At Chidham, everyone is known, loved and belongs. We nurture each child to flourish and achieve, giving them the best start in life. Following Jesus, we make a positive difference in an ever-changing world. "Love each other as I have loved you", John 15v12

	Monday 5th October 2026	Tuesday 6th October 2026	Wednesday 7th October 2026	Thursday 8th October 2026	Friday 9th October 2026
Whole School	New Year R tours start this week Grub Club			Harvest Worship – bring in donation for Chichester Food Bank	
Year R - Cherry		PE Kit	**Return Phonics Reading Books**		
Year 1 - Apple	Forest School			PE Kit	
Year 2 - Chestnut		PE Kit	PE Kit		
Year 3 - Oak		PE Kit	PE Kit	Mr Hutchinson teaching	Mr Hutchinson teaching
Year 4 - Willow	PE Kit – with Rob Mayne	PE Kit			
Year 5 - Birch	Y5/6 Football at BCC for team – see Mr C			PE Kit	PE Kit
Year 6 – London Plane	Y5/6 Football at BCC for team – see Mr C	Leading Worship at 2.45pm – arrive at 2.40pm	PE Kit		PE Kit
Worship	Mr Olway	London Plane	Open the book	Rev Jo	Mr Olway
Before school clubs	Launch Pad - Breakfast Club	Launch Pad - Breakfast Club	Launch Pad - Breakfast Club Theatre Arts	Launch Pad - Breakfast Club	Launch Pad - Breakfast Club
After school clubs	Dodgeball Arts & Crafts	Hockey Fun with Food	Basketball Science&Nature	KS2 Football Construction	KS1 Football Global Explorers
Instruments	Violin	Rocksteady			Piano Guitar

TAKE 5!

1. Harvest Worship on Thursday 8th October – all children welcome to bring a donation for foodbank.
2. Information about Grub Club coming to Chidham found on p6. Bring a carrier bag and donations.
3. Shoeboxes almost all gone – come to office if you want one. We need them back on 14.10.26.
4. London Plane leading first class led worship of the year on Tuesday 6th Oct at 14.45. Arrive at 14.40.
5. We have been awarded with Rail Safe Award. Information about this found on p8.

A note from Mr Olway

Today's Friday Flyer contains a number of important dates, reminders and updates for families. These include next week's Harvest celebration, where children are invited to bring a donation for the Chichester Foodbank, an attendance update, and details of our new Grub Club, which launches after school on Monday.

I am also very much looking forward to meeting prospective parents next week as we begin our Year R tours for children starting school in September 2027. If you have a child due to start school then, or know a family who does, please encourage them to contact the school office to book a place on one of our tours. Rather than hosting a special open day, we invite families to see Chidham in action on a normal school day. We are proud that every day is filled with meaningful, motivating and memorable learning experiences, and there is no better way to experience our school community than by seeing it as it really is. It is always a pleasure to share the wonderful learning, relationships and opportunities that make Chidham such a special place to learn and grow.

Harvest Worship 8th October

On Thursday we will be having our Harvest celebration. At the start of the worship, children will be invited to bring up an item to donate to the Chichester Foodbank and place on a table at the front of the hall. If your child would like to do this, please can you send them in with items which the Chichester Foodbank are requesting below:

Items we need

As of 28/09/2026

✓ Bags for life	✓ Biscuits	✓ Chocolate
✓ Jam	✓ Nappies - size 4	✓ Shampoo
✓ Snacks (e.g. crisps, cereal bars, etc)	✓ Sponge puddings	✓ Tinned tomatoes
✓ Toothbrushes	✓ Washing powder	✓ Washing up liquid

We can refer to the Chichester Foodbank and the One Church Foodbank. If you ever find yourself needing to access their support, please speak to Mr Olway in confidence to arrange this.

Collective Worship

The week didn't get off to the best start for me! Monday morning brought a few challenges, including dropping a glass bottle of milk on the staffroom floor. I can confirm that the smell is still lingering!

Thankfully, a prayer for peace helped to put things back into perspective. I shared this theme in our collective worship, where some wonderful Year 2 volunteers retold the story of Jesus calming the storm. Their performance was made even

more realistic with a few sprays from my plant mister as special effects, although they may not have appreciated quite how authentic it felt!

The story reminds us that we will all face times of challenge, uncertainty or fear. Just as Jesus brought peace to his disciples in the midst of the storm, it encourages us to remember that he is always with us, bringing comfort and reassurance when we need it most. It is a powerful message for both children and adults, and one that is worth holding on to when life feels a little stormy.

