



Upcoming dates:

Monday 14th October

- Year 1 Open Classrooms – 2.45pm

Tuesday 15th October

- Reading Beyond Phonics (Years 3 – 6) workshop for parents/carers, 9.15am at school

Wednesday 16th October

- Inclusion coffee morning, 9am at school
- Year 2 Open Classrooms – 2.45pm

Tuesday 22nd October

- Reception Open Classrooms – 2.45pm
- Parent Gym taster session, 2 – 3pm at school
- **NEW:** ARC Magnolia Parent/Carer Evening (no meetings on Thursday 24th)

Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th October

- Parent/Carer Evenings to meet with teachers, 3.45 – 6.30pm

Thursday 24th October

- **Reminder:** NHS flu vaccinations in school – parents/carers need to contact NHS directly to accept or decline the vaccination

Friday 25th October

- PTA discos for children after school

Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November

- **School closed** – half term holiday
- Childcare available on site [Click here for details and to book](#)

Monday 4th November

- **School closed** – INSET day

Tuesday 5th November

- Children's first day back, start and finish at the usual times

Wednesday 6th November

- Poet Karl Nova in school with Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 (postponed from October)

Thursday 7th November

- **NEW:** PTA meeting, 7pm at school – everyone welcome

Tuesday 12th November

- **NEW:** Individual and sibling group photographs taken in school, QR code will be sent home if you wish to purchase copies



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

I've really enjoyed getting feedback from so many of you at the headteacher forums recently. If you haven't been able to attend and would like to share your ideas and thoughts, please complete this short survey [Parent/Carer Feedback October 2024](#) by 25th October.

A topic that has come up consistently is parent/carer (and staff!) concerns over smartphones; the effect on children's emotions, relationships and mental health as well as exposure to risks online and in the real world. I have discussed this with the governors and as a school, **we are strongly in support of a 'Smartphone Free Childhood'**. There have been great successes around the country when all families join together to delay smartphone use by children – by doing it together the 'pester power' of "everyone else has one" can be a thing of the past. Please do share your views on the survey below and have a great weekend.

Sarah Atherton
Headteacher



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Parent & carer survey to gather opinions on children owning and using smartphones

Hello,

We're writing today as part of the [Smartphone Free Childhood](#) campaign to invite you to take part in a short survey to gauge wider opinion on children owning smartphones.

We are conscious that this can be a controversial subject and that everyone wants to do what's best for their children. You may already know your stance and we're certainly not trying to overrule personal decisions. However, unequivocal research is finding that despite all the benefits of keeping in touch, young people's mental health and wellbeing is increasingly being damaged by smartphone usage. A [global study](#) produced last year found a strong link between the age a child first starts using a phone/tablet and their mental health as young adults.

With this in mind, we would like to be proactive as a community and take steps to help protect and support our children while we still can. We are mindful that this technology is here to stay, and it does present many benefits and opportunities, so we are keen to ensure our children navigate and engage with it in a positive way.

The **survey should only take 5 minutes and is completely anonymous**. We would like to hear your views and appreciate and thank you for your time in completing it. <https://forms.gle/8vpi1DqoY49qb81v8>

We will share a full report of the survey findings and proposed next steps as soon as possible.

Best wishes

Nicki Doyle, Kath Myers, Elle Whiteley

(on behalf of the Smartphone Free Churchfields WhatsApp group*)

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>



What have we been learning about in assembly?



Last week, we celebrated national poetry day and this week we have been learning about UK Black History month. Akyaba Addai-Sebo came to the UK from Ghana in 1984 as a refugee and, like Carter G. Woodson who started the American Black History Month, his aim was for the local community to challenge racism and educate themselves and others about the British history and contribution of black people that was not taught in schools. We learned about the life of Walter Tull from Kent, the professional footballer who became the first Black British officer to lead troops onto the front line in World War 1.

100 years after he became a professional footballer at Spurs, their fan magazine said: 'Walter Tull's brief but incredible existence continues to serve as an inspiration to a whole new generation as they discover a tale of bravery and fortitude that deserves to be re-told and cherished. Because Walter was a true hero.'

Next week's theme: Recycle Week

Workshops	Coffee Mornings	Parent/Carer Forums
<i>Find out how we teach and how you can support your child to succeed.</i>	<i>Informal meetings with a range of leaders and guest speakers – at school, 9am.</i>	<i>Ask questions and share your views in an informal meeting with the Headteacher at school.</i>
Reading beyond phonics (Years 3 – 6) 15.10.24 - 9.15am at school	Inclusion/SEND 16.10.24 27.11.24	Open forum – any topic 25.11.24, 2pm 24.01.25, 9am NEW: 13.03.25, 9am
Helping your child manage their emotions with Zones of Regulation 13.11.24 – 9.15am at school	ARC 11.12.24 NEW: 05.02.25	Inclusion/SEND forum 18.11.24, 2pm 29.01.25, 9am NEW: 21.03.25, 9am
	Early Years (Nursery and Reception) 13.11.24 15.12.25	

With all of our busy lives, we know it's not possible to make all meetings available to all parents/carers – we aim to provide the content on our website and/or provide a summary in the next newsletter if you cannot attend.

