

Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 100th edition of our school newsletter!

This week was the last of our Prep School residential trips, with Year 3 students heading to Frylands on Thursday through to Friday.

I visited them on Thursday, and I was impressed by their wall climbing and obstacle course skills—much better than mine! As always, it is such a delight to see these trips foster self-confidence, personal growth, and new friendships in a safe, supportive setting.

I am delighted to share an update on our "St Christopher's in the Community" initiative, which we launched this time last year. This initiative placed St Christopher's

The Hall at the heart of our local community, with a pledge of 130 hours each year by our children and staff to help those in need through volunteering their time and expertise. We have been so delighted by the stories of pupils, parents, and staff giving their time over the course of this year and we know these actions would have

brought significant benefits to our community. We are thrilled to report that we are very close to reaching our target, with just ten hours remaining! As we approach the end of this academic year, I encourage you to share any recent or upcoming volunteer activities. Every contribution counts, and together we can surpass our goal; do let me know!

We were due to host our latest Parent Partnership event on Thursday this week, focusing on our English curriculum. However, realising that the England football game will clash with our English Curriculum event and we didn't want any parent to have to choose between the two. Therefore, we have decided to postpone it until September. This will hopefully be an even better time to engage with parents and let them know how the curriculum is taught in this core subject.

As I mentioned last week, we had our Digital Strategy meeting to further incorporate computing into school life, and prepare our students, making learning more engaging and personalised.. We want to make sure we successfully implement this, as well as support you as parents as much as possible. If you missed our launch meeting, the presentation slides are available on the Digital Strategy section of our school website. In addition, we welcome your questions and have created a Google form for you to submit inquiries, these might be technical, pastoral, logistical, and e-safety concerns, and these will help us to build a FAQ section on the website. Please view the Google form [here](#).

A friendly reminder that, next week, on Friday, although it is our Freedom Friday, it is a chance for

pupils to come in dressed as the profession they'd like to be when they are older. This was a suggestion from the School Council that we were happy to put into action. On this day, we would also appreciate it if you are able to donate anything for the upcoming Summer Fair. Thank you in advance for this as these donations help to

make the fair a success. This year, the Summer Fair is on Saturday 6th July,

Finally, I wanted to take a moment to remind you that Miss Hicks, who joined us this year on a maternity cover contract, will be finishing her time with us soon. While we are sad to see her go, we are excited for her as she embarks on a new teaching adventure in Spain next year. Rest assured, we will keep in touch with Miss Hicks, and if any opportunities arise, we would be delighted to welcome her back to our school as soon as possible because she has been amazing, and has been brilliant with Year 1 this year.

Do enjoy your weekend; let's hope for some more sun which graced us this week!

Mr Carter

Head Teacher

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Creative Writing Club

The Creative Writing Club have been taking after St Christopher's own Enid Blyton, penning tales of mystery and adventure. Exploring plotting, character-building and editing, the authors have been working hard on their craft, and we are delighted to share a sample of their work from the first half-term.

Spooky Times at Monster High

By Chiamaka Ngwaba, 3H

One spooky morning at Monster High, the students were so excited. Why? Because it was exchange week, and Monster High had let witches in. It was so cool! Everyone was buzzing around like bees. Dracula, Frankie and Claudine were waiting for a Gorgon. Not just any special Gorgon, Claudine's best friend called Dose.

To be continued...

Why Why Why: Ickworth Ghost 1771

By Nancy Grainger 5L

Inspired by a real tale.

I have a new tale for you tonight... a ghost story. What will happen? Read on for more.

Working day and night were the Ickworth staff, to make the hotel perfect for the guests. But one thing they could not change is the ghost that went all around the house. I hear you ask 'why can't they get rid of it?' Because the hotel was owned by the National Trust. They could not take anything away or add anything. The swimming pool needed some paint, the rooms needed paint, everywhere and everything needed a new layer of paint. The one thing that would have made a ghost go away was some new paint. But the National Trust would have found out if they had put new paint in because they had controlled Ickworth's money.

The ghost had started getting found out about, so people did not want to go to Ickworth anymore. It was a hard time for the employees as they one by one got fired. There was soon nothing left for the hotel but to be shut down. All the ex-employees were like 'why, why, why Ickworth ghost? You have ruined it for us.'

