CVJS News

Friday 23rd October 2026

HEADLINES

- Weekly Update
- Forest School
- Key Dates
- Golden Book
- Theme Days
- Reading Support
- 500 Words
- Firework Tickets
- Run for Pudsey

C V J S

End of Autumn Term 1

Well here we are already! The end of the first term here at CVJS. The 2 autumn terms are traditionally the longest of the school year and 2026 is no exception. These past 8 weeks have been busy for pupils and staff alike with a host of exciting activities at the school including sporting events, Forest School sessions, music clubs, gardening, K'nex Challenge, a Y4 Roman trip and fundraising for Children in Need. All of this is in addition to the 13 subjects in the primary curriculum of course! Thank you for the great support that we have received this term from parents and families at the school. We all really do appreciate the help and support that you give us which makes CVJS such a great place to work.

Next term starts with a bang (literally!) with our CVJS firework event. This takes place on Saturday 7th November. As well as this, we've got Stone Age days in Year 3 and a Viking day for children in Year 5. There are plenty more things in the diary as we approach the festive season and so we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school in a week's time to kick these events off.

As the half term break this year coincides with the clocks turning back, and also with Halloween, I would like to send out a reminder this week to all of our children about the importance of personal safety when out and about on the dark nights ahead of us. It is something that we will be talking about in our assemblies, so a reminder at home would reinforce the message. As we approach a well-deserved break for children and staff, a reminder that Monday 2nd November is an INSET day for staff only and children start school again on **Tuesday 3rd November**.

Have a great half term break.

Mr Bacon

Churchdown Village Junior School
Inspiring Learners

FOREST SCHOOL

On our return, **3T (Mr Tasney's Class)** will be doing forest school on **Tuesday 3rd November** (afternoon) and **3G (Miss Green's Class)** will be doing forest school on **Wednesday 4th November** (afternoon). Please ensure that 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

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 2nd Nov	INSET day for staff only
Tues 3rd Nov	Start of term 2
Weds 4th Nov	3T Stone Age Day
Thurs 5th Nov	3G Stone Age Day
Sat 7th Nov	CVJS Fireworks 5pm - 7pm
Mon 9th Nov	Y5 Viking Day
Mon 9th Nov	Rags 2 Riches clothing collection
w/c 9th Nov	CVJS Sponsored 5K run
Fri 13th Nov	Children in Need - Non uniform

GOLDEN BOOK AWARDS

Every Monday morning, we announce our Golden Book theme of the week and present the awards in assembly on Friday. The theme this week has been:

'BEING ENGAGED IN OUR LEARNING THIS TERM'

ASHLEY HINSON 3G
HARRY LEWIS 3G
LUCY ANSELL 3T
CHARLIE GYDE 3T
HANNAH SMALL 4B
FLORENCE BYRNE 4F
JACK WILLIAMS 4F
AMBER HAMILTON 5A
ARTHUR MacPHERSON 5A
RAYNE SHERGOLD 5S
TRAVIS STEVENS 5S
ALL OF CLASS 6C
DOROTHY LEAVER 6K

PARENTS' EVENINGS

It was lovely to see everyone at parents' evenings this week. There were lots of happy faces around the school and so it was a nice end to the first half of the autumn term. Many of you will have spoken with teachers about the learning objectives being covered in each year group and some ideas for good reading books for your children. I thought this would be a good time to point you in the direction of some great online resources. The CVJS 'End of Year Expectations' and 'Top 100 Books' for each year group are really good documents to look through. They provide really useful information and ideas:

End of Year Expectations (scroll to the bottom of the page)

Top 100 Books Year 3
Top 100 Books Year 4
Top 100 Books Year 5
Top 100 Books Year 6

https://spyreaders.co.uk/ This website has a brilliant book suggester tool. You can input your child's age and interests and the website search tool will suggest recommended books. It really is worth a look. As well as being brilliant at finding books for everyday reading, it's particularly good when thinking about birthday or Christmas presents for children too!

SECONDARY TRANSFER

A reminder for parents and carers of children in Year 6 that the deadline to submit your secondary school choices is rapidly approaching. Gloucestershire County Council have asked us to remind you that the absolute deadline is **Saturday 31st October**. Any forms submitted after this date will not be registered, so please do remember the date if you haven't submitted your forms yet.

Y3 STONE AGE DAY - WHAT TO WEAR?

3T Wednesday 4th November
3G Thursday 5th November

On Stone Age day, the children will be based outdoors for most of the day. They will be engaged in a range of activities such as shelter construction, fire lighting, tool making and lots more. As this is an outdoor experience on the school field, please send your children to school in old, warm clothing. Something like a Forest School kit would be ideal, including waterproof coats / boots / wellies, etc. There is no need for any Stone Age dressing up.

Y5 VIKING DAY - WHAT TO WEAR?

Both classes on Monday 9th November

We would like to invite the children in Y5 to wear Viking-style clothing if they can. We will be emailing home a sheet to give you some ideas to think about over the half term break. Although you are very welcome to buy a costume online, these dressing-up ideas are very simple and most of the resources can be found around the house. If you have any questions about what to wear, please do not hesitate to get in touch and we will be very happy to help.

BBC 500 WORDS COMPETITION

A reminder that the BBC's annual 500 Words competition is now live! For more information about what to do and where to send entries, please use this link:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words

The 500 Words website provides ideas, resources and a range of videos to explain the competition and how to enter. The deadline for all entries is **Friday 6th November**. Good luck!

FIREWORK TICKETS - GET YOURS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

A huge thank you to those people who have purchased their firework tickets nice and early. We are now well over the half way mark in ticket sales, so our sincere thanks for your early support. Please remember….once they're gone, they're gone! Tickets available online here:

www.cvjs.org.uk/fireworks

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

Our sincere thanks to everyone who has signed their child(ren) up on the BBC website (via the link below) to become an official entrant in our Run for Pudsey event. At the time of writing, you have raised £1,539.37 for the Children in Need charity. This is an AMAZING sum of money.

BBC Radio Gloucestershire came to school today to find out how our planning was going and Nicky Price, the mid-morning presenter, spoke to some children in Y6 about the event.

To sign up, please go to:

www.cvjs.org.uk/pudsey

The CVJS School Councillors have decided on a theme for our 'Golden Lap' on Friday 13th November. They would like to invite children (and staff) to dress in one of 2 themes for the day:

Dress as a teacher

This could be a teacher here at CVJS (sensible and respectful ideas only please!) or it could be a teacher in general.

Dress in your favourite colour

As simple as it sounds! Dress in any clothing in your favourite colour.

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

Further to the email sent home on Monday this week, a note to let you know that, as we have received more nominations (three) than there are parent governor vacancies (two), we must now arrange for a ballot to be held. Voting will be on the basis of one vote per parent per vacancy. As we have two vacancies, each parent will be entitled to two votes - but only one vote can be used per candidate. The ballot paper was attached to Monday's email - along with the candidate's statements.

Completed ballot papers should be delivered to the school office before the **deadline of 4.30pm on Friday 6th November 2026** and put in the ballot box on the school reception desk. Please note that as this is a secret ballot, emailed ballot forms cannot be accepted. If you would like a paper copy of the ballot paper, rather than printing it at home, please pop in to the school office and we will provide you with one. Many thanks in advance for your support.