We also regularly send surveys to families so you can share your views and ideas.



School Council - Making a Difference

There are just **6 days left** to donate to the Harvest Festival collection, all donations will go to Living Well Bromley – we will send out donations on **18th October**.



Last year's school council collected and gave feedback to the school caterers on what the children would like to see on the menu.

The **new menu** includes nearly all of their suggestions (but no sushi unfortunately), including: Taco Tuesdays, Build a Burger, macaroni cheese and 'big fish' not fish fingers on Fridays.

Look out for special theme days as well!

School council have organised two exciting visitors for **UK Parliament Week** to come to our school.

Liam Conlon MP will be hosting a special assembly for Years 3 – 6 on Monday 18th and the Mayor of Bromley will be visiting on Tuesday 19th November.

School councillors are collecting questions from their classmates now!



On **Friday 15th November**, school council are organising a **non-uniform day** to raise money for Children in Need.

More details to follow.



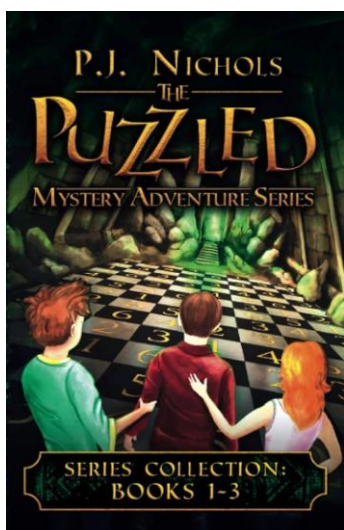
Sports News



Congratulations to our **netball team** who played in their first ever competition when they entered the borough tournament against 30 other teams from 23 schools. Our team showed fantastic skill and teamwork as they beat teams from Scotts Park, Leasons Hill, Balgowan and St Peter and St Paul to win their group and make it to the quarter finals where they lost to a skilled (and very tall) Oak Lodge team. Well done to all of the players!

Our Boys A and Boys B **football teams** played against Marian Vian at home on Thursday, both teams played well but lost to the local rivals – better luck for the re-match!

Birthday Book Donations



Thank you and happy birthday to Milo – 3 books in one!



Look out for the birthday books in the libraries with a new holographic sticker!

We really appreciate the birthday books that come into school to keep our libraries fresh and exciting – they can be new or one of your favourites from home.



Can you spare some time? Reading volunteers needed



Could you (or any adult family member) spare an hour each week to hear children in our school read?

Last year, we were lucky enough to have a fantastic team of parents who came into school to hear readers from Reception to Year 6. We'd love to hear from you if you would like to help this year.

Volunteers come into school for approximately one hour in the afternoon and we can work around your availability. Training and support on what to do is provided and all help is **hugely** appreciated.

If you are interested, please email admin@churchfields.q1e.org.uk and let us know:

- Your name and best contact email address
- Your children's class/es (we try to place you in a different year group if possible)
- Your availability in the afternoons
- Whether you have volunteered before and attended the zoom training session
- Whether we have previously issued a DBS for you to be a reading volunteer, if not, we can apply for one for you





Churchfields News



Quality First
Education Trust

Churchfields Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4QY Tel: 020 86505247

Class Assemblies 2024/25

Class assemblies will be held in the school's Main Hall, starting promptly at 2.45pm.

Autumn Term

19.11.24 Year 6 Elm
26.11.24 Year 6 Oak

Spring Term

14.01.25 Year 5 Olive
21.01.25 Year 5 Cypress
28.01.25 Year 5 Cherry
04.02.25 Year 4 Aspen
04.03.25 Year 4 Hazel
11.03.25 Year 4 Sycamore
18.03.25 Year 3 Poplar
25.03.25 Year 3 Sumac

Summer Term

06.05.25 Year 2 Hickory
13.05.25 Year 2 Maple
10.06.25 Year 1 Rowan
17.06.25 Year 1 Silver Birch
24.06.25 Reception Palm
01.07.25 Reception Beech

Open Classrooms 2024/25

Come along to the classroom at 2.45pm so the children can show off their learning and work.

Autumn Term

14.10.24 Year 1
16.10.24 Year 2
22.10.24 Reception

Spring term

22.01.25 Reception
27.01.25 Year 1
29.01.25 Year 2
30.01.25 Year 3
03.02.25 Year 5
05.02.25 Year 4
06.02.25 Year 6

Summer Term

05.06.25 Year 6
09.06.25 Reception
12.06.25 Year 1
16.06.25 Year 2
18.06.25 Year 3
19.06.25 Year 4
23.06.25 Year 5

Apple class, ARC Holly and ARC Magnolia will write to you separately about when the children will share their learning with you.