The Ickworth ghost disappeared soon after they had shut down: the National Trust actually had

wanted a new layer of paint but they had been too scared that the Ickworth team would have chosen the wrong colour.

The Mysterious, Mischievous Mermaid

By Evie Michael 4S

Beside the glistening, crystal blue sea, the twisting palm tree swayed gently in the breeze, while its vines coiled their way around the fishing dock. Amethyst Dolphin was going to school. It wasn't any ordinary school though – it was a school for mermaids. Amethyst had been invited to go there and she was extremely nervous! Her most treasured friend Amber was going too, much to her comfort.

She swam through the coral reefs, bursting with vibrant colours such as neon red, bright green and yellow. She swam to a flat next to Madame Oyster's home in search of her friend. Madame Oyster was a cheerful lady who played the violin. The door of her house was covered with barnacles and oysters that shimmered and glistened in the daylight.

Amethyst swam cautiously through the flat. There was no sign of Amber or her parents. *Are they hurt? Did something happen? BANG. Who's there?*

Suddenly, a figure lurched out of the shadows...

To be continued...



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Phase Fusion

Entering into our final half term, Wednesday ECHO Clubs have transformed into the wonderful Phase Fusion.

The children of 2J have the opportunity to 'buddy up' with the pupil's of 6C each Wednesday afternoon in a range of activities supported by Mrs Oliver, Mrs Morley, Mrs Cremer and Mr Chowdhury.

In the first week, 2J and 6C worked together to create their own mini-Olympics series of events using a range of PE equipment and a random object, for example a flat cap. The children planned their ideas and devised a fun activity that they had to learn and then teach the upcoming group of year 2 pupils. Their final series of events were innovative and fun.

In week 2, the children were tasked with creating Outdoor Art to make Outdoor Art involving hanging bamboo mobiles in which



they needed to carefully measure and find the middle of each piece of bamboo and suspend it on thin, coloured wire before decorating and balancing each piece in order for them to hang and move freely from a height. The children worked brilliantly in their collaborative groups and created beautiful art inspired by Andrew Cooper and Arko.



The children in Reception and Year 4 have also enjoyed their sessions together. They used many of our Character Values including: common sense, teamwork, creativity and adaptability, to design their own assault course using a range of equipment. Lots of fun was had trialling each course too. It was a superb opportunity to develop their communication skills with peers from a different year group.

We are looking forward to the following weeks and having the chance to build on the relationships started and have fun together.

Allergy reminder:

Please do not send in snacks which contain nuts or sesame seeds.



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Upcoming events this term

We have many events for parents at this end of the year, we thought we would flag them up for you!

Year 5 and 6 Show (25th June from 18:00-19:30) - Our oldest pupils will take to the stage with a singing and acting extravaganza

New Parents BBQ (27th June from 18:00-20:00) - This is an event for all new parents joining us next year, as well as for those from Preschool who are moving up to Reception.

Preschool Sports Day (28th June 11:00-12:10) - Our youngest pupils take to the sports field for a morning of athletics and fun!

Transition meeting for Year 2 parents moving to Year 3 (2nd July 15:20-16:00) - This is an opportunity for our Year 2 parents to meet with Miss Rule (Head of Prep) and Mr Codd (Year 3 teacher next year) as they look ahead to these pupils moving from KS1 to KS2 and what to expect.

Pre-Prep and Prep Sports Day (5th July 09:30-13:00) - We have a morning of sports where each of the four Houses will compete in our friendly and fun sports day. More info around more specific times will be given next week.

End of Year Reports to go out (5th July at 4pm) - Your child's report will be emailed to you on this day, and we know you will be proud of their progress. Preschool reports will go home along with the Learning Journals.

Summer Fair (Saturday 6th July 12:00-15:00) - Our SCA have a great event planned and we are looking forward to hopefully seeing you at some point during the afternoon

Year 6 Celebration (9th July 17:00-18:00) We will be celebrating Year 6's triumphant time at our school at St George's Church as we wish them well for their future

End of Term - (Friday 12th July from 11:30-12:00) - Our academic year finishes at the earlier time - please note for pickups on this day.