Next Worship Theme: Jesus Feeds the 5,000 – Harvest!

Attendance

You'll notice that I haven't been sharing attendance percentages every week this year. Over time, these figures can become a bit like wallpaper and lose their impact, so I've decided to provide attendance updates less frequently throughout the year. I am pleased to share that our whole school attendance is currently above the national average.

To strengthen our focus on attendance, Mrs Hawthorne, Mrs Wilson and I have established an Attendance Team. Our aim is to work closely with families whose children are attending less regularly, offering support and helping to remove any barriers that may be affecting attendance.

If your child was classified as Persistently Absent last year (with attendance below 90%), you will already have received an attendance concern letter. We are committed to doing everything we can to support families and improve attendance. However, where attendance does not improve despite the support offered, we have begun issuing penalty notices in line with national guidance.

Every day in school matters. Regular attendance helps children build confidence, maintain friendships, and make the most of every learning opportunity. By working together, we can ensure that all children have the best possible chance to thrive.

Online Safety

Alan Mackenzie, an online safety specialist, has sent us this useful information to share with parents.

iOS 27 Child Safety Features

If your child uses an iPhone or iPad, Apple's latest software includes a number of new parental-control and safety features.

These include improved Screen Time controls, limits across categories of apps, website controls and additional Communication Safety protections.

The short video below provides a useful overview, while Apple's own guidance explains how parents can set up and manage the controls in more detail.

Links:
[YouTube – iOS 27 child safety features]
[Apple – Child Safety]
[Apple Support – Screen Time and parental controls]

Supporting Children with Additional Needs When Something Goes Wrong Online

Children with additional needs may not always recognise when an online situation has become unsafe, or they may find it difficult to explain what has happened.

They may also communicate distress differently, become overwhelmed by questions or worry about losing access to a device or online activity that is particularly important to them.

This short video gives parents practical advice on supporting a child calmly when something has gone wrong online and helping them feel able to share what has happened.

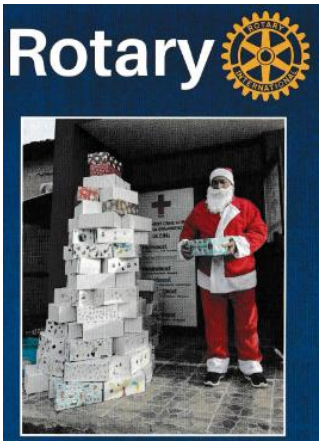
Link:
[YouTube – Supporting children with additional needs when something goes wrong online]

Does your child use any of these apps?

Snapchat	**Tiktok**	**Instagram**	**Discord**	**Whatsapp**

The NSPCC has published figures showing which platforms children name when they talk to Childline about online sexual abuse. Between April 2025 and March 2026, Snapchat came top with 324 mentions. It was followed by TikTok (234), Instagram (197), Discord (92) and WhatsApp (39). Between them, these five platforms came up in nearly 900 counselling sessions. Please take time to review what apps your child is accessing so you can keep them safe online. You can remind them to speak to you, an adult at school or Childline by phoning 0800 11 11.

ChildLine
0800 1111



Shoebox Collection Date – 14th October!

It's wonderful to see so many families supporting the shoebox appeal. Thank you to everyone who has collected a shoebox and to those who have already returned their filled boxes to school. It has been lovely to see the generosity and thought that has gone into them.

The completed shoeboxes will be collected on **15th October**, so please ensure all boxes are returned to school by **Wednesday 14th October**.

We still have a small number of flat pack shoeboxes available and waiting to be filled! If you would like to take part, please pop into school to collect one.

Thank you once again for your support.

Introducing Grub Club!

Starting Monday 5th October - After School

We are delighted to announce the launch of **Grub Club**, starting this **Monday 5th October** after school and then every other Monday.

Grub Club is a fantastic initiative designed to help reduce food waste, support healthy living, and make fresh produce available to as many families as possible within our school community.

Each week, families will have the opportunity to take home a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables that might otherwise go to waste. By making good use of this produce, together we can promote healthier eating habits while helping the environment by reducing unnecessary food waste.

Who Can Use Grub Club?

Everyone! We want this opportunity to reach as many families as possible. There is no requirement to make a donation in order to take produce home. If you would benefit from the available food, please feel welcome to take some.

