School Newsletter 454 20th November 2026

# Archdeacon Cambridge's

Church of England Primary School
The Green, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 5TU
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DIOCESE OF LONDON



Girls Football Team 'Plate' Winners

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy couple of weeks! I will start with some exciting staff news. **Congratulations to Mrs Corbett** and her husband who had a little baby boy, Teddy, a few weeks ago. Mother and baby (& big sister) are doing well and are slowly getting into a routine.

Last Friday morning **Year 4** presented an action packed Assembly. Parents were treated to a whistle stop tour of: Literacy – Oliver & the Seawigs diary entries, Science – States of matter: molecules and kinetic energy and then the Water Cycle. We learnt about Marcus Rashford (from Black History Month) and how much he supports pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds and school meals charities. It ended with a very fast paced Times Tables Song with the Super Movers actions! Great singing, acting and dancing – well done Year 4, you were all fabulous.

More **congratulations** to all our Football and Basketball teams! Please see sports reports overleaf. Well done to all involved. Ms Kraus has written a report about our newly recruited *Well Being Ambassadors* (six Year 5 pupils). They went to a local school to have some training with other local schools on pupils' mental health. So we now have 11 pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 that are trained Mental Health Ambassadors.

Ms van den Broek and I have been very busy this term, showing numerous prospective parents around the school. We get so many compliments about how well behaved and polite our children are; how well they engage in their learning and the calm, friendly, caring atmosphere the school has. It really is a pleasure doing school tours and we know our children are our best asset .

Thank you to everyone who came along and worked really hard for our Cool the School and Wildlife Area Dig Day last weekend.

**Rugby parking** – my thanks again to those of you who have kindly given up your time to cover the rugby parking. If you can spare a couple of hours to help out next weekend (28th & 29th Nov) for the new Northern & Southern hemispheres fixtures please contact the PTA team. This is a great money maker from outside funds. Your volunteering time is very much appreciated. Thank you.

Finally...(drum roll)..... Congratulations to **Yr 5B who won the Times Tables Rock Stars** in-house competition. 5B will dress up as Rock Stars for the day soon. Winning is one thing, but knowing your times tables fluently is more important. It is skill for life and one you will use regularly when you are all grown up!

I hope you all made the most of the inset day today and have a lovely weekend. Best wishes, Miss Lambe, Head Teacher

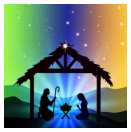
## Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Sat 21st Nov** | **All Day** | PTA Rugby Parking |
| **Tues 24th Nov** | **4.30pm—7.30pm** | Parent Teacher Consultations Yrs 1-5 |
| **Fri 27th Nov** | **9am or 2.40pm** | Phonics & Reading Session for Reception Parents |
| | **Eve** | PTA Parents' Wreath Making |
| **Sat & Sun 28th & 29th** | | PTA Rugby Finals Weekend Tournament Parking |
| **Fri 4th Dec** | **All Day** | PTA Christmas Activities Day |
| **Sun 6th Dec** | **11am** | Yrs 5 & 6 Junior Choir Singing at Orleans House Gallery |

## Nursery Photos

Nursery children have been given proofs of photographs that were taken on 5th November. **The deadline to order photos online is Sunday 29th November.**

## Christmas Production Tickets



Tickets have been sent out via the children for the Nursery & Reception Nativities, Years 1 & 2 Nativity and the Lessons and Carols for Years 3 & 4. Parents of children in Years 5 & 6 have been sent an email with a link to request tickets for their performances. Please note that the deadline for Years 5 & 6 parents to request tickets is **Monday 30th November**.

## Globe Players 'Rumpelstiltskin'

This will be the 50th consecutive year that The Globe Players have come into Archdeacon Cambridge's School to perform our annual Christmas Pantomime to children. This year they will be performing 'Rumpelstiltskin' to Reception—Year 6 Children. Parents are able to sign up their child and make the £2 payment for this festive activity through your Arbor account.

## Christmas Performances Crèche Booking

**A polite reminder that younger siblings and babies cannot attend the Christmas Performances.** The PTA and parents kindly hold a crèche for every performance (except evening Years 5 & 6 Performance on Thursday 10th December). Parents are able to book their younger sibling or baby into the crèche which is held in the Small Hall or Holy Trinity Church Crèche by emailing crèche@acpta.org.uk.

Please also see if you can offer to help out at another crèche when booking a place. Children, Staff and fellow parents are very grateful to parents for making alternative arrangements or booking crèche places for younger siblings or babies so that everyone can enjoy the Christmas Performances. Many thanks.

## Reception Phonics & Reading —Friday 27th November

We will be holding Phonics and Reading sessions for Reception Parents. **Parents can choose between 9am or 2.40pm on Friday 27th November** and have been sent a reply form to indicate which session they can attend.

## Year 5 Wellbeing Ambassadors, Ms Kraus writes:

Last week, a group of our Year 5 pupils attended **Wellbeing Ambassador Training** alongside children from other local schools, led by a Mental Health Professional from the NHS. During the day, they explored different ways to protect and promote positive wellbeing, learnt about factors that can affect our mental health, and discussed practical strategies for supporting ourselves and others.

