



Points to note:

Monday 30th October

- INSET day – school closed to children

Tuesday 31st October

- First day of Autumn 2 term – school open at usual times

Wednesday 1st November

- **Rescheduled date:** Year 5 Open Classroom, 2.45pm

Friday 4th November

- Year 4, 5 and 6 swimming trials

Monday 6th November

- **Rescheduled date:** Year 3 Open Classroom, 2.45pm

Tuesday 7th November

- Year 6 Elm class assembly, 2.45pm in Main Hall

Wednesday 8th November

- **Rescheduled date:** Year 1 Open Classroom, 2.45pm

Thursday 9th November

- Individual and sibling group school photographs

Monday 13th – Friday 17th November

- Anti-Bullying Week

Tuesday 14th November

- **New:** Year 4, 5 and 6 Swimming Gala
- Year 6 Oak class assembly, 2.45pm in Main Hall
- **New:** Year 3 and 4 Parent/Carer meeting about the Multiplication Check on Zoom, 5.30pm

Wednesday 15th November

- **New:** Positive Noticing Day (details to follow)
- **Rescheduled date:** Reception Open Classroom, 2.45pm

Saturday 18th November

- **New:** Bromley Cross Country Competition, Years 5 and 6, 9am at Crystal Palace

NEW: Christmas Performances for Parents and Carers

- Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 – Thursday 14th December, 9.45am at St Michael's Beckenham
- ARC, Year 1 and Year 2 – Friday 15th December, 2.00pm at St Michael's Beckenham
- Reception – Tuesday 19th December, 9.30am in Main Hall at school



Churchfields News



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was great to see so many of you at our parent/carer evenings this week, even getting here despite the rain and dark! I hope you found these appointments a useful catch up on how your child is doing at school. Please remember, you don't need to wait until our next parent/carer evenings in February if you wish to discuss any matter about your child. The staff are available on the playgrounds before and after school each day or you can contact them via the class email address to arrange a time for a phone call or meeting.

We are very pleased to announce that Mrs Sutcliffe is our new Forest School Leader! She trained with Mrs Miller a few years ago and we are very happy to have her back to work with our school. Next half term she will be working with Nursery, Reception, ARC, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6. Years 1, 3 and 5 will work with her in the spring term. She has written a letter to introduce herself below and I'm sure you will all welcome her back to the Churchfields community!

I hope you all have an enjoyable half term holiday; when we come back on the 31st October, we kindly ask that children are dressed in their usual uniform and do not bring any scary toys or treats in despite it being Hallowe'en!

Sarah Atherton, Headteacher

A message from Mrs Sutcliffe – Our New Forest School Leader



Hello Everyone,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Agnieszka Chodkiewicz Sutcliffe, and I'm excited to introduce myself as the new Forest School Leader at Churchfields Primary School. I'm looking forward to joining your school community and working together with you all.

I have a passion for nature-based education and have spent some years exploring and learning from the natural world. I believe that being outdoors can be a fantastic way for children to learn and develop a deep connection with the environment around them. As the Forest School Leader, my goal is to create a safe and enjoyable environment where your children can learn and grow while connecting with nature. We will have fun outdoor activities and hands-on experiences that will enhance their education and appreciation for the outdoors.

I'm eager to meet all of you, collaborate with our dedicated teachers, and provide your children with enriching outdoor experiences.

*Yours sincerely,
Aga C. Sutcliffe*





Celebrating Black British Women



October is Black History Month in the UK, an event that has been celebrated nationwide for more than 30 years. This year there is a special focus find out just some of incredible things women in particular have done for Britain.

It was originally founded to recognise the contributions that people of African and Caribbean backgrounds have made to the UK over many generations. Now, Black History Month has expanded to include the history of not just African and Caribbean people but all black people.

Throughout history, black people have made huge contributions to society in the fields of art, music, science, literature and many more areas. But, in the past, these contributions have often been ignored or played down because black people weren't treated the same way as other people because of the colour of their skin.

Black History Month aims to address this unfairness by celebrating the achievements and contributions of black people in the UK. In school, we make sure we recognise and celebrate the achievements of a diverse range of people all year round and in all subjects.



