School Newsletter 429 19th September 2025

Archdeacon Cambridge's

Church of England Primary School
The Green, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 5TU
Tel: 020 8894 4777, www.archdeaconcambridges.richmond. sch.uk

"Be happy and love learning, confident in our faith. Do everything in love." 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a very exciting delivery last week. Our brand new AC Sports kit arrived! In the summer term Mr Dawson invited the children across the school to design a sports strip for the school. I had the pleasure (actually it was quite a difficult task) of choosing the winning kit. Many congratulations to Eleanor S (5S) who designed the winning kit! This has been very kindly and generously donated by a current Archdeacon family and SporTedd (https://sportedd.co.uk/), a local charity run by Sports fans. We look forward to seeing the various teams in the kit over the coming weeks.

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Curriculum evenings this week and we look forward to seeing many of you at the meetings next week. I hope you found it helpful to meet the teachers and the information given will make for a smooth year ahead.

We had a lovely church service last week with Rev. Simon and we marked not only the beginning of term, but also our 183rd birthday! Our Founders Day is on 13th September and the children are always fascinated to hear all about school in the olden days. The children sang beautifully and our Year 6 pupils did us proud with their readings.
We welcomed all the new Reception families with a coffee morning last Friday in the Church Hall. It was lovely to see so many new families join our school and my thanks to Rev. Simon for hosting and joining us.

The diary is already getting busy with various activities and PTA events. We have the PTA AGM on Thursday evening and you are very welcome to come to it. My thanks to Hettie Bishop who is our new PTAChair and to the Events team who are working hard behind the scenes to get some fun events in the diary and raise some money for the school. **PLEASE do support these events and we need volunteers to make these events happen and be successful – especially with the Rugby Parking for the Autumn Internationals.**

We have school photos (class, individual and siblings) next Thursday and Friday. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing the correct uniform.

Our Harvest service is fast approaching (Thursday 2nd Oct) and we will be asking for your donations for those less fortunate than ourselves – SPEAR & local Food Banks will benefit. See the info overleaf.

Finally – Ms van den Broek is hosting the first of many Dig Days tomorrow morning – to get our Wildlife area at the back of the school ready for Autumn and Winter – see the info in the newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend and best wishes,
Miss Lambe,
Head Teacher

Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

Sat 20th Sept	**9.30am—2.30pm**	Wildlife Area Dig Day
Mon 22nd Sept	**PM**	Year 6 Junior Citizen—Heatham House
Tues 23rd Sept	**6,30pm**	Reception and Yearrs 3 & 4 Curriculum Eve
Thurs 25th Sept	**All Day**	School Photographs (Class & Individual/Sibling)
	6.30pm	Nursery Curriculum Evening
	8pm	PTA AGM
Tues 30th Sept	**9am**	Mastering Number—Year 2 Parents & Children
Thurs 2nd Oct	**9am**	Harvest Festival—Holy Trinity Church
Fri 3rd Oct	**2pm**	Praying Parents—The Vicarage

2026-2027 Term Dates

Our proposed school term dates for the 2026-2027 academic year are now available on the School Website.
Leave of Absence forms are also available on the website for requesting time away from school.

Harvest Donations



Children in Years 2—6 will be attending our Harvest Festival service, led by Rev Simon Couper at Holy Trinity Church on Thursday 2nd October at 9.10am. At this time we remember those in need in the Parish and those in other countries who have not had the benefit of a good harvest.

Year 1, Reception & Nursery children will join together in the Small Hall for a short Harvest assembly on the same day. Due to limited space we are not able to accommodate parents at this assembly.

As usual we will be joining with the Holy Trinity Church collection of food for our local Richmond foodbank (Fulwell Collection Point at St Michael's Church). Please see their Richmond Foodbank website for what they are in urgent need of: . https://richmond.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/

They do not need tins of baked beans, pasta or nappies.

As in previous years, we would be very grateful if you are able to tape £1 or £2 coin(s) to the donations .

Once again the Church is focusing on thanksgiving for God's provision as well as on the wider creation care and climate change. All monetary donations will therefore be divided between our local SPEAR homeless Charity **SPEAR London**, and **A Rocha UK – Caring for creation** , who take action to improve biodiversity, address climate change and make a difference to nature restoration in the UK.