Donations Welcome

While donations are **not necessary**, any contributions will be gratefully received and will be used to support projects and opportunities within the school. Donations could help fund resources such as:

- Gardening equipment
- Cooking utensils
- Eco and sustainability projects
- Practical learning activities across the curriculum

Every contribution, no matter how small, helps us continue to provide enriching experiences for our children. There will be a donation collection box on the day and also a facility on MCAS to make a donation.

Supporting Learning and Sustainability

Grub Club is about much more than food. It also provides opportunities to support learning across the school, including:

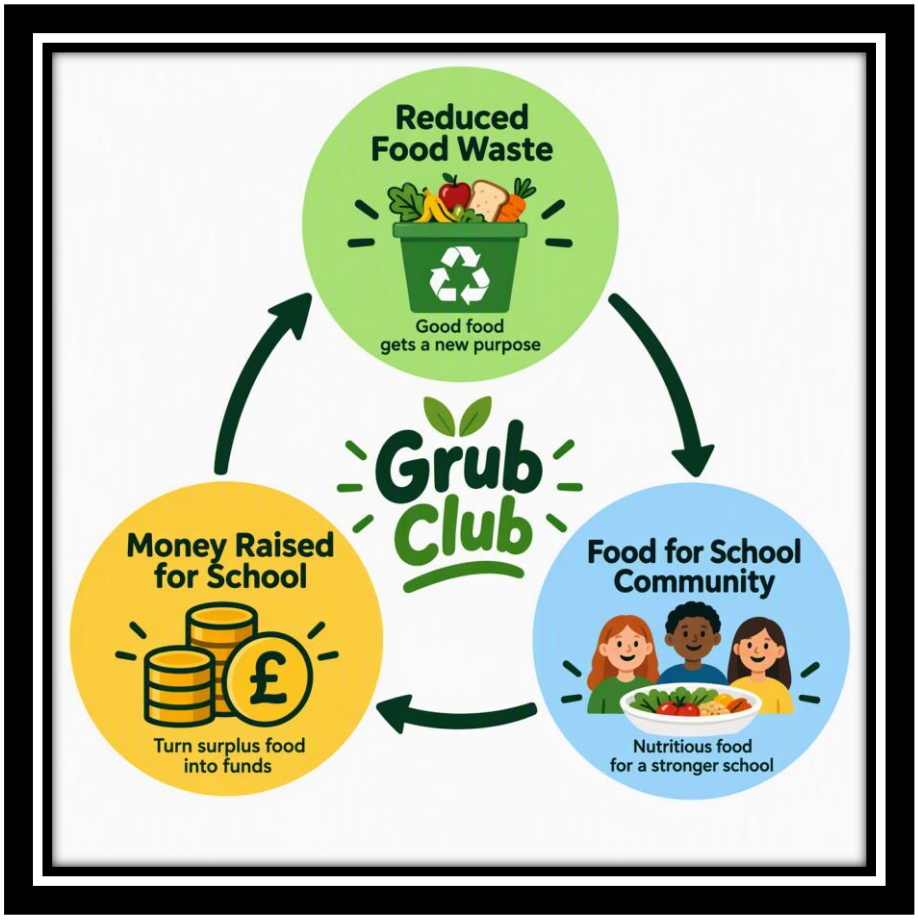
- Healthy eating and nutrition education
- Cooking and food preparation activities
- Eco-awareness and environmental projects
- Understanding food waste and sustainability
- Creative and practical classroom projects

By working together as a school community, we can make a positive difference while ensuring good food is enjoyed rather than wasted.

Join Us!

We look forward to welcoming families to **Grub Club from Monday 5th October after school**. Whether you would like to take home some fresh produce, make a donation, or simply support the initiative, everyone is welcome. Please remember to bring a bag for your produce.

We are looking for volunteers to help, if you are interested please contact Mrs Brown.



Rail Safe Friendly Bronze Award

Given our close proximity to a railway line, level crossing and train stations, we felt it was important to include railway safety within our safeguarding curriculum. We were delighted to welcome one of our parents, Mr Gibson, who shared his experiences as a train driver and helped the children understand how to stay safe around railways and trains.

We are proud to have achieved the Bronze Award, but we are committed to doing even more to help children develop a thorough understanding of railway safety. To build on this learning, we will be holding an in-school poster competition, where children will design posters promoting safe behaviour around railways. I look forward to sharing some of their fantastic designs in a future edition of the *Friday Flyer*.

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LOCALLY BAKED CAKES and a good old cuppa!
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