

Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



Dear Parents,

Can you believe it? We've just finished the last full week of this term, and there are only two full days of school left before we dive headfirst into the Christmas break! Time really does have a sneaky way of slipping through

our fingers, doesn't it? It feels like just yesterday we were gearing up for the start of the term, and now here we are, on the brink of festive adventures and well-deserved relaxation. So, ready or not, here comes the holiday hustle and bustle!

Our annual Parent Survey was distributed last Thursday, and if you happened to miss the link, you can access it [here](#). We believe that your input is invaluable, and the feedback received not only contributes positively to your child's learning experience, but also provides crucial insights for continuous improvement. Please take a moment to complete the survey over the Christmas period before we resume in the new year. While we appreciate the significance of these surveys, we also value face-to-face communication. If there are specific aspects of the school that you feel strongly about or have concerns regarding, we encourage you to visit us in person. My door is always open, and I am more than happy to discuss any matters with you, ensuring a more fruitful exchange.

This week, we hosted our second parents' evening on Tuesday. We trust that the face-to-face time with your child's teachers was beneficial. Please remember that parents' evenings serve as progress updates and ideally should not unveil surprises. Should you become aware of any issues throughout the year, please don't hesitate to contact the school promptly to schedule an appointment with the relevant staff. Similarly, the School will keep you informed of any concerns and collaborate with you to address them. It's important to focus on your child's achievements relative to their own capabilities rather than making comparisons with others.

Today was an absolute delight as I got to soak in the festive spirit seeing pupils wearing all those fantastic Christmas jumpers on display – some were absolute show-stoppers! The holiday cheer continued seamlessly with our school Christmas lunch, creating the perfect atmosphere for sharing

laughter and good food. As an extra treat, I held my Merit Lunch for those pupils who were awarded the most merits in each year group and we had a fabulous time pulling crackers and building the reindeer that we found inside. I also indulged in my first mince pie of the season, and let me tell you, it was pure holiday bliss.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome you to our Christmas Fair on Monday. We extend our gratitude to the SCA for their hard work, creativity, and logistical expertise in preparing for this event. The fair, scheduled within the school week, has been well-received by both staff and parents.

REMINDER: School will finish at approximately 15:00 for all pupils on Monday, with dismissal from alternative exits due to fair preparations at the main gate.

Preschool: 14:50 **SCAMPS Gate**

Reception: 14:50 **Front Door**

Years 1 & 2: 15:00 **SCAMPS Gate**

Years 3 & 4: 15:05 **Front Door**

Years 5 & 6: 15:10 **SCAMPS Gate**

Your participation fosters a sense of community, and we look forward to celebrating together.

Finally, a reminder that we also finish early on the final day of school on **Wednesday 13th December**.

The timings for collects are as follows:

11.20 - Preschool from SCAMPS Gate

11.30 - Reception from the Front Door

11.40 - Year 1 & 2 from the Main Gate

11.50 - Year 3 & 4 from the Main Gate

12.00 - Year 5 & 6 from the SCAMPS Gate

Have a lovely weekend and see you next week for our final few days.

Mr Carter

Head Teacher



Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



Year 5 trip

On Monday, Year 5 visited The Royal Observatory in Greenwich as part of their Space topic. When they arrived, they had the opportunity to explore the museum and the grounds. Despite the rainy weather, they had a great time exploring and observing a number of fascinating artefacts, including famous telescopes used to discover and observe a number of planets. After the trail, the children had a breathtaking experience in The



Planetarium. This cinema and simulator took the children on a journey around space; it was truly magical. Their final stop was a workshop all about the Sun, Earth and Moon. Again, one of the Astronomers shared



great knowledge and practical experiences with the children. Overall, it was a fantastic trip and the children thoroughly enjoyed it.

'The trip was phenomenal! I was fascinated by the dark room and looking through the obscurer as well as looking through old telescopes in the Octagon room; I can't believe I saw Saturn!' (Thomas 5R)

'I loved the Planetarium experience; it was really interesting and impressive. The trip was amazing; I loved it!' (Nancy 5L)

Year 2 trip

Year 2 have been learning about the Great Fire of London in Humanities, and now know almost all there is to know about the topic! Last Friday, we visited the Tower of London where we took part in a workshop, and we were lucky enough to see the Crown Jewels too! This Thursday, we completed our topic by setting alight to our cardboard model of Pudding Lane. It really helped us to understand how the fire spread so quickly in 1666!



Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



St Christopher's in the Community: Jansodean Care Home carol singing

A group of Year 6 pupils from our Chamber Choir took some Christmas cheer to the Jansodean Care Home on Thursday. They sang carols which some of the residents were able to join in with, it was a truly heartwarming experience. We presented them with lovely Christmas decorations made by the Year 2 and 3 children and the residents had made a Christmas card for each of the Choir. It was a very worthwhile afternoon and enjoyed by all!