Termly Contribution Charging Policy

Following Governors' annual review of the Charging Policy, we write to advise you that the school will continue to ask parents of children in Nursery –Year 6 for a voluntary contribution of £10 per child per term to cover the cost of materials for practical subjects such as, cookery, craft, design and technology and some consumable stationery items, e.g. Home School Diaries & Reading Diaries, workbooks, pencils, pens, rubbers etc.

Payment for this termly charge can now be made on Scopay accounts. A full copy of the Charging Policy is available on our School Website.

Governors' Maintenance Fund

The Governor's Maintenance Fund letter will be be sent home in hard copy to Nursery and Reception and via **Parentmail to Years 1-6.** Whilst payment to this fund is voluntary, **all** children at Archdeacon Cambridge's School benefit from the maintenance of the school site that this fund facilitates. We are therefore very grateful for the continued support of this payment from the majority of families.

Details about how to transfer payment directly to the Governor's Maintenance Account are included in the letter. Thank you.

Calendar on School Website



Parents are able to link the event calendar on our School Website to their own online calendar.
Events are also Year Group colour coded and we regularly update the calendar.

Admissions to Secondary School 2026

Please check individual Secondary School websites for details of Open Evenings, Mornings or Tours of the school. Parents can download The Secondary School Admissions Brochure from the council's website at www.richmond.gov.uk. Year 6 parents are reminded that the closing date for receipt of online and paper applications, including supplementary forms, for entry to secondary school in September 2025 is Thursday **31st October 2025 which is during Half Term.**

Admissions to Primary School 2026

Children born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 are due to start Reception class at primary school in September 2026. Full information about the admissions process is included in the London Borough of Richmond brochure

Supplementary Forms and the School Admission Policy for 2026 will be available from the School website. Use the eAdmissions website from 1 September 2025 to apply online for your child's Primary (Reception) school place. **The deadline for the receipt of applications is 15th January 2026.**

If you wish to receive supplementary forms for your **Reception** application in hard copy please contact Mrs Hamerton in the School Office to request that these are posted to you**. Children currently attending the Nursery at Archdeacon Cambridge's School will automatically receive an application pack in hard copy.** Parents with queries can either speak to Mrs Hamerton in the School Office or to the London Borough of Richmond admissions Dept: Tel 020 8547 5569.

Admission to Nursery 2026/27

A reminder that parents of children born between **01/09/22** and **31/08/23** will be eligible to apply for our **Nursery September for the 2026/27** academic year. The application form will be online and available on our website from January 2026. The deadline for submission will be at the beginning of March 2026, to be confirmed closer to the time.

Pupil Premium Funding

Children in Reception, Year 1 or 2 in a state funded school are offered a free healthy school lunch funded by the Government. Children in Years 3-6 are currently receiving free school meals funded by the Mayor of London.

Pupil Premium funding is given to schools based on the number of children who have an '***income based' eligibility for 'Free School Meals***'. Families who may be eligible *include* those on Income Support, Income-based Jobseekers Allowance and Child Tax Credit (excluding those entitled to Working Tax Credit or an annual gross income of more than £16,190).

Children in eligible families can benefit from financial support in school in line with the School's Charging Policy. You only need to apply once for this additional funding while the children are at Archdeacon. If you would like Mrs Hamerton to check your eligibility please complete and submit the form at this link: Permission to check eligibility for Pupil Premium Eligibility by Monday 29th September. Hard copy forms also available.

Christmas Card Project



We are once again participating in the APFS (Art Project for Schools) Christmas Card Project. Next Week, children in Reception –Year 6 will receive an APFS card and are able to create a Christmas card at home. Once the card is finished, please write your child's name and class on the back and return to the School Office or Class Teacher.

We recommend taking a note of the unique order code on the back of the card before returning the card artwork. All artwork must be returned to school by Monday 20th October (before half term) for us to send to APFS for scanning . Once the artwork has been scanned by APFS, the artwork will be returned to the school and sent back with the children. Parents can then view and order the card directly with APFS online using the unique order code on the back of the card.

Nursery will design their cards in class during the school day. Cards, mugs tags and wrapping paper ordered will be delivered to the school at the end of November.

Designs must be on the white A4 card provided. If your child wishes to use coloured card, this can be glued onto the white card provided. The card can be either landscape or portrait. Try to fill the whole page for the best effect when printed but please ensure that important parts of the artwork, such as writing, is kept away from the edges. No glitter, foil, metallic pens or fluffy pompoms should be used as they do not scan well. Bold colours and simple flat collage work really well.

