CVJS News

Friday 4th September 2026

HEADLINES

- Happy New Year!
- Forest School
- School vision
- PTA Update
- School Clubs
- Key Dates
- Medical Details
- Drinks & Snacks

C V J S

Welcome Back & Happy New Year!

A very warm welcome back to the start of a new school year here at Churchdown Village Junior School. It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of our pupils and parents, including our new Year 3 pupils and parents and other children and families who have joined us this year. As always at CVJS, we have an exciting year planned for the children (and lots for the adults too!) and we all look forward with great enthusiasm to the new school year ahead of us.

You will be receiving shortly (via email) a class letter and topic web from your child's class teacher, giving you an insight into the topics being studied, details of the homework expectations and any other key information that is specific to the year groups that your child(ren) are in. These documents can also be found on our class pages within the **Learning Zone** of our school website (www.cvjs.org.uk)

Please do feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or if there is anything that I can help you with. My door is always open, so do please pop in at any time if you would like to talk to me. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you all - either on the gate in the morning, on the playground, around the school or at our planned school events this term and this year. We are all here to ensure that your children have a fabulous school experience at CVJS, so please do let us know if there is anything that we can do to enhance your time with us at the school.

As always, I will be writing and sending you a weekly newsletter every Friday with the aim of keeping you up to date with school news, key dates for your diary and other exciting news for the school community at CVJS.

Have a great weekend

Mr Bacon

Churchdown Village Junior School
Inspiring Learners

FOREST SCHOOL

4F (Mrs France's Class) will be doing forest school on **Tuesday 8th September** (afternoon) and **4B (Miss Bacon's Class)** will be doing forest school on **Wednesday 9th September** (afternoon). Please ensure that the children have appropriate (old) clothing for the weather on the day. They will need long sleeves and long trousers in all weathers. This is to ensure that they are covered to protect against the natural hazards outdoors. Wellies, boots or outdoor shoes are also needed. Any clothing that will keep children warm and dry (and that you don't mind getting muddy!) will be perfect. On Forest School days, children should wear their Forest School kit to school in the morning. Any wellies or boots can be brought into school in a bag to change into at lunchtime. Many thanks for your support. If you have any questions, please just ask.

Mr Gue, CVJS Forest School Leader

Forest School

THE SCHOOL VISION

"Inspired learners at the heart of what we do"

At CVJS, our aim is to inspire your children. Our curriculum is designed to give children a wide range of activities and experiences to remember and on which to build and enhance their knowledge, understanding and skills. We have 5 key school values that we use as themes in classes and around the school at all times. These are:

Honesty
Enthusiasm
Aspiration
Respect
Teamwork

PTA INFORMATION

The PTA at CVJS do a fabulous job and we are on the look out for new members! We will be holding our first meeting of the year at Churchdown Club on **Tuesday 8th September** at 6.45pm; the purpose being to come along and find out a bit more about what we do and get an idea of events for the year ahead. Our AGM then takes place on **Tuesday 29th September** at 6.45pm - also at the Club. This is where we assign roles to people for the year. The PTA arrange discos, cake sales, quiz nights and lots of other events to raise money for children at CVJS. Last year saw fundraising for play equipment, coaches to the pantomime, children's newspapers, equipment for our CVJS apiaries and much more. The first community event this year is our Fireworks display, taking place on **Saturday 7th November**. Watch this space for more info about this! If you would like to get involved in the PTA, please come along to either or both of these meetings and you will be very warmly welcomed. I look forward to seeing you there. Thank you.

SCHOOL CLUBS

At CVJS, we have a great tradition of providing extra-curricular clubs for the children at the school. We have clubs operated by external groups and also by our own CVJS staff. Details will be sent home via email as clubs are set up. Most music lessons will commence over the next few weeks. If you have any questions about clubs, please feel free to pop in and see us.

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tues 8th Sept	PTA Meeting 6.45pm All welcome
Tues 29th Sept	PTA AGM 6.45pm All welcome
Thurs 8th Oct	Jonathan's Jungle Y3
Weds 14th Oct	School Photos
Tues 20th Oct	Parents' evening 3.30pm - 7.00pm
Weds 21st Oct	Parents' evening 3.30pm - 7.00pm
Fri 23rd Oct	Flu Immunisation
Fri 23rd Oct	Last day of term 1
Mon 2nd Nov	INSET day for staff only
Tues 3rd Nov	Start of term 2
Sat 7th Nov	CVJS Fireworks 5pm - 7pm

DRINKS AND SNACKS

A reminder that children should only be bringing water to school and not squash, energy drinks or other soft drinks. All classrooms have access to water taps, so drinks bottles can be filled throughout the day.