Review

Please leave a reviews for us by using the link or QR code:

<https://g.page/r/Cd0V7pq2h8TCEAg/review>



Social Media

You can follow us at
[@stchristhehall](https://www.instagram.com/stchristhehall) on
insta as well at
[stchristhehallsport](https://www.facebook.com/stchristhehallsport) to get all the inside info from
school life!



E-Safety tip

On Tuesday 6th February we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2024. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policy-makers and more, to help to create a better internet. This year the campaign will be focusing on change online, this includes covering:



- Young people's perspective on new and emerging technology
- Using the internet to make change for the better
- The changes young people want to see online
- The things that can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act online and offline

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year. We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, for the UK Safer Internet Centre have created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at: saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents. Whether you have 5 minutes to start a conversation or hours to spare, there are top tips, quizzes and films which you can use at home with your child. If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher/myself or Mrs Cornish, our Designated Safeguarding Lead

Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



Gingerbread House Winners



We are delighted to announce that the winners of our Gingerbread House competition truly impressed us with their creativity and skill. With Mr. Carter, these talented individuals showcased their masterpieces, proving that icing cakes and decorating can be a piece of cake for them. Watch out, The Great British Bake Off, our budding bakers are on their way!



Carol Concert

Last week's Carol Service proved to be a magical occasion that brought the entire school community together in a festive spirit. The highlight of the afternoon was the exceptional singing. The harmonious voices of the choir and the entire congregation created a magical ambiance, making the Carol Service a truly memorable experience for all in attendance. We hope the Carol Service served



as the perfect kickoff to your Christmas festivities. Whether you were humming along to familiar carols or simply soaking in the festive atmosphere, we trust that the event added a special touch to your holiday preparations.

In the spirit of giving, we are thrilled to announce that our retiring collection from the Carol Service



totaled an impressive £443.35. This generous amount will now contribute to our collective yearly fundraising efforts for our chosen children's charity, Mind. The funds raised will play a crucial role in supporting the mental health and well-being of children, emphasising the spirit of compassion and community that defines our school ethos.

If you would like to relisten to the event, you can do so on our Youtube channel, [here](#)

Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



Pupil Achievement

We are so proud of Thomas 5R who entered his first gala for Royal Tunbridge Wells Monsoon swimming club and came 5th in his 50m breast-stroke, 4th in his 50m freestyle and an amazing 2nd place in the 100m freestyle (which was the first time he has swam that distance competitively). We are so proud of his achievements, but this is also bittersweet as he is leaving us at the end of this term as his family are moving to Tunbridge. However, we are so happy that he has already made new friends at his new club!



We are delighted to share the incredible initiative undertaken by Phoebe from 4M, who has taken it upon herself to make a significant difference in the lives of local children and families this Christmas. Phoebe's compassionate call for one extra present embodies the true spirit of the season, recognising that for some families, Christmas can be a challenging time. Her efforts to collect donations on December 6th and 8th before school demonstrate a remarkable commitment to spreading



joy and kindness. Phoebe's gifts, of over 80 individual items, bound for the Salvation Army in Beckenham, will undoubtedly brighten the holiday season for many children in need. Thank you for your generosity in supporting Phoebe's cause. Thank you, Phoebe, for inspiring us all.

Merry Christmas!

Christmas Fair

Only 3 days to go until the Christmas Fair and there is lots of buzz around the school! This year, we have a number of external stalls joining us including The German Sausage Man, The Bre3wery, The Vintage Cab selling hot drinks and mulled wine and South London Candles. There will be games and activities for the children, including a special visit from Santa. So please join us for a social afternoon of fun, games and shopping.

We will also be including a cake stand this year, so please do bring any cake donations on Monday morning at drop off, clearly labelled. Please ensure all cakes are nut free.

The fair will run from 3-6pm and the raffle will be drawn on Monday at 5.30pm.

We are still looking for volunteers to help set up on Monday, so if you can spare an hour or two please do contact Bobby or Emma Hill or your class rep.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the event.

What's Happening Next Week

Monday 11th December

- Preschool Early Learning Journey morning (08:00-09:00)
- Senior Choir carol singing at church (11:30-13:00)
- **SCHOOL FINISHES AT 15:00**
- Christmas Fair (15:00-18:00)

Tuesday 12th December

- Reception Nativity performance for parents (09:00-09:30)
- Year 1 and 2 Nativity performance for parents (10:00-11:00)

Wednesday 13th December

- Last day of term.
- **School finishes at 11:30/12:00**

What's Going on Next Term

Monday 8th January

- INSET day (school not open)

Tuesday 9th January

- School reopens for the Spring Term at 8:15