Book Bag Key Rings & Earrings

In Pupil Voice this week, Ms van den Broek reminded children that they may have **only one** small key ring on their book bag (no teddies or bulky key rings). She also reminded children that earrings should be a small stud (a small jewel is fine) and no hoops for safety reasons (hoops can get caught whilst playing causing ear lobe injuries).

Black History Month, Miss Finnegan writes

As October approaches, with it comes more opportunities to continue to celebrate Black History and Culture within our school.

The theme for Black History Month UK 2025 is "**Standing Firm in Power and Pride,**" a powerful tribute to the resilience, strength, and unwavering commitment to progress that defines the Black community across the globe. This year, the theme highlights the profound contributions made by Black people be they leaders, activists, or pioneers who have shaped history, while also looking towards a future of continued empowerment, unity, and growth.
This year, each year group will celebrate a diverse range of influential Black icons both past and present and explore their contribution to society in a variety of different categories, for example, the arts, politics and science. The children's learning will then be showcased, for everyone to enjoy, some of which will be displayed in the Reception foyer.
We are very much looking forward to celebrating Black History Month and we ask you to join in by continuing these important conversations at home. Thank you for your support.



Wildlife Area Dig Day—Saturday 20th September

We had a great year in the Wildlife Area and Green areas of the school last year and now it is time to prepare the areas for the coming winter months. All families are welcome to come along on to our first 'Dig Day' of this term on **Saturday 20th September between 9.30-2.30pm).**

Everyone is welcome, whatever your gardening skills, but we are always grateful if anyone with woodworking skills is able to join us and help with making and putting up notice boards / decking / seating. Children and parents are welcome to join in for an hour or more; it is a great way to meet other families in the school and spend time in our wonderful outdoor area. Tea, cake, instructions and encouragement will be provided. We have gardening tools but if you have your own gloves and tools, please do bring these along.

We look forward to seeing you there!



School Photographs—25th & 26th September

Individual, class and sibling group photographs for children in Years **Reception—Year 6** will take place all day on Thursday 25th and in the morning of Friday 26th September. Those children with siblings in school will be photographed as a **family group.** Those without siblings will be photographed on their own. **Nursery** individual, class and sibling group photographs will take place on Thursday 6th November.

All children should wear formal school uniform on both days and there will be no swimming for Year 1 on Thursday 25th.
Please also note than any small hair bows or clips should be royal blue or natural hair colour and children may be asked to take out oversized bows for their class photo.

European Day of Celebrating Languages - Friday 26th September

We will be celebrating on Friday 26th September and during the course of the week each year group will be undertaking a variety of activities associated with a chosen country. Children will be learning about the language and geography of their country and will also experience their country's culture through music, dance and art. Work will be displayed on boards around the school as well as presented in a School Assembly. Chosen year group countries are as follows:

Year Group	Country	Language
Nursery	Various Languages spoken in Nursery	
Reception	Spain	Spanish
Year 1	Czech Republic	Czech
Year 2	Japan	Japanese
Year 3	Italy	Italian
Year 4	Argentina	Spanish
Year 5	Norway	Norwegian
Year 6	Greece	Greek

Lost Property—PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS THAT ARE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Our Junior Lost Property Box is located in the corridor outside 3CB classroom and is currently full already with unnamed lost property. Junior lost property that is found during the week is put in this box. Every Friday our new Year 6 Lost Property Prefects will return named Junior items to classrooms. All other unnamed lost property that is not claimed will be donated to the PTA Second Hand Uniform Sales or the Bag2School Collection. We do not keep unnamed uniform in the lost property box. **Our Infant Lost Property Box is located in the corridor outside 2BS Classroom.** Named items will be returned to Infant Classrooms. Unfortunately most of our lost property is unnamed and cannot be returned .

Autumn Weather Uniform



As the weather will be turning Autumnal and wet, all children should bring in a suitable, waterproof and warm coat in school in case of wet and cold weather. Please note that a gilet is not appropriate as it does not afford the same cover as a coat or jacket. On rainy days children may also walk to and from school in boots or wellies, however, they **must** change into their black school shoes before entering the classroom and store their named boots in a plastic bag on their peg during the day.