Malorie Blackman

The best-selling author for children and young adults, **Malorie Blackman**, was a pupil at Churchfields Primary School (when it was on the previous site) and has written about her time at school in her recent autobiography for adults!

When she was chosen to become the eighth Children's Laureate, she became the first black person to take on the role. Malorie says she wanted to "make reading irresistible" for children, by encouraging them to explore a range of literature, from short stories to graphic novels.

"If you're talking about the history of Britain, then that history includes black people and people of colour. . . We still need more books from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, working-class authors and books from and about neuro-divergent children."



Margaret Busby is an extremely influential name in the world of publishing. She was Britain's youngest and first black female book publisher, when she co-founded the publishing company Allison & Busby in 1967, alongside a man called Clive Allison.

The company didn't *only* publish work by black writers, but it did help to make the names of many black writers more well-known.



Joan Armatrading was the first female UK artist to be nominated for a Grammy in the blues category. She went on to be nominated three times.

She arrived in the UK at the age of seven, from the Caribbean island of Saint Kitts. She began writing songs at the age of 14 and in the 1970s, she became the first black British singer songwriter to enjoy great success abroad. In 2007, she became the first female UK artist to debut at number 1 in the Billboards blues chart in the USA.



Lilian Bader was born in 1918 in Liverpool and went on to become one of the very first black women to join the British Armed Forces.

Starting out as a canteen assistant at an army base in Yorkshire, she eventually trained as an instrument repairer, before becoming a leading aircraftwoman and soon afterwards earning herself the rank of Corporal. Three generations of her family served in the armed forces.



Dr Shirley Thompson was named as "one of the most inspirational Black British women" by the newspaper Metro. In 2004, she became the first woman in Europe to conduct and compose a symphony in the past 40 years. The piece of music celebrated London's history and was composed to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002.

She has been named in the Evening Standard's *Power List of Britain's Top 100 Most Influential Black People* in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.



Farewell Mrs Collins



We said farewell and good luck to Mrs Collins this morning as she gave her final breakfasts this morning after 20 years of service at Churchfields. She is retiring and looking forward to spending time with her family. We thank her for all she has done for our children over the years.

Christmas Celebrations 2023



- Friday 24th November** – own clothes day, optional to bring a bottle for tombola
- Saturday 25th November** – PTA Christmas Fair, 1 – 4pm
- Thursday 14th December** – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 performance
- Friday 15th December** – Years 1,2 and ARC performance
- Tuesday 19th December** – Reception performance
- Wednesday 20th December** – Christmas lunch

Year 3 Explore Crofton Roman Villa

This week, Year 3 visited Crofton Roman Villa to introduce our forthcoming Romans topic. As well as finding out how and when the Villa was unearthed, we had a go at bronze rubbings, making mosaics out of brightly coloured tiles and we got to handle some genuine artefacts which were over 2000 years old!

Here are some reflections from the children:

"It was great because we learnt about the Romans. I think they should dig deeper and further to see what else they can find."

"It was great because we got to do lots of activities."

"It was really good because when we went to the Roman Villa we got to see and draw bones from 2000 years ago."

"Building a mosaic was fun because we could make lots of different patterns that the rich people could put on their floors."

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who came along to help!





School Council Harvest Collection



The school councillors did an excellent job this lunchtime, sorting and packing all of the generous Harvest Festival donations.

Thank you for being so kind – we received over 350 items that will be shared between Living Well Bromley and Bromley Borough Foodbank.



Headteacher for the Day Announced



The final eight candidates at the ballot box

Over the last few weeks, Year 6 have been considering the changes that they would like to make in school if they were to be Headteacher for the day. They considered what policies they would introduce and wrote speeches to persuade people to vote for them. Years 4, 5 and 6 met this week and listened to eight brilliant speeches from the shortlisted candidates which included ideas such as an art wall at lunchtime, fish tanks in the classrooms to aid concentration and the chance to use laptops in every class. The children voted for their favourite policies and the results are that Eduard from Oak Class will be Headteacher and Vivian from Elm class will be the Deputy Head. Well done to all of the children who participated!



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Amazing Achievements



On Sunday at 8pm on ITV1, Tierney in Year 3 makes her acting debut in Sir Lenny Henry's highly anticipated new Windrush drama series 'Three Little Birds'. She plays Selah Whittaker in the drama series which is airing for the next 6 weeks - amazing!