Parent/Carer Evenings 2024/25

Autumn term

Wednesday 23rd October, 3.45 – 6.30pm
Thursday 24th October, 3.45 – 6.30pm

Spring term

Wednesday 12th February, 3.45 – 6.30pm
Thursday 13th February, 3.45 – 6.30pm

Summer term

Wednesday 16th July, 3.45 – 5.30pm

Please note – in the summer term you will receive your child's end of year report before the parent/carers evening.

Special Events 2024/25

- Christmas concerts:
 - Reception: Tuesday 17th December, 9.30am in Main Hall at school
 - Years 1, 2, 3: Monday 16th December, 2pm at St Michael's Church
 - Years 4, 5, 6: Tuesday 17th December, 2pm at St Michael's Church
- World Book day: Thursday 6th March
- Churchfields Culture Celebration Week: Monday 31st March – Friday 4th April
- Sports days on school field:
 - Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and ARC Holly on Friday 23rd May, 9 – 11am
 - Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6 and ARC Magnolia on Friday 13th June, 9 – 11am



parentgym

Sign up for six weeks of free parenting workshops

Have happier
and more
confident child

Get your
children to open
up and talk
more

Feel calmer
and have more
fun time with
your family

"No matter whether you are acing this parenting game or feel like you are struggling, there are ideas and learnings and sharing opportunities. So grateful to have had access to this resource, so a big thank you to both Parent Gym and my school."

Limited places

Worth £1000 per parent,
available free of charge.



Churchfields News



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Parent Gym is coming to Churchfields



We know from talking with parents and carers that many of you wonder what you can do to give your children the best start in life (and make your life as a parent/carer a bit easier too).

This is why we're delighted to offer Parent Gym, a well-established, six-week programme that shares and explores practical tips and strategies to make family life easier and help your children thrive. The sessions are run by a trained parenting coach from Parent Gym.

All parents and carers are welcome to apply and places will be filled on a first come first served basis. Through our relationship with Parent Gym, the programme is free of charge to you.

Each weekly session lasts two hours, and will take place in Juniper Room (refreshments available) on Tuesdays as below:

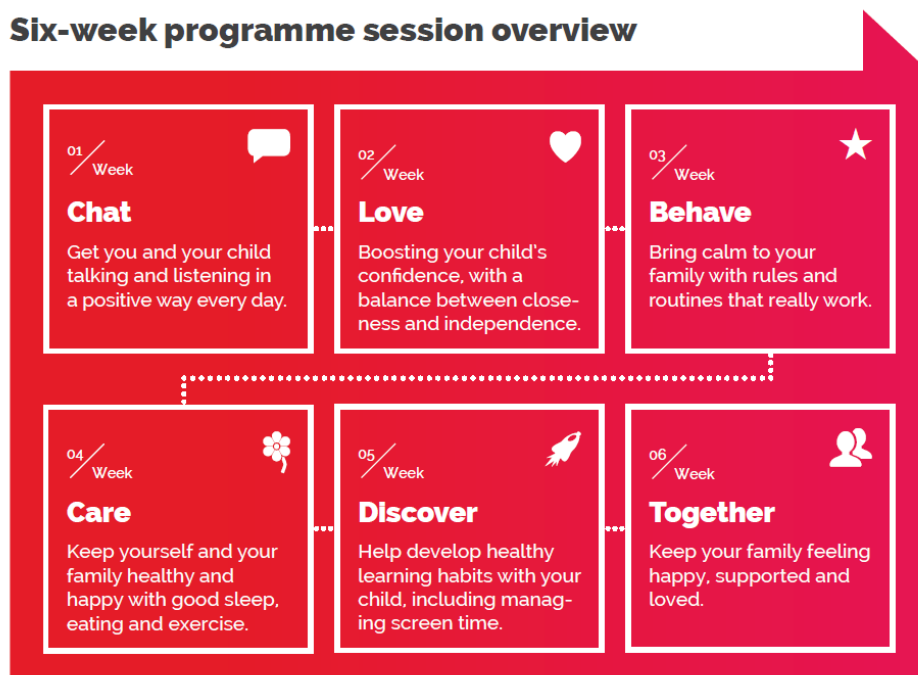
- 22nd October, 2.15 – 3.00pm: Taster (45 mins) – meet the coach, find out about the sessions
- 5th November, 1 – 3pm: Chat (2 hours)
- 12th November, 1 – 3pm: Love (2 hours)
- 19th November, 1 – 3pm: Behave (2 hours)
- 26th November, 1 – 3pm: Care (2 hours)
- 3rd December, 1 – 3pm: Discover (2 hours)
- 10th December, 1 – 3pm: Together (2 hours)

Want to know more? There is a short online video [CLICK HERE](#) or contact Miss McAndrew at school lisa.mcandrew@churchfields.q1e.org.uk

To confirm your place, please register on this link [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

If we have high demand and run out of places, we will look to run another course in the new year.

