

OCTOBER LETTER

This is a text only version of the multimedia newsletter sent out to parents through SeeSaw. As such it doesn't contain all the information and formatting you will find in the original. The information is reproduced here for reference. If you have deleted your SeeSaw link to the original letter, please contact secretary@ckis.org.uk

Welcome to our termly newsletter. What a busy first term it has been with children settling into their new classes and harvest festivals to enjoy. It has been wonderful to see so many happy, smiling faces as I have been walking around the school and I am sure the children are now ready for a well-deserved rest over half term.

Our newsletter is here to provide key messages from the school. At the end of the letter I have included upcoming dates. Please keep an eye out for announcements on SeeSaw regarding specific year group events.

Our school values really matter to us, and they inform the staff in everything that we do. This new format newsletter is structured around these values. As we learn, this format may change over the year.

As we often remind the children, mistakes are part of learning, and you can never be sure if something will work until you try!

Your feedback is always appreciated.

Children and community at the centre

We will start with a huge thank you to both Sacred Hearts and the Charlton Kings Baptist church for welcoming us for our harvest festival. It is always so special to spend time with the children in the local area. The year two children have enjoyed their visit to St Mary's Church as part of our RE curriculum. Paul from the Baptist Church has been in to visit our children in assembly and we have been lucky to be joined by our 'Open the Book' team sharing Bible stories with the children.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Mrs Peacock (Edie and Iris' mum) who has been coming in to teach dance to our reception children. Below is an introduction from the women herself and some further information regarding Sunshine Dance!

Hi, I'm Mrs Peacock from Sunshine Dance and Wellbeing. I've visited the fabulous Reception children at CKIS each week this term and it has been great to see their confidence grow. We've been busy dancing to a range of music, improving our gross motor skills and using lots of engaging props as well as using mindfulness techniques to help with emotional regulation. Please feel free to keep up-to-date with local Dance & Wellbeing events in the community on our social media pages (Search for "Sunshine Dance and Wellbeing) or visit bookwhen.com/sunshinedanceandwellbeing to find out when our next session is. Keep an eye out for a half term special - suitable for ages 2-7 years. Thank you! 🌻

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Please see our [community](#) page on our website for information regarding upcoming events in Charlton Kings. We also have a [Parents Advice Point](#) where you can find access to support services and general parenting information.

Kindness and consideration for all

Being kind to our neighbours

We have ongoing concerns about parking and driver behaviour during drop-off and collection times. Over recent weeks, the school has received numerous separate complaints from members of the public about dangerous and illegal parking by some drivers associated with our school community. Whilst I do not have any jurisdiction on the road outside school or hold any responsibility for the driving and behaviour of parents outside of school grounds, I do believe we do have a collective responsibility in our community. These incidents reflect poorly on the school and, more importantly, place our children and other road users at risk. The local police have been made aware of the situation and have already visited the area to assess it. They will continue to monitor parking and driving around the school and may take enforcement action where necessary. We understand that parking near the school can be challenging, particularly at busy times. However, I must ask everyone to take personal responsibility for ensuring that our pupils' safety remains the top priority and that we continue to show respect and consideration to our neighbours and one another.

Please make sure to:

- Park legally and safely, avoiding junctions, driveways, and pedestrian crossings.
- Keep pavements and access routes clear for pedestrians, pushchairs, and wheelchair users.
- Treat staff, residents, and fellow parents courteously always.

We are always open to constructive suggestions about how we can improve the situation. We would very much welcome any realistic ideas that could help ease congestion and improve safety for everyone. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

If you do have to drive to school, we have a useful '[Walk and Stride](#)' map with locations where you can park a little further away and have short walk to school.

Guidance for using our learning platform

Our SeeSaw platform offers families access to all the exciting things happening in their children's classroom and information about upcoming events.

Our teachers are available to be contacted through the platform. It has come to my attention that some teachers have, sadly, received inappropriate messages from parents. In the interest of keeping this wonderful resource available to all I feel it would be useful to provide a simple list of 'dos and don'ts' for SeeSaw.

Do –

- Share photos or news of exciting events from home for us to see in school
- Comment on the learning that the teachers are sharing
- Send polite non-urgent enquiries

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Don't –

- Use SeeSaw to raise significant concerns – instead please email secretary@ckis.org.uk
- Send messages that require a response or action within a certain period
- Share any content (images or text) outside of the platform

Inspirational learning that challenges and excites

We have had a fantastic first term, full of learning and fun. Please look through our photo stack to see a small sample of the amazing activities our wonderful teachers have provided for us! The staff regularly share updates from the week on SeeSaw so remember to keep an eye on your child's SeeSaw account.

Striving to reach our true potential

Our website contains detailed information regarding our CKIS curriculum. We are passionate about children reaching their true potential and we know how important working with parents and families is in achieving this. The 'Learning leaves' on the curriculum pages provide a child friendly overview of the learning in each subject this term. These can be great for discussing learning at home.

If you have concerns regarding the progress of your child, please contact your class teacher/s as these are always best addressed by working together. We will have parents evenings shortly after half term and look forward to seeing you then.

Please remember to keep up the regular home reading - there really isn't a single more valuable thing you can do to help your child succeed at school. Our weekly 'Reading Champions' are always so proud.

We are also proud of our fantastic catering team for achieving five stars in their recent visit from the environmental health officer! The children (and staff) are so lucky to have such fantastic food every day.

We Are Scientists

At CKIS our science curriculum has been recognised and awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark by the University of Hertfordshire. Well done, Mrs Fox and to all our fantastic scientists!

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 22nd October 2025 - End of Term 1

Thursday 23rd October 2025 - Inset Day

Friday 24th October 2025 - Inset Day

Monday 3rd November 2025 - Start of Term 2

Monday 3rd November 2025 - Wonderdome here for YR children

Wednesday 5th November 2025 - Open morning for new parents

Wednesday 5th November 2025 - Parents Evening

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Thursday 6th November 2025 - Shoe box collection day

Thursday 6th November 2025 - Parents Evening

Wednesday 12th November 2025 - Magenta Class Assembly to parents

Friday 14th November 2025 - Children in Need

Wednesday 19th November 2025 - Violet Class Assembly to parents

Friday 21st November 2025 - Open morning for new parents

Wednesday 26th November 2025 - Indigo Class Assembly to parents

Friday 28th November 2025 - PFA Coffee Morning

Friday 5th December 2025 - Christmas Pantomime

Tuesday 9th December 2025 - YR Nativity

Thursday 11th December 2025 - YR Nativity

Thursday 11th December 2025 - Christmas Lunch

Thursday 11th December 2025 - Christmas Story Night

Wednesday 17th December 2025 - Christmas Wednesday Wander

Thursday 18th December 2025 - YR1 and YR2 Carols at St Marys

Friday 19th December 2025 - Father Christmas in school

Friday 19th December 2025 - YR1 and YR2 Carols at St Marys

Friday 19th December 2025 - End of Term 2

Monday 5th January 2026 - Start of Term 3

Friday 23rd January 2026 - Non-Uniform Day

Wednesday 28th January 2026 - Orange Class Assembly to parents

Wednesday 4th February 2026 - Purple Class Assembly to parents

Tuesday 10th February 2026 - Height, weight and vision check for YR

Wednesday 11th February 2026 - Height, weight and vision check for YR

Wednesday 11th February 2026 - Green Class Assembly to parents

Friday 13th February 2026 - End of Term 3

Monday 23rd February 2026 - Start of Term 4