Sustainability and Charity

Books2Africa (books2africa.org) is a UK-based charity that breathes new life into educational resources. Their mission is to collect new and used books and computers, which would otherwise be discarded, and distribute them to approved beneficiaries across the African continent. Through their efforts, they have remarkably recycled and distributed over 3 million books across 24 African countries, diverting a staggering 1.5 million kilograms of reusable educational materials from landfills and recycling sites in the UK.

Inspired by their cause and our shared commitment to sustainability, our school took action with a significant number of out-of-date textbooks and books. Rather than consigning these resources to the skip, with the help of some Year 5 pupils, we boxed up 120kg of books into 6 boxes and donated them to Books2Africa. This decision not only aligns with our drive to be an environmentally conscious and sustainable institution but also enables us to contribute meaningful community service hours.

The journey of our donation does not end there. Books2Africa will track and notify us about the final destination of our donated materials, allowing us to witness the tangible impact our efforts have on educational endeavours across Africa.



Social Media

You can follow us at [@stchristhehall](https://www.instagram.com/stchristhehall) on Insta and X, as well as [@stchristhehallsport](https://www.facebook.com/stchristhehallsport) to get all the inside info from school life! On Facebook where we have St Christopher's School Group



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Charity and community work

On Friday 15th June, Lily and Neve (5L), created a lemonade stand outside their house. They decorated a table and made homemade lemonade. Each cup was 50p, but lots of people gave them tips! In total, they raised £12.11. They said "We were very surprised at the amount of money we raised, people were very generous! All of this money will be going to our school charity, Mind, and we would like to continue to fundraise for this worthy cause!"



St Christopher's in the Community

As part of our work within our community, today we met with the Bromley Children and Families Forum, who in partnership with Bromley Rotary Game Changers, is hosting a Family and Community Funday.

This event is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the power of community partnerships and charities in supporting the residents of the London Borough of Bromley whilst raising much-needed funds for their charity organisation, Bromley Children and Families Forum, to continue their impactful work in the community.

We donated a raffle prize on behalf of the school and hope some of you can join them tomorrow Saturday 22nd June 2024, for a day of fun at Croydon Road Recreation Ground, Beckenham BR3 3NR -11am to 3pm.



Uniform

During the Summer uniform period, we wanted to alert parents specifically to when girls are wearing summer dresses, and suggest considering the option of having them wear discreet cycling shorts underneath. This can help ensure their comfort and modesty while sitting or participating in various activities. We understand that this might not currently be a part of the official uniform, but we

are considering making it an option for the next academic year. In the meantime, purchasing a pair of cycling shorts that are not visible or extending below the hemline can be a practical solution.



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Cultural Celebration

On Wednesday, the children were treated to another Cultural Celebration Assembly. Mrs Bibby shared fascinating facts and phenomenal photos from her home country, Argentina. There were amazed, engaged faces all around the room and a plethora of questions about this incredible country. Thank you, Mrs Bibby! If you would like to share your heritage, culture or religion in a Cultural Celebration Assembly next academic year, please email mail@ as we love celebrating our community at St Christopher's.



Year 2

Year 2 have just completed their DT/Food Technology Teaching Sequence on 'Making a Healthy Wrap'. Over the last few weeks, they have carried out lots of research on nutri-



tion, food groups and participated in taste experiments. They have also looked into packaging and marketing, working out the best way to design their boxes. Last Friday, the children finally made their wraps, folding them beautifully and producing an aesthetically pleasing and very tasty end.



What's Happening Next Week

Monday 24th June

- Year 3/4 selected pupils mixed Cricket v Royal Russell (15:15-17:30)

Tuesday 25th June

- Year 5/6 show (18:00-19:30)

Thursday 27th June

- New Parents' BBQ for parents joining the School in Autumn 2024 (18:00-20:00)

Friday 28th June

- Music Exams - all day
- SCA Collections for Summer Fair (pupils can dress as what they'd like to be when they grow up)
- 4M Mind Charity Bake Sale (10:40-11:00)
- Preschool Sports day (11:00-12:10)

Emailing teachers

REMINDER: - ALL emails to teachers should use the mail@stchristophersthehall.org.uk