Six-week programme session overview





Churchfields News



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South London
Children and Young
People's Community
Immunisation Service

Protect your child from flu this winter!



The Bromley School Immunisation team
will be visiting your child's school soon



For more information
on the Children's Flu
vaccine, search:
"NHS Children's Flu"

Scan the QR code to
complete the Flu
consent form

Contact the Bexley
School Immunisation
team on: 020 3903 3375



We are part of the Penge School Uniform Hub

Penge School Uniform Hub



Save money and the planet: buy preloved uniform!

**Sense charity shop,
104 High Street, Penge
(next to the Post Office)**

General uniform suitable for all schools available, as well as specifics for Alexandra, St John's and Churchfields Schools, with more coming soon!

Open Mon-Sat 9am-5pm,
Sun 10am-4pm

Organised by Alexandra Junior School PTFA.
For more info, contact: treasurer@ajsptfa.org.uk
Supported by Penge BID



Penge School Uniform Hub!

Pre-loved Churchfields school uniform in sizes age 2 to 15 is now available 7 days a week from the Sense charity shop on Penge High Street. 100s of items in stock - so much it won't all fit on the shop floor, so please ask if you cannot find the size you need. **Dresses, skirts, trousers, shorts, jumpers and cardigans all £1. Polos shirts 50p.** This new collaboration between Sense Penge and multiple local primary schools means that parents now have a single one-stop-shop to find affordable second-hand school uniform for their primary age children.
All proceeds to the Sense charity.



Churchfields News



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Term Dates 2024/25

Autumn Term 2024	Monday 2nd September 2024	INSET – school closed to children
	Tuesday 3rd September 2024	INSET – school closed to children
	Wednesday 4 th September 2024	Children's first day back – Autumn 1
	Friday 25 th October 2024	Last day of Autumn 1
	Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024	Half Term Holidays
	Monday 4th November 2024	INSET – school closed to children
	Tuesday 5 th November 2024	Children's first day back – Autumn 2
	Friday 20 th December 2024	Last day of Autumn 2
	Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025	Holidays
Spring Term 2025	Monday 6th January 2025	INSET – school closed to children
	Tuesday 7 th January 2025	Children's first day back – Spring 1
	Friday 14 th February 2025	Last day of Spring 1
	Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2025	Half Term Holidays
	Monday 24 th February 2025	Children's first day back – Spring 2
	Friday 4 th April 2025	Last day of Spring 2
	Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2025	Holidays
Summer Term 2025	Tuesday 22nd April 2025	INSET – school closed to children
	Wednesday 23 rd April 2025	Children's first day back – Summer 1
	Monday 5th May 2025	School closed – Bank Holiday
	Friday 23 rd May 2025	Last day of Summer 1
	Monday 26th to Friday 30th May 2025	Half Term Holidays
	Monday 2 nd June 2025	Children's first day back – Summer 2
	Tuesday 22 nd July 2025	Last day of Summer 2 – finish at 1.30pm, After School Club until 4pm



Churchfields News



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Education Trust

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Term Dates 2025/26

Autumn Term 2025	Monday 1st September 2025	INSET – school closed to children
	Tuesday 2nd September 2025	INSET – school closed to children
	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025	Children's first day back – Autumn 1
	Friday 24 th October 2025	Last day of Autumn 1
	Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025	Half Term Holidays
	Monday 3rd November 2025	INSET – school closed to children
	Tuesday 4 th November 2025	Children's first day back – Autumn 2
	Friday 19 th December 2025	Last day of Autumn 2
	Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 2026	Holidays
Spring Term 2026	Monday 5th January 2026	INSET – school closed to children
	Tuesday 6 th January 2026	Children's first day back – Spring 1
	Friday 13 th February 2026	Last day of Spring 1
	Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026	Half Term Holidays
	Monday 23 rd February 2026	Children's first day back – Spring 2
	Friday 27 th March 2026	Last day of Spring 2
	Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026	Holidays
Summer Term 2026	Monday 13th April 2026	INSET – school closed to children
	Tuesday 14 th April 2026	Children's first day back – Summer 1
	Monday 4th May 2026	School closed – Bank Holiday
	Friday 22 nd May 2026	Last day of Summer 1
	Monday 25th to Friday 29th May 2026	Half Term Holidays
	Monday 1 st June 2026	Children's first day back – Summer 2
	Friday 17 th July 2026	Last day of Summer 2 – finish at 1.30pm, After School Club until 4pm