A reminder too, mainly to parents of children in Year 3, that the free fruit and vegetables that your children had as snacks in their infant schools cease when they get to Year 3. This is a Government funding issue and nothing that we can control! If we had our way, we would love the Government to provide free fruit, vegetables and hot school meals to all pupils at primary school right up until the end of Year 6. However, their budgets don't allow for this. Children are welcome to bring in a snack for breaktime and we would encourage this to be a healthy snack where possible such as fruit, veg, crackers, etc.

MEDICAL DETAILS

A reminder from the admin team to let us know if there are **ANY** changes to your child's medical details or medical needs. Unless updated, the records we keep are from the paperwork that you give to us when your child joined in Year 3. This is particularly the case for asthma; it is very important to keep us up to date if your child needs an inhaler. If an inhaler is needed, it should be available in school at all times. Thank you.

NUT ALLERGIES

We would like to inform parents that we have several members of the school community (both pupils and staff), with severe nut allergies. We would kindly ask you NOT to send in any food items containing nuts. Although we do not have people in all classes with an allergy, we would prefer not to place anyone at medical risk. We thank you in advance for your support and your understanding in this matter.

SCHOOL CALENDAR & KEY DIARY DATES

The weekly newsletter is the main place to find out about forthcoming events at CVJS. We will provide you with an overview of key diary dates, giving you as much notice as is possible at all times. In addition to this, all dates will shortly be uploaded to the school website (www.cvjs.org.uk), which will give you the option to synchronize our calendar with that of one of your electronic devices.

PANTO

A tradition here at CVJS is that we take all children to watch a pantomime at the Roses Theatre in Tewkesbury. Although I know that it is **way** to early to mention the C word, due to the advanced nature of planning, we are already looking at this year's Christmas Panto trip. Our brilliant PTA have offered again this year to pay for the coach costs to take all 240 children and 40 staff to Tewkesbury, so our sincere thanks to them for paying for this. You will shortly be receiving more information about the trip and the deadline to pay for your child's ticket. This year's trip takes place on Monday 14th December and we will be watching Sleeping Beauty. There is a quick turnaround on the ticket payments, so we would really appreciate your prompt payments for this. Once we hit the payment deadline, we will order tickets accordingly and we won't be able to adjust our ticket numbers. Thank you in advance for your prompt payments.

SCHOOL SPORTS CLUBS

As we start to look at sporting fixtures for the term ahead, I write to you regarding the school sports clubs that we are very fortunate to be able to offer here at CVJS. These clubs provide our pupils with valuable opportunities to develop their skills, enjoy physical activity and represent the school with pride.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that these sports clubs are only possible because of the goodwill and dedication of staff, who give up their own time to run them. I am sure you will join me in thanking them in advance for their commitment. We compete in local leagues and are lucky to be able to offer a boys' A team, boys' B team and girls' team in football, a mixed team in netball, a mixed team in tag rugby and a mixed team in cricket. In addition to this, we also have an athletics team in the summer term.

Team selection for fixtures and events is made at the discretion of the staff in charge. While every effort is made to involve as many pupils as possible, it is not always feasible for all children to take part in every match. I must therefore ask for your support in respecting these decisions and in helping your children to understand that participation and teamwork are equally as important as competition. **I kindly ask that you do not contact staff directly to question team selections.** In last year's tag rugby trials, for example, 42 children expressed an interest in playing for the school team. Our school matches are just 9-a-side, so you can appreciate the difficulty that we face. The same is true for other sports too.

With your continued encouragement, I am confident that our sports clubs will remain a source of enjoyment, growth and pride for all involved. Thank you, as always, for your support of our school.

CVJS PE & GAMES KIT

At CVJS, we are very lucky to have the space and the staff expertise to be able to offer the children a wealth of physical education. We split our PE curriculum into PE and Games. 'PE' refers to indoor activities such as gymnastics and dance and outdoor activities such as athletics. 'Games' typically refers to the activities that we take part in outdoors such as netball, tag rugby, rounders and other team sports. In addition to this, we also offer Forest School as part of the National Curriculum's requirement for all children to take part in 'outdoor and adventurous activities'.

The CVJS Parent Handbook sets out our expectations for PE and Games kit that children should wear for these lessons. The green hoodie doesn't have to have a school logo, but we do expect children to wear the school colours - as has been the case since I came to CVJS as a pupil myself many (many!) years ago. PE kit is a gold t-shirt and green shorts. Games kit is the PE kit along with black tracksuit bottoms and a green jumper / hoodie. Thank you for your continuing support. On PE day, children should come to school in their PE kit. This saves time and changing space. If you have any questions about PE or kit, please do not hesitate to speak to us.