

Friday, 20th December 2024



Headteacher's Welcome

Merry Christmas to our CSPA school family! This week has certainly been a Christmassy one with the Year 4 Nativity, the Year 3 Christmas Party, plenty of Christmas crafts and Christmas music filling the classrooms and corridors. The Year 4 Nativity of 'Straw and Order' was a particular highlight. The Year 4 children were magnificent and I would like to extend my thanks to Mrs Valentine and the Year 4 team for supporting and encouraging them to create such wonderful performances. You can read more later and enjoy some lovely photographs too.

In our last Christmas Collective Worship yesterday, we thought about love, peace, joy and hope through the Christmas story and how those messages

embody the true meaning of Christmas. We embrace these themes as our own at this festive time and at every time through life at CSPA by nurturing love in our hearts, sharing moments of joy, showing peace and understanding and always having hope and inspiration.

We also gave thanks to our school family. To our CSPA parents - thank you for your support and trust. Thank you for working with us in partnership to benefit the children and our school. Thank you to our CSPA governors for their dedication and commitment in navigating our journey of stability and improvement. To our wonderful CSPA staff who work so very hard with passion and unwavering diligence. I am immensely proud to lead such a fantastic team who give their all to CSPA. Lastly, thank you to the children - the heart of CSPA. Your energy and enthusiasm inspires us all!

I wish you all a Christmas filled with love, joy, peace and hope. Have a well-deserved rest and a happy time.

See you on Tuesday, 7th January.

Best wishes

Mrs Alburg

Key items:

- Class assemblies reminder
- PTA News



<https://www.cspacademy.org.uk/>



Welcome to

Chalfont St Peter CofE Academy

At Chalfont St Peter CofE Academy we have high expectations of our children and set challenging targets for them. Every child is encouraged to reach their full potential and we recognise that every child is special and has their own contributions to make.

[ABOUT US](#)



Admissions



Calendar



CSPA School Video

Reasons to choose us

"Pupils' behaviour and attitudes to learning are exceptional. Pupils are confident ambassadors for their school" - Ofsted 2019

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Go to Settings to activate Windows.

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CSPA Facebook



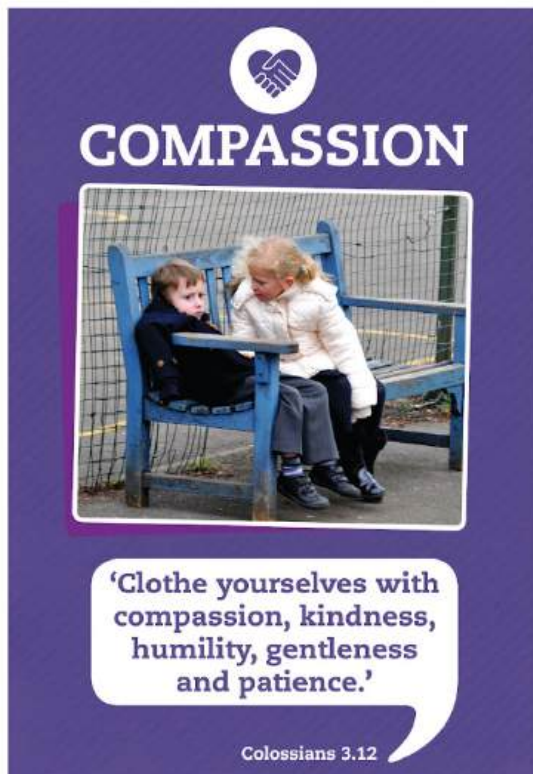
CSPA Twitter



CSPA Instagram

Our half term value:

This half term we will be focussing in school on the value
COMPASSION



COMPASSION

'Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.'

Colossians 3.12



QUOTES & QUESTIONS

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. (Aesop)

No one has ever become poor by giving. (From the Diary of Anne Frank)

Have you shown an act of kindness today?

Can you explain what Anne Frank means?

If you want others to be happy, practise compassion. If you want to be happy, practise compassion. (Dalai Lama)

Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness. (Seneca, a Roman philosopher)

How does practising compassion make you happy?

Do you think of everyone you meet as offering an opportunity to be kind?

Sharing success in the local community

Jesus said *'I have come that you may have life in all its fullness'* (John 10:10). He calls us to a full life in mind, body, heart and spirit. At CSPA, we believe the purpose of education is to nurture and enable every child to thrive and to be the person they are fully capable of being. We are proud of what our children achieve, not only in school but outside of school too!

