

Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



Dear Parents,

I hope you all enjoyed the Bank Holiday on Monday, but I wonder if you felt a little like us in school this week: Is it Friday? Monday? Saturday? Where am I?! It might just be one more day off, but it really confused us!

This week, we marked International Anti-Bullying Day. In assembly on Tuesday, Mrs Rudge spoke to the children about having healthy relationships with each other which includes: being supportive, genuine, considerate, honest and respectful. The pupils were also reminded that bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person. However; it is important to remember that, sometimes, playful teasing between friends can sometimes escalate. Sometimes it goes too far and quickly moves from being friendly lighthearted banter, to offensive and potentially mean. The pupils decided that it is important to think carefully before we speak so that we do not hurt others' feelings, and if we follow our Character values of Respect and Teamwork all will be well!

Today, I loved seeing our pupils come in wearing their patriotic red, white and blue outfits. I know we are all feeling very patriotic after our assembly on

Wednesday about the King's coronation, where I was ably assisted by our Head's for the Day (more on that below). We watched a short clip from Frozen of Elsa's coronation to help the children visualise what King Charles III might look like, and the special items - a crown, sceptre and orb - he will receive, and what they represent. We also spoke about how, during the ceremony, Charles will make promises about how he will rule as king, and although none of us is ever likely to be crowned like King Charles, we all make different kinds of promises during our lives. These can be in formal ceremonies like at Cubs, Brownies, our class charters, or at a wedding, but also in the promises

we make to our friends and families. Keeping promises is important.

As Mrs Curtis is now our new Chair of Governors, on Tuesday next week, we would like to offer parents a chance to have a 'meet and greet' with her in the School Library from 14:30-15:15. This is an informal occasion, where you can come and chat with us, over a cup of tea. There is no requirement to sign-up to this event, please just pop in; we'll be expecting you.

On the topic of events, I wanted to give you a date for your diary. Do hold **Wednesday 7th June (between 18:00-19:00)** free as we will be hosting our next Parent Education Curriculum Evening, which will focus on English. This will be an opportunity to not just gain an understanding of

what we teach, but get to experience **HOW** we teach it. There will be interactive sessions, which will hopefully give you an insight and greater understanding of our English curriculum and how you can help at home. More details will follow nearer the time.

We are now at a point where we can launch our Youtube channel. Alongside our social media, we will also be showcasing longer videos about activities around school, and you can subscribe to this by clicking [here](#). There are some lovely videos already of some of our pupils singing, as well as our

French Pop video which we have recently entered into a competition (more on that below).

Finally, I would ask that, at drop off and collect, parents are mindful of any children running around the cars which are parked in the carpark. Unfortunately, some cars have received some scratches, and I want to avoid any blame being put on families within our school community for this accidental damage. Thank you for your help with this.

Enjoy the Bank Holiday to mark the Coronation this weekend.

Mr Carter

Head Teacher



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Head for the Day

On Wednesday, Mr Carter was given a rest when two pupils took helm as Head for the Day, after winning this prize in our Auction. Mr Collard (Year 5) and Miss Lim (Rec) had a day where they went to observe lessons, had meetings with some of the Senior Leadership Team, spoke to the admin staff and the Head's PA, Mrs Jeffery, and helped out with the assembly. They took their job very seriously. Below is their Head's letter to parents:

I enjoyed my day as Head Teacher. I liked going into classes to see if the children were reading their books

Yours sincerely,

Miss L. Lim

Head for the Day

It was fun seeing my classmates' expressions when they saw me at the gate, wearing a suit and being the Headmaster.

In Assembly, I stood at the front of the Hall and read a short piece about The King's Coronation. I felt a bit anxious speaking in front of everybody, but was pleased when Mr Carter said that I read it fluently and with good pace.

I presented a few ideas to the Bursar about what needed fixing around the School. One of my favourite parts of the day was when I got to share my ideas with Mrs Wanstall and Mrs Rudge, the Assistant Heads. These included ideas about food choices at lunchtime and the possibility of finishing school early on Friday's like we did in my last school.. although I did understand when Mrs Rudge said that this might be tricky for busy and working parents.

Mr J. Collard

Head for the Day



Preschool

The children have settled back into Preschool after a lovely Easter break and have been telling us all their news. This term our topic is 'Under the Sea'. We have been finding out about all the different creatures that live in the ocean and wondering how it would feel to be a fish or a seahorse. We are also excited about the King's Coronation and will be making some very regal crowns!



Pupil achievement

With Year 1 and 2 starting their swimming lessons last week, this particular achievement seems very pertinent as Hector (Year 1) achieved level 1 swimming over the weekend. We are so proud of him, particularly with this important life skill.



If any pupils experience success outside of School, we'd love to hear about it, so do let Mr Carter know.

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Year 3

On Thursday 27th April, Year 3 woke up with enthusiasm because the time had finally come for them to attend their residential trip to Frylands Wood Scout Centre! Whilst on the trip, the children got to take part in a number of activities to boost their independence, teamwork and give them a real sense of the great outdoors. Rather excitingly, this would be the first time having a sleepover for many of the children, and what better time than with all of their friends and in cosy cabins in the woods!

