

# Newsletter

## Weekly news at St Christopher's



Dear Parents,

We started our week, on Tuesday, with a celebration of the incredible work of the nursing profession and the difference these people make to people's lives, in preparation for International Nurses Day which is celebrated around the world every year

on 12th May: the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. Mrs Mantel led the assembly, and talked about her time as a nurse, and how there is one thing all nursing staff have in common – their unwavering commitment to changing people's lives for the better, and not just their patients' lives, but the lives of their patients' families and loved ones too. We all enjoyed seeing some of our pupils dressed as nurses, as they role-played helping a patient. It also gave us an opportunity to challenge the gender stereotypes still held by young people, as discovered by a recent NHS study, that men are doctors and women are nurses. It was interesting that this idea also came up in our assembly by a few pupils! It is so important that we work in school to confront these gender stereotypes formed in our early years, as they often continue to influence our children's career considerations and decisions in later life. We want the pupils here to become whatever they want to be, and not be shackled to a generalised view or preconception about the roles that are, or should be, performed by men and women.

I hope you enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend, and perhaps enjoyed some celebrations over the Coronation. As part of this historic event, Britons were encouraged to volunteer in their communities during the Coronation weekend as part of a "national day of volunteering". You may know that the event, called the 'Big Help Out', was launched in a bid to turn around declining numbers of volunteers nationwide which hit record lows last year.

This has inspired us in school and, as part of our 130th School Birthday celebrations, we will be launching our own initiative called "St Christopher's in the Community". We are very excited about this, and we hope our pupils and families in the community will be too (more on the birthday event, and this initiative below).

Linked to this hope to engage in more charity work as a school, we hosted our first event working alongside the charity Re-engage, on Friday. This is a charity who work with older people who are feeling alone or isolated. We hosted a small tea party for 6 guests where some of our pupils performed and chatted to them. We hope this event helped to bring a little joy and laughter into our guest lives. Over the coming year, we hope to be able to do a little more of this in school, as well as encourage our pupils to seek out opportunities independently to help out within their own community.

We had two year groups out this week on their residential trips: Year 4 left on Tuesday for four days at Rockley Point, in Poole, and Year 4 departed on Wednesday to Grosvenor Hall, in Ashford. I enjoyed popping in for the day, on Thursday, to see Year 4, despite arriving in a hailstorm! I was put to the test on the 3G Swing with Mrs West (and apparently there is a very funny video of our descent too!) It was great to see the pupils out of a classroom environment, and I enjoyed watching them overcome challenges and achieve things that they did not think possible. I hope they have all returned with a large confidence boost that they can take into other areas of their life and learning, not to mention great memories.

Enjoy your weekend, and make sure you have lots of rest, as we have five days to get through next week!

Mr Carter  
**Head Teacher**

### **SCA**

Please check the Path to Play order spreadsheet emailed out yesterday. Now the Trim Trail has been allowed to settle, we plan to install the path during the May half term. Please ensure you have handed all new order forms to the school office or emailed [stchristophersassociation@gmail.com](mailto:stchristophersassociation@gmail.com) or any amendments by **Monday 15 May 2023**.

### **Catering Success**

The Kitchen staff had a surprise visit from Environmental Health Department on the Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> April. The inspector asked lots of questions and went through their bookwork. He was very impressed with the overall running and upkeep of the kitchen, and awarded us with a coveted 5 star rating. Obviously, we are delighted!

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### 130th Birthday Celebration

Our school will be turning 130 years old on 4th July 2023. We want to mark this important date by having a celebration in school with the children in the morning, and combine this with our Summer Fair in the afternoon.

On the day, we will have a special birthday celebration which will include a presentation of our very own commemorative 130th badge for all pupils! We will also be visited by the Bromley Major who will be opening our Legacy Garden, which will include a time capsule with messages from

the children about the future. There will be exciting activities throughout the day, including a fun STEM activity in the afternoon, as well as a BBQ for pupils at lunch.

On this day there will also be some commemorative merchandise which will be sold to raise money for the School.

Our Summer Fair will complete this day at run from 15:00-18:00 (approx).

**Please note:** School will finish at 15:00 for all pupils on that day. SCAMPS will run at this time until 17:30.

### St Christopher's In The Community Initiative

We will use this milestone in the School's history to launch a new initiative called 'St Christopher's in the Community' - an opportunity for our children/staff to give something back to our local community by pledging 130 hours a year to help those in need.

This initiative is not about raising money, but puts the School within the heart of our local community, where children and staff volunteer their time or expertise for a number of hours.

We will support this by creating a new hub on our website which will showcase some of the volunteering work we will do and make it a regular feature in our school newsletter and create space on a notice board within the School.

Examples could include (this is obvious; y not an exhaustive list):

- Visiting elderly people in local care homes
- Bringing xmas joy to our community by singing xmas carols in key locations
- Help elderly neighbours with errands
- Hosting tea parties in the school for elderly people to come in
- Planting flowers/plants in the local community gardens (support from council)

Each quarter we will track progress to show the number of hours we have delivered and also highlight children who go the extra mile. We hope, as well as hosting events within school including opportunities within our ECHO time, that pupils and their families will want to look for opportunities to help out and then share these with the School, in the same way we currently hear about pupil successes.