If your child achieves success in the community we would love to hear about it. Please email a summary and any photographs to the School Office to feature here.



This term, Emi In Year 3 has participated in the Club Championships with Amersham Swim Club. In her age category (8 and under) she came 1st in the 25m Freestyle, 2nd in the 25m Backstroke and 2nd in the 25m Breaststroke. She currently trains three times a week with them and wants to go to the olympics one day!



She also achieved distinction in her grade 1 ballet.

Well done Emi!





Golden Rule

The one rule for all of us in school is:

*Everyone will act with gentleness
and respect to others at all times.*

*We will keep ourselves
and others safe.*

Chocolate Treat Friday!

Every Friday staff recognise 1 child in each class who has **consistently shown the Golden Rule and been a Values Champion** throughout the week. The chosen child receives a chocolate treat, a certificate from Mrs Alburg and a HUGE round of applause in Collective Worship.

Chocolate Treat Friday will return in January.

Achievement Awards

Congratulations to the following children who received Achievement Awards in

December.

Diamond:

Year 3 - Erin P, Lila M, Monroe R

Year 4 - Evie C, Casper P, Cameron R

Year 5 - William J, Leon P, Pearl W

Year 6 - Esther B, William H, Juliet B

Golden:

Year 3 - Dylan M, Seeraht S

Year 4 - Cooper C, Charlotte E

Year 5 - Callum R, Annabel BS

Year 6 - Dhrithi G, Elliot L

Housepoints - Hampden

Year 4 Nativity - 'Straw and Order'

The Year 4's put on a magical performance of their nativity 'Straw and Order' this week. They all sang, acted and presented their lines with confidence and great enthusiasm. Thank you to parents who supported us by providing costumes and helping with the learning of lines.

The Year 4 teachers are all very proud of the children.

Mrs Valentine









Year 3 Iron Man Artwork

We finished the book and they created working their interpretations of the Space Bat Angel Dragon in the last chapter of the book.

Miss Gilbert





Top Tips for Safety Online during the Christmas period

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerningly common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling' – trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of aimlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising or a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime, they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet those goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day when they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox' – from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or it could cut out for you too. Encouraging social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important, set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

Meet Our Expert

John Insley is a senior leader in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 16 years – including the development of computing curriculums across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.



For more social media safety guides, please visit <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/top-tips-for-safety-on-social-media>

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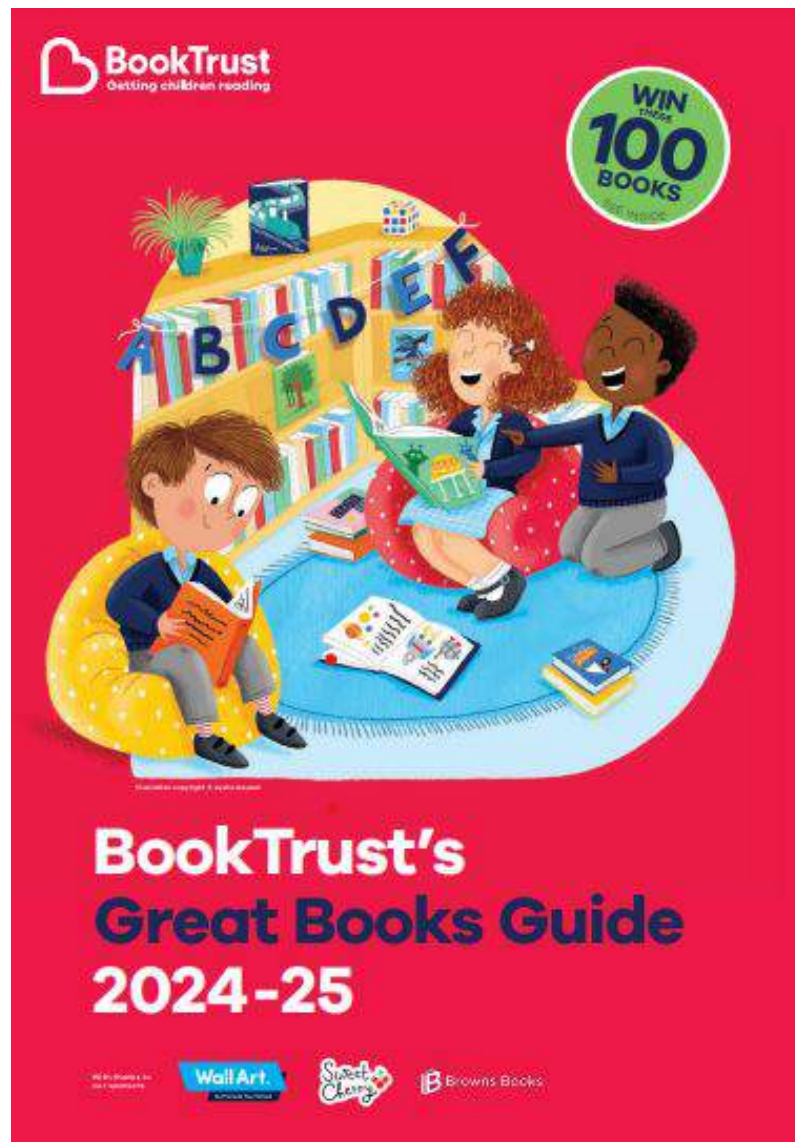
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Buy a book for Christmas!