Here are some of the children's favourite memories from the trip:

'Fire lighting was really fun as I had never lit a fire before, especially not with flint and steel. It was cool watching the fire go over the sticks gradually too. Did you know that Vaseline makes a fire last a long time?' *Arthur (M) 3P*

'I liked the rock climbing activity and the best was that if you fell, you would be safe. There were lots of different levels on the rock climbing wall which made it challenging and if you got to the top, you got to hit the buzzer. I managed to hit the buzzer twice and I felt really proud of myself!' *Emily 3P*

'I liked the den building the most because I liked how we all worked together to assemble the den using a range of different size sticks. The best reward was getting to go inside the den afterwards and relax, although it wasn't very waterproof in the rain we were having.' *Oscar 3A*

'My favourite activity was the assault course because when I did the monkey bars the first time, I fell as it was quite tricky. The second time however, I managed to make it the whole way across and I felt really proud of myself for achieving something I hadn't done before!' *Joanna 3P'*

During the team building activity, we had to work together to solve puzzles. We used one of our character values, teamwork, to be successful. Some of the puzzles



were challenging so we had to be resilient and find other solutions to the problems we faced!' *Arthur (W) 3A*

'When I was going up the rock climbing wall, I felt a little bit scared but I was brave and persisted until I reached the top. I used lots of resilience!' *Benji 3P*

'Archery was really fun because our target was a big round poster. I shot arrows and landed in the red and blue sections. The most fun part, in my opinion, was when we got to collect our arrows. Robyn, the leader, taught us how to do this safely so that we didn't hurt ourselves. I'd love to do it again sometime because it's good for your concentration and precision!' *Egypt 3A*

'It was cool hanging out in my bedroom with my friends because we got to eat marshmallows, tell funny stories from the day and play with the games that we bought from the gift shop.' *Joshua 3P*



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STEM workshop: Dr Badiger Human Body workshop

On Thursday 27th April, Dr Badiger (Anaiya's mother (Yr2)) kindly delivered STEM workshops for the children in Years 4, 5 and 6.



Dr Badiger delivered three amazing workshops to the children to further their learning about the human body and the importance of medicines and patient care. She spoke about her role as an anaesthetist and the many aspects of STEM which are important in her job. We learnt about the history and evolution of modern day care during operations and the importance that anaesthetists have during surgical procedures in hospitals.



The children were able to ask questions and further their knowledge about operations and surgery, sharing some interesting stories and anecdotes about their own experiences of hospital stays and operations.



The sessions ended with the children getting first hand experience of actual surgical equipment and teaching apparatus that Dr Badiger uses within her own role. Pupils understood how to take blood pressure and blood oxygen readings, safely deliver practice anaesthetics, use stethoscopes, measure their heart beat rates and calculate dosages according to age, gender and size.

We are very appreciative of Dr Badiger's time and work she kindly gave with preparing and delivering her workshops, that the children thoroughly enjoyed. I think we may have some budding anaesthetists in our midst as a result of her work!



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School Council - Summer Term

We are looking forward to our first School Council meeting of the Summer Term with our newly elected representatives from each class. Our first meeting of the term will be held on Thursday 18th May where we will be continuing to discuss ideas for sustainability as well as feedback on our class charity events so far and organising those still to come. Our Spring Term School Council representatives will attend the first meeting and 'hand over' to our new reps. A warm welcome to: Carla, Arjun, Sammy, Maxwell, Eleanor, Henry, Jamal, Evie, Neve, Thomas, Anthony, Elah, Mabel and William.



Review

We love hearing your feedback, so if you have a Google account, and feel inclined, please leave a reviews for us by using the link: <https://g.page/r/Cd0V7pq2h8TCEAg/review>

Spanish Primary Bee competition

This week, a group of keen linguists from Years 5 and 6 took part in stage one of the Spanish Primary Bee competition. This national initiative aims to support children to practise and improve their vocabulary, pronunciation and memory skills in Spanish.

The children participating had to translate as many words as they could from English to Spanish in one minute. They all worked incredibly hard to prepare themselves for the competition and achieved some fantastic scores. Congratulations to some of our Year 5 and 6 pupils who have made it through to stage two of the competition and will be receiving certificates in recognition of their achievements.

Emailing teachers

REMINDER: ALL emails to teachers should use the

mail@stchristophersthehall.org.uk



It is very likely that emails will not get to their destination if you email teachers directly.

French Pop Video Competition

As some of you will already know, the Year 4 children are taking part in a national French Pop Video Competition, organised by Francophonie UK in conjunction with the Institut Français.

Last term, the children wrote lyrics in class on the topic of 'Mes Passetemps' and then both classes came together to perform the song with props, accompanied by Mrs Gay on the piano. Mrs Dubeck put the finishing touches to the video last week and it has now been submitted for the competition and uploaded on to St. Christopher's YouTube channel. If you would like to take a look at the children's fantastic efforts, you can access the video by clicking on the following link: <https://youtu.be/0C2-o2nkcWU>

We hope you enjoy watching the video as much as the children enjoyed writing and performing it.

Local juries will select the regional winners this month by assessing the quality of the lyrics as well as the originality of the video. The winners from regional competitions will then automatically enter the national final held in London. Fingers crossed!



What's Happening Next Week

Tuesday 9th May

- Year 6 leave to go on Residential Trip
- Parent Meet and Greet with new Chair of Governors (14:30-15:15)

Wednesday 10th May

- Year 4 leave to go on Residential

Friday 12th May

- Year 4 and 6 return from Residential Trips