### Reviews

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>

### Curriculum Overviews

Each term, we create Curriculum Overviews to let you know what your child is doing in their school work. We hope these might be helpful to engage your children by talking to them about their learning and perhaps help them to re-search the topic through library visits/on-line research; or taking the children on educational visits if they are particularly interested.

We hope you find it useful! You can find the Summer Term overviews on the [school website](#).

### Pupil success

We are so proud of Sidharth and Aryan, in Year 4, who represented New Beckenham Cricket Club in the Coronation Cup (a South London U9, 8-a-side Kwik cricket tournament) over the weekend. They played four



teams, including Streatham & Marlborough, Catford and Cyphers, Dulwich U9s and Old Elthamians, but were short of 2 runs in their last match with Old Elthamians and conceded. A very close last match but it meant they sadly couldn't clear the round robin stage. Well done, boys!

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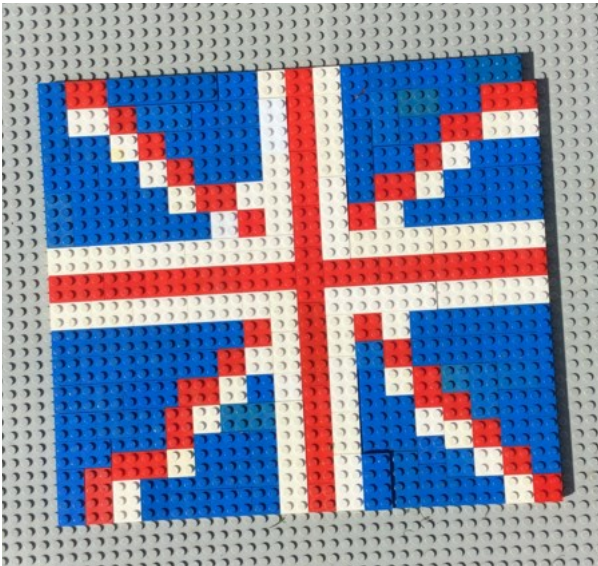
### Creators and Builders ECHO Club

To celebrate the King's Coronation, Outdoor Creators and Builders were given a brief to build a representation of this monumental event. The pupils worked in small teams to create structures such as Buckingham Palace, The Royal Gardens, Famous London Landmarks, and the Union Jack flag.

They demonstrated great teamwork skills and creativity throughout the session. We were extremely proud of their designs.



*We really enjoyed building Buckingham Palace using a range of Lego bricks outside on the playground (Anthony 5R)*



*We challenged ourselves to create the Union Jack flag using only red, white and blue bricks which was hard yet exciting (Maya 5R)*



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### Year 2

Year Two has been looking at poetry and spoken language to develop understanding through imagining and exploring ideas. They have created some amazing performances where they looked at actions to go with the words, rhythm and rhyme of Michael Rosen's 'The Rhythm of Life'. They displayed great Character Values in doing this and must be credited for their Teamwork, Adaptability and Enthusiasm. Here are a couple of still images from the video recordings we made of their performances. Can you guess which part of the poem they are performing? You will be able to see the full performances on our Youtube channel soon.

\*

### The Rhythm of Life

*Hand on the bridge  
feel the rhythm of the train.  
Hand on the window  
feel the rhythm of the rain.  
Hand on your throat  
feel the rhythm of your talk.  
Hand on your leg  
feel the rhythm of your walk.  
Hand in the sea  
feel the rhythm of the tide.  
Hand on your heart  
feel the rhythm inside.  
Hand on the rhythm  
feel the rhythm of the rhyme.  
Hand on your life  
feel the rhythm of time.  
hand on your life  
feel the rhythm of time  
hand on your life  
feel the rhythm of time.*



### Social Media

If you are not following us on social media, you are only getting half the story! You can follow us at [@stchristthehall](https://www.instagram.com/stchristthehall) on insta as well at [stchristthehall](https://www.facebook.com/stchristthehall) on facebook to get all the inside info from school life!



### E-Safety Tip

Here are five ways for children to get help if something goes wrong online, and they are great starting points for talking to your child about online safety. This comes from a great article to explore together with children, from Childline which you can find [here](#).



5 ways to get support if things go wrong

1. Talk to someone you trust like an adult, or you can always talk to a Childline counsellor
2. Report bullying and abuse directly to the website or app
3. Delete things you've shared that you're worried about, or find ways to hide them
4. Tell the police by making a report to CEOP if someone is threatening or blackmailing you
5. Plan for the future and change your privacy settings so it doesn't happen again

### *What's Happening Next Week*

- 🔔 **Monday 15th May**  
- Final orders for SCA Path to Play to be in.
- 🔔 **Tuesday 16th May**  
- Year 4 Cricket v Eltham  
(all children 14:30-16:30)
- 🔔 **Wednesday 17th May**  
- School Promotional video being filmed  
Drama workshop for Preschool  
(09:00-10:30)
- 🔔 **Thursday 18th May**  
- ISA Regional Athletics Qualifier  
(selected pupils - all day)
- 🔔 **Friday 19th May**  
- Pre-Prep Drama workshop (09:00-12:00)  
Year 4 Charity Sponsored Event