We were incredibly proud of how enthusiastically they contributed to the discussions, sharing thoughtful ideas and suggestions for how we can continue to strengthen wellbeing at Archdeacon. Lily, Kitty, Charlie, Eeshar, Albert and Hunter represented the school brilliantly and returned full of ideas that they are excited to share with their peers. They will now join our Year 6 Wellbeing Ambassadors to help put these ideas into action across the school. Well done to all involved!

## Online Safety Habits

As we approach Christmas, we would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents of the importance of good online, safety habits especially during the holidays. This is particularly important if you are planning to purchase new devices for family use. Information can be found on our school website at Online Safety | Archdeacon Cambridge's Church of England Primary School (secure-primarysite.net) where you will find key online safety advice for parents, instructions on how to set up safety settings on a range of devices and suggestions for parental control software for use on mobile devices.

## Warm, Waterproof, Winter Coats

All children should now be bringing in warm, waterproof winter coats **with a hood** to school to wear at break and lunch time. Children will still be outside in the playgrounds in cold weather or light rain. Fashion coats (eg fake fur, denim, gillets and coats without hoods) do not provide children with warmth or rain protection.

## School Council Christmas Charity Fundraising

**Mrs. Jones writes:**

For our Christmas Performance Charity Fundraising this year, the children have voted and the School Council have chosen Fara and Battersea Dogs and Cats Home. Fara transforms lives of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people in Romania, giving them a sense of family. Battersea Dogs and Cats Home rescue, rehabilitate and rehome animals who need it most.

**We will be collecting cash donations after our performances and are very grateful for all donations to these charities**

FARA a family for those without

BATTERSEA

## Class Attendance

Congratulations to the following classes for the best attendance so far this term:

| | |
|---|---|
| 4T | 98.3% |
| 5S | 98.2% |
| 3M | 98.1% |

## Parent Questionnaire

We would be very grateful if all parents could return the following school parent questionnaire which can be found at the following link: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/ZAL7hALgbG. QR codes are also available during Years 1-5 Parent Consultations.

## Santa's Helpers



We are working with local community groups to support families in need with arranging Christmas presents this year. If you would like gifts for your children, please email the following address before Friday 4th December: santashelpers@archdeaconcambridges.richmond.sch.uk Please let us know your child(ren's) ages and classes. Requests will only be seen by the School Senior Leadership Team and will be handled in confidence. We will let you know when your gifts can be collected from the school.

## Autumn and Spring Term School Clubs

A reminder to parents that the Friday Clubs: Andy Scates Football Club for Years 1 & 2, Wild at Art for Year 2 and Basketball for Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6 will finish on **Friday 27th November** for the Autumn Term. All other clubs will finish during the **week commencing Monday 30th November**. Our club offering remains unchanged for the Spring Term 2026 and we will send out club and booking information week on Monday 30th November.

## Termly Contribution Reminder

Many thanks to parents who have contributed £12 or £15 to the Termly Contribution Fund on Arbor accounts. This termly contribution helps the school cover the cost of stationery and art materials for all children including include paper, pencils, pens, paint and workbooks. Parents are able to make payment on Arbor (under Activities/trips).

## Basketball Tournament, Mrs Renahan writes:



Year 5 put in an energetic performance at the Knights Basketball tournament today along with players from fourteen other local schools all competing for the coveted cup. The 4 on 4 games were short and fast-paced, but our players quickly found their rhythm and won their first game. The next two games were more challenging and these teams went on to top our group and played in the semi-finals, with East Sheen winning the tournament overall. Samuel, Beau, Connor and Zac were recognised by the Knights coaches as 'Rising Stars,' however all nine players representing Archdeacon had their moments of glory and showed excellent teamwork and respect for each other. It was a pleasure to accompany them and everyone enjoyed the event. Well done team!

## Christmas Lunch —Wednesday 16th December

On Wednesday 16th December, we will be holding our annual Christmas lunch for children in Reception—Year 6. Children who currently have a school lunch on Wednesdays will receive a traditional Christmas meal including Roast Turkey and all the trimmings on this day. Children who do not have school lunches on Wednesdays as we are able to offer a 'one off' Christmas meal on this day and there will be no charge to parents for this Christmas Lunch. Please return this form if your packed lunch child would like a School Lunch on Weds 16th December: Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 16th December 2026 – Fill in form Parents of children still bringing in a packed lunch on this day may like to include Christmas food in lunch boxes on this occasion.



## Borough Football Tournaments Report, Mr Bell writes:

Two weeks ago our Archdeacon Girls Football Team challenged the best in the Borough at the Teddington Lock Campus on a chilly but dry day. The girls got off to a slow start losing the first two games very narrowly having dominated possession. With a few tactical changes of positions and mindset in defence, the girls then went on a winning streak. They finished third in their pool which qualified the team into the Plate Competition. In the second round of games, the girls comprehensively defeated each side and finished top of the pool. This, therefore, put them through to the semi final. They brushed aside their opponents leaving just one game to go. With the sun gleaming off the trophy in the background, the girls continued their incredible run thoroughly outplaying their foe once again! The trophy was ours (theirs) for the first time in 11 years and the girls were a joy to be with the whole day. The energy and passion they have for the game is fantastic. We can feel secure knowing women's football is in very safe hands with the next generation.