Vomiting and Diarrhoea

A reminder to all parents that if children are unwell with vomiting and/or diarrhoea, they must not return to school until a clear 48 hours after the vomiting or diarrhoea has stopped. This type of illness is very infectious and spreads quickly from person to person and through school classes. Many thanks.

Bicycle & Scooter Parking on School Grounds

Please remind your child to **neatly** park bicycles at the front of the school. Scooters should be parked in the correctly signed scooter areas inside the school playgrounds. All scooters and bicycles should be clearly named. A reminder also that all bicycles and scooters are left at the owners risk and the school does not accept any responsibility for damage or loss to bicycles. Thank you!



No Sweets for Birthday Hand Outs

We kindly ask that sweets or treats are not brought into school for birthday children to hand out to classes. Teachers will always ensure that birthdays are celebrated in the classroom. Many thanks for your support.

Junior Children Morning Snacks

A reminder that Junior children should bring in a healthy snack for their morning break. Morning snacks are intended as a chance to plug the gap between a nutritious breakfast and a healthy lunch. Please find below a few suggestions for nutritious snacks that will maintain your child's energy levels. Providing a selection of these during the course of the week will ensure variety in your child's diet and prevent them eating too much fat, sugar or salt at snack times.

Fruit and Vegetables
- Whole fruits
- Chunks: fruit or veg (apple, melon, tomatoes, cucumber, red pepper etc) can be more appealing to eat if cut into bite-sized pieces
- Serving a portion of hummus or sour cream alongside vegetable sticks can make a snack feel like more of a treat

Crackers etc
- low-salt crackers
- breadsticks
- plain rice cakes
- oatcakes
- savoury scone

Other
- cubes of cheese
- chunks of cold meats
- hardboiled eggs
- a small tub of low-sugar yoghurt/ fromage frais etc is a great snack and offers a change of texture
- a small sandwich with a high-protein filling (ham, cheese, hummus, tuna)

Try to avoid processed foods high in sugar, fat and salt or save these as treats:
- dried fruits (also fruit bars) and fruit roll-ups get stuck in children's teeth, and only advised as part of a larger meal
- crisps and chocolate are a treat, so are not a healthy morning snack
- oat bars or fruit bars often contain high levels of sugar, so these are best avoided

Do not send into school as a snack:
- foods that contain or may contain nuts. This includes chocolate nut spreads. Please check contents of any bars that you purchase.
- chocolate, sweets, cake and crisps. These are treats, so should not be sent in as a snack.

More suggestions can be found at: https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-snacks/

The NHS also have a free app that allows you to scan product barcodes to find out how healthy they are: https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/salt/#fs-app

Please ensure that all plastic snack pots are clearly named so that they can be returned to their owner if found in the Junior Playground. We have had to recycle a large number of pots and plastic containers recently.

NEWS FROM THE PTA

Now that everyone has started to settle into the swing of the school year, it's time for us to kick off some fun events!



We had the first Second Hand School Uniform sale of the year and thank you to all that helped with this. We are always on the lookout for new team members to lend a hand so please do let us know if you can help out at the next one.
We also welcomed new Reception parents at the Church after drop off last Friday with a cuppa, biscuits and a sunflower to brighten their day.

The PTA AGM is taking place next week - Thursday 25th September, 8pm

Please remember you are all part of the PTA, it would be lovely to see some new faces come along and meet the team. Even better if you have any ideas for some fun activities. Each year group will have their reps in attendance, so if you can't make it but want to raise anything please do let them know.

Some of the fun events we have coming up:



Autumn School Disco - 10th October

Tickets on sale from today - PTA-Events.co.uk/ACPTA

Save the date

Rugby Parking - Saturdays 1st, 8th, 15th & 23rd November -
Please volunteer to help out - this is one of our biggest fundraisers

Class Christmas drinks (for adults only) - Friday 28th November
Parents Wreath Making - Friday 5th December
Children's Christmas Activity Day in School - Friday 5th December

From The PTA team x

Mr Nourish's Birthday Lunch

On Thursday 2nd October, our school caterer's will be celebrating their Mascot, Mr Nourish's birthday with a special themed lunch. All children having a school lunch on this day will be able to choose from the menu. There will be other themed lunch days through the year to celebrate various occasions.