Go to the link below to see a wonderful selection of children's books from Book Trust's Great Book Guide for 2024 - 25.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/globalassets/resources/great-books-guide/2024/booktrust-great-books-guide-2024-browns-compressed.pdf>



Class Assemblies

We are delighted to share plans welcoming you to join some of our CSPA assemblies and collective worship. Throughout the school year, every class and

their teacher/s will be creating and presenting an assembly to the rest of their year group and you are invited to come into school and watch your child's class assembly. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to showcase their learning, build their confidence and experience performing and presenting in front of others. We are thrilled to be opening our doors and welcoming parents into school for another chance to be part of your child's CSPA journey, build positive relationships and engage with our whole school community.

The class assemblies will be on Fridays starting promptly at 9:10am and finishing at 9:30am. You are welcome to arrive at 9am. The assembly will be shared in our school hall.

To give you prior notice, the dates of each class assembly are shared below:

Friday 24th January 2025: Year 6 Class 11

Friday 31st January 2025: Year 5 Class 7

Friday 7th February 2025: Year 4 Class 4

Friday 7th March 2025: Year 3 Class 1

Friday 28th March 2025: Year 6 Class 12

Friday 2nd May 2025: Year 5 Class 9

Friday 23rd May 2025: Year 4 Class 6

Friday 20th June 2025: Year 3 Class 2

Friday 11th July 2025: Year 6 Class 10

To ensure that we do not exceed the hall's capacity and be compliant with fire regulations, we ask that a maximum of two members of each family attend the assembly. Siblings not of school age can attend but will need to sit on adults' laps. There is no need to register your attendance, please just arrive at 9am via the school office. Please note that the rest of the school will have the opportunity to also enjoy the assembly at a later time that morning.

We look forward to seeing you and welcoming you to our class assemblies.



What to do if your child is ill or absent from school

To report an absence from school, an email must be sent on each day of absence to absent@cspacademy.org.uk

To request a planned absence from school, [CLICK HERE](#) to complete an online Google form. Forms can also be located under the 'parents' tab on our school website www.cspacademy.org.uk



PTA News

Watch this space for PTA news as we approach our fundraising target! Have an idea of what you would like the PTA to purchase for the children? Come along to the next meeting to share your ideas!!



Upcoming dates:

DATE	EVENT	TIME	YEAR GROUP
Fri 20 Dec	School closes at the earlier time of 1.30 pm for Christmas holidays	1.30 pm	ALL
Tues 7 Jan	School reopens		ALL



SAVE THE DATES:

Friday, 28th February 2025 - PTA Quiz and Curry Night

[Click here](#) to view the full school calendar

[Click here](#) to access the extra curriculum timetable

[Click here](#) to access term dates for 2023/24

Community Events

Please note that Chalfont St Peter Church of England Academy does not accept any responsibility for advertised community events, nor do we endorse them.

Dear Heavenly Father,

As we gather together in this special time of Christmas, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude. We thank You for the gift of love that surrounds us in our school community, for the friendships we cherish, and for the support we share.

We also ask for hope to fill our hearts. In a world that can sometimes feel uncertain, let us hold on to the promise of brighter days ahead. May we be beacons of hope for one another, encouraging each other to dream big and strive for our goals.

Lord, we pray for peace to reign in our hearts and in our school. Help us to foster an environment where understanding and respect flourish, where every pupil feels safe and valued.

May our laughter and smiles be a reflection of the joy that comes from knowing You.

In Your Holy Name, we pray,

Amen.



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