers day gifts. We made an amazing amount of £1378 and £137.40 on the cake sale.



Summer of Sport

Our Summer of sport started with Sports Day. A wonderful afternoon was had by all on Friday 2nd May for our annual sports day. The sun was shining and all children from nursery to Year Six took part in a variety of races. The younger children completed egg and spoon, obstacle and running races while the older children took part in running, bean bag and egg and spoon races. The highlight was the house replay race Which was won by green house with red house narrowly missing out in second place. Green house won sports day overall with red house in second place, yellow house in third place and blue house in fourth.

Cross Country

Our amazing Year 4, 5 and 6 Cross Country runners took part in our cluster Cross Country event at Blythe High School after school on Thursday 1st May. It was a very hot afternoon and the children showed great courage and determination running in such hot conditions. However they did enjoy a cool down with their water bottles at the end.

Tag Rugby

Some of our Year 3 and Year 5 children who took part in our cluster Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Tag Rugby Festivals at Blythe Bridge High School in May, They began their afternoons by practising rugby skills then applied them in friendly matches with our local cluster school. Well done to all involved 🙌🙌🙌

Cricket

Some of our children from Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in a dynamo cricket festival at Meir Heath Cricket Club on Wednesday 4th June. The afternoon started by practising cricket skills and then the children took part in a few friendly matches. The children demonstrated great team work and determination to succeed.

Y3/4 Swimming Gala

Well done to our amazing Y3/4 Swimming team who took part in the Y3/4 Cluster Swimming Gala on Monday 16th June. The boys finished first place overall and the girls were in fourth place. This meant we finished in second place overall. Great performance from all our swimmers.

Rounders

These Year 4 children took part in our cluster school Y3/4 rounders competition on Wednesday 2nd July. They had been learning the skills of rounders with Miss Munro during rounders PE lessons this summer term. All their hard work and learning paid off as they won the competition. The trophy has taken pride of place in our school hall next to the sports board. Well done children.

Athletics Day

Children from Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 had a wonderful day at Blythe Bridge High school for our local cluster school's athletics day. They took part in a range of track events (sprint, distance run, bundles and relay races) and field events (discus, javelin, short put and long jump). The team finished fifth place overall. Well done to all the children involved.

Y5/6 Swimming Gala

Some of the Year 5/6 children took part in a swimming gala at Blythe bridge High school with our local cluster schools. The children had to use their breast, back and front crawl stroke in a variety of races. The children finished in fourth place overall.

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The KS2 children had their own Stone Age Day in the Summer Term. We dressed up as our characters from Rock Bottom and took part in a fashion show. Throughout the day, we completed a treasure hunt, where we had to use the knowledge we had learnt to answer questions about the Stone Age, made our own Stone Age necklace out of clay and made shortbread in the shape of Stonehenge. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day. We would like to send a huge thank you to our KS2 children, for their amazing performance of Rock Bottom. They have shown true dedication and commitment to produce a fantastic production, they made us laugh, they made us cry and wowed us all with some stunning solos, duets and group performances. Thank you to each and every one of you. You are all totally outstanding!



Mental Health Action Group

A mental health action group has been set up by Mrs. Bagshaw our senior mental health lead. A group of parents have been amazing in helping us reflect of the mental health provision and have been proactive in helping think of ways in which we can further support our children with their mental health. A meeting took place in May and a second one in July. A date for the next week will be shared on Dojo in September and anyone is more than welcome to attend

Money Sense

Ingmar class took part in a virtual Money Sense Workshop. It was all about how to save money and reduce the environmental impact of what we do. The children thought about alternative activities that would use less energy such as playing board games or spending time outside, rather than playing games on their games console. The children also learned about how much electricity families use every day and they had to think of cost-cutting ideas. The children suggested that we should turn lights off if we are not in the room or turn devices off rather than leaving them on stand-by. At the end of the workshop, everyone received a tote bag and a piggy bank keyring.

Mish Mash Day

We finish our year with the children's favourite event – Mish Mash Day. This is a day when the children come dressed in weird and wonderful costumes. They take part in fundraising activities throughout the day. This year children will learn circus skills, make craft clowns, play circus games, eat ice cream and sing along to the greatest showman.