News from Holy Trinity Church

Reception Coffee Morning: we were delighted to host the coffee morning last Friday, and our thanks go to the members of the PTA who made the event so special. For families joining us this academic year, we hope the event was a warm introduction to the wonderful partnership between the church and the school.



Noisy Church, Sunday 4pm: This Sunday (21st Sep) Noisy Church returns! Noisy Church is 45 minutes of stories, games, crafts, and chaos, perfect for little ones. Come and join the fun.

Autumn Theology Series: This year marks the 1700th anniversary of the council of Nicaea, a moment in Church History brought into the public consciousness by likes of Dan Brown's *DaVinci Code*. But what really happened? Join us online or in the building this October as we explore the politics, theology, and legacy of Nicaea with Rev. Dr Piotr Ashwin Siejkowsky. 9th, 16th and 23rd of October at 7pm. More details online and on social media.



Left To Their Own Devices

An individual workshop from Care For The Family that helps parents and carers navigate the challenges of raising children in a digital world.



The program is designed to provide practical advice and strategies for managing issues like screen time, social media, and online gaming.

It also addresses more serious concerns such as online bullying, grooming, and exposure to inappropriate content. It is a single two hour long session featuring video content and discussion.

Where: **Barnes Children's Centre, 67b Lower Richmond Road, SW14 7HJ**

Thursday 16th October
9.30am - 11.30am

Contact Tom Maybey to book a place.
Email: tom.maybey@achievingforchildren.org.uk

achieving for children

Richmond Dyslexia Association coffee morning

Come and chat to parents and specialists about how to support children with dyslexia.

All are welcome.

Friday 26 September 2025 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Upstairs at Pret A Manger, 37 Lower George Street, Richmond, TW9 1HY

Contact info@richmonddyslexia.org.uk for more information.

MHST

‘Helping children with…’ Webinars for parents 2025/26

Achieving for Children’s Mental Health Support Teams are delivering a series of webinars for parents of primary-aged children. The **‘Helping Children with …’** series of webinars will cover a range of common difficulties experienced by children and will aim to share evidence-based strategies to help parents and carers support their children with these difficulties. Below is a list of webinars on offer over the coming months.

Helping children with …	Overview of webinar	Morning 9am	Evening 6pm
Worries and anxiety	The **‘Helping children with worries and anxiety’** webinar will help you learn ways to support your child in dealing with their big feelings, worries, and fears. This webinar will give you practical ideas on how to help your child to think more positively and develop their self confidence. You will also be introduced to some helpful cognitive behavioural therapy concepts.	Tuesday 28th October	Tuesday 20th January
Friendship difficulties	In this webinar we will learn how to support our children develop their friendship skills: learning to communicate better, repair difficulties, and negotiate solutions when relationships between peers are tricky.	Thursday 20th November	Tuesday 27th January
Challenging behaviours	Children often communicate their needs through their behaviours. The **‘Helping children with challenging behaviours’** webinar will help you to learn about the different factors that can impact children's behaviours, build or strengthen positive relationships by reinforcing the importance of giving positive attention. You will also learn strategies to establish home rules and boundaries to create a safe and structured environment for your children.	Thursday 6th November	Tuesday 3rd February
Digital wellbeing	In this webinar we discuss the positive and negative impact of screen time and gaming on a child's mental wellbeing. We will share the recommendations for screen time based on age, how to have this conversation with your child in a positive and effective manner and a simple and effective way to manage the use of screens	Thursday 13th November	Tuesday 13th January

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	in your home.		
Self esteem	In this webinar we will explore what self-esteem is, how low self-esteem can develop and be maintained, and will introduce some practical techniques to support you to improve your child's low self-esteem.	Thursday 27th November	Tuesday 10th February
Transition to Secondary	In this webinar we will explore the main worries children may experience when moving from primary to secondary school. We will help parents/carers think about the different ways to help to support and get their children prepared for the transition.	Thursday 7th May	Tuesday 19th May

*All Webinars are 60 minutes long, with 15 minutes at the end for questions and answers.
Please have a pen and paper handy for the webinar.

How to sign up

Parents and carers can sign up to the webinars by scanning the QR code or using the link below:

https://afc-self.achieveservice.com/service/MHST_Helping_Children_Webinars___Primary

You can choose the date you would like to attend, and will need to provide your email address, the school your child attends, and their year group.

Who to contact

If you have any questions,please contact the school Mental Health Lead, who will direct queries to the allocated MHST practitioner.