Our Boys Year 6 Football Team enjoyed representing Archdeacon at the Borough Football tournament yesterday. Following torrential rain on Wednesday evening, spirits were not dampened! On the brown sticky quagmire of the Teddington Lock Campus our boys gallantly tried to play "proper football" in conditions not seen since 1970s black and white FA cup ties. Alas, the beautiful Archdeacon game was not best suited to the conditions, and goals and wins in the tournament were rare. The boys, regardless of the results, had a fantastic day out, played well as a team showing great sportsmanship and were a pleasure to be with all day.






# NEWS FROM THE PTA



It's that exciting time of the year with the arrival of the festive season. We kicked off the celebrations with our PTA Christmas Drinks at the Alexander Pope last Friday. It was wonderful to see such a great turnout from across the years, and a lovely evening was enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone who came along!

A huge thank you, too, to everyone who gave up a few hours of their weekend to volunteer at Rugby Parking and our *Cool the School* Dig Day. The Dig Day marked the start of our *Cool the School* campaign, with the first shade-creating planting projects taking place around the playground.

Rugby Parking on 8th and 14th November raised around £2,100! A massive thank you to Jen, Jack, Year 5 and Year 1 for their fantastic efforts in organising and volunteering.

Rugby Parking continues this weekend, with Year 2 taking the lead on Saturday, followed by a whole-school effort for the final matches of the year on 28th and 29th November. Please sign up to volunteer via Classlist if you can. Rugby Parking is one of our key fundraisers and makes a real difference to the opportunities and experiences we can provide for our children.

## WHAT'S COMING UP?

### Christmas Wreath Making, Friday 27th November, 7:15pm

Tickets for this annual festive favourite flew off the shelves, and the event is now sold out! If you'd like to join the waiting list, please email events@acpta.org.uk — we often have tickets become available as plans change. If you already have a ticket but can no longer attend, please let us know by email so we can offer your place to someone else.

This year's event is extra special, as we'll also be raising awareness and funds for our *Cool the School* campaign. We'll have a dedicated Mulled Wine & Mince Pie station to help raise funds for this important project, so please enjoy all that we have to offer and support this important cause!
*If you have your own secateurs and gardening gloves, please bring them along, as we'll have a limited number available to share.*

### What is *Cool the School*?

*Cool the School* is our campaign to help our school prepare for rising summer temperatures. From planting greenery to installing awnings, solar film and shade sails, we're working towards making our school a cooler, more comfortable place for our children.

## PTA Christmas Activity Day, Friday 4th December (school hours)

*Sponsored by DJF Loft Conversions (www.djfloftconversions.co.uk)*
A magical day of festive fun where all children get to visit Santa in his Grotto as well as Elfridges, our family present stall, where children can choose a special gift to take home for a loved one.
Please note that this event takes place during the school day and is for pupils only. Unfortunately, parents, carers and younger siblings are unable to attend.
**Our suggested donation is £6 per child.** This special day relies on your generous support, so please head to Classlist to book your child's ticket and make your donation: https://app.classlist.com/s/9FF1NN.

### Donations wanted for Elfridges, our Family Present Stall!

To make our Family Present Stall a success, we need your donations **now**!
If you have any lovely **NEW or unused gifts** tucked away that could use a new home, we'd love to have them. Think smellies, make up, socks, scarves, toys, gadgets, books and little treats.
We need to cater for everyone: mums, dads, grandparents, babies, toddlers and teenagers.
Please only donate things that are genuinely lovely enough to give as a present.



**Simply drop your contributions at the school office**, where you'll find a large Christmas-wrapped box labelled *Family Presents*.

We'd also gratefully welcome monetary donations or Amazon gift cards to help us purchase additional gifts and wrapping paper.

## Support our PTA by making a one-off donation

Every donation, big or small, helps us do more for our school community. If you'd like to support the PTA, you can make a one-off donation of any amount via Classlist:

https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/1506590892

## Christmas Gift Idea!

Looking for a lovely Christmas gift? Our school prints and tea towels make wonderful presents for family and friends! Pop into the school office to see an example, then visit the link below if you'd like to purchase one for yourself or as a gift:

https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/1531880932

## Dates for the diary:

21st November - Rugby Parking, year 2 responsibility, please sign up via Classlist now
27th November – Christmas Wreath Making
28th & 29th November - Rugby Parking, North/South Hemisphere Finals Weekend, please sign up via Classlist now
4th December - Christmas Activity Day (set up evening of 3rd December)
15th December - Christmas Movie Night - tickets will be available via Classlist next week



Thank you for your support as always,

Your PTA x