Any good news, something to share or celebrate with the Churchfields community?

Please do email us on admin@churchfields.q1e.org.uk

Found at The Fair



A very special looking backpack was handed in – if it belongs to you, please let us know!

Lost Uniform



We already have a massive amount of lost uniform, including coats, as well as numerous water bottles.

Please label your child's possessions so we can get them back to you as soon as we can.

Enter the BBC 500 Words Competition



The BBC is has launched its 500 words story writing competition!

Open to children aged 5-11 years, it's a chance for them to let their imaginations run wild and write the kind of story they would love to read. We know that we have some fantastic storywriters at Churchfields and we would love them to enter!

Information about the competition and how to enter, along with lots of helpful tips and ideas, is available at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words> The closing date is **10th November**.

Stories must be typed up and submitted online; we would be happy to help with this in school if children are not able to do this at home.

Please also send a copy of your child's story to aspen@churchfields.q1e.org.uk as we are planning to compile the best ones into a special Churchfields book of stories.



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.



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Class Assemblies 2023/24

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

Autumn Term

07.11.23	Year 6 Elm
14.11.23	Year 6 Oak
21.11.23	Year 5 Cherry
28.11.23	Year 5 Olive
05.12.23	Year 4 Aspen

Spring Term

16.01.24	Year 4 Sycamore
27.02.24	Year 4 Hazel
05.03.24	Year 3 Sumac
12.03.24	Year 3 Poplar
19.03.24	Year 3 Baobab

Summer Term

23.04.24	Year 2 Hickory
30.04.24	Year 2 Maple
14.05.24	Year 1 Rowan
21.05.24	Year 1 Silver Birch
11.06.24	Reception Palm
18.06.24	Reception Beech

Open Classrooms 2023/24

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

Autumn Term

Re-scheduled due to Ofsted:

01.11.23	Year 5
06.11.23	Year 3
08.11.23	Year 1
15.11.23	Reception

Spring term

22.01.24	Year 3
23.01.24	Year 2
24.01.24	Year 1
25.01.24	Reception
29.01.24	Year 6
30.01.24	Year 5
01.02.24	Year 4

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 2023/24

Spring term

Wednesday 7th February, 3.45 – 6.30pm

Thursday 8th February, 3.45 – 6.30pm

Summer term

Wednesday 17th 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 2023/24

- PTA Christmas Fair – Saturday 25th November 1 – 4pm
- See above for Christmas concert dates and times
- World Book day – Thursday 7th March
- British Science Week – 11th – 15th March
- Churchfields Culture Celebration Week – 25th – 28th March
- Sports day – Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and ARC on Friday 24th May, 9 – 11am
- Sports day - Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6 on Friday 7th June, 9 – 11am
- Nursery Sports day, Wednesday 10th July
- PTA Circus on site, Friday 19th July



Term Dates 2023/24

Autumn Term 2023

Friday 20 th October 2023	Last day of Autumn 1 term
Monday 23 rd to Friday 27 th October 2023	Autumn half term holiday
Monday 30 th October 2023	INSET day, school closed to children
Tuesday 31 st October 2023	First day of Autumn 2 term
Thursday 21 st December 2023	Last day of Autumn 2 term

Spring Term 2024

Monday 8 th January 2024	INSET day, school closed to children
Tuesday 9 th January 2024	First day of Spring 1 term
Friday 9 th February 2024	Last day of Spring 1 term
Monday 12 th to Friday 16 th February 2024	Spring half term holiday
Monday 19 th February 2024	First day of Spring 2 term
Thursday 28 th March 2024	Last day of Spring 2 term

Summer Term 2024

Monday 15 th April 2024	First day of Summer 1 term
Monday 6 th May 2024	May Bank Holiday, school closed
Friday 24 th May 2024	Last day of Summer 1 term
Monday 27 th to Friday 31 st May 2024	Summer half term holiday
Monday 3 rd June 2024	INSET day, school closed to children
Tuesday 4 th June 2024	First day of Summer 2 term
Wednesday 24 th July 2024	Last day of Summer 2 term