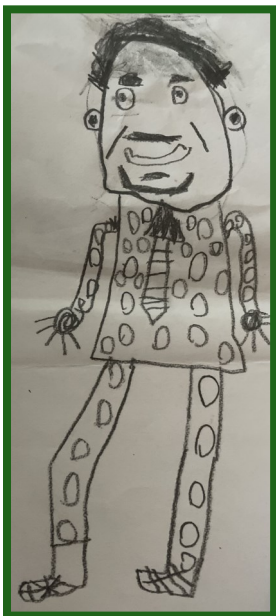


Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



Dear Parents,

You might have noticed something a little different about this week's newsletter—I've swapped out my usual photo for something extra special! There are two pictures on this page though, guess which one is me!

Recently, I had the pleasure of visiting Year 2 to see their lesson investigating leaders. I was genuinely touched to see that some of the children had chosen to draw me as part of their project. Their artwork was so impressive that I thought it would be wonderful to feature the

creation by Rex in this newsletter.

We're excited to welcome David Brookes as our new counsellor this week! While the term "counsellor" might sound serious, David is here as a valuable resource for all our students, supporting both everyday challenges and more specific concerns. Just as we focus on physical fitness, it's equally important to nurture our mental well-being. David will be teaching skills like stress management, emotional regulation, and fostering a growth mindset, helping students develop resilience and positive mental habits from a young age. This week, David led a session with Year 6 to help them manage the potential stress of preparing for the 11+ exams and the transition to secondary school. Over the coming weeks, he will visit all the classes, accompanied by his adorable therapy puppy, Hendrix, who's sure to bring plenty of smiles and serotonin boosts! You can follow their journey on Instagram at [Hendrix and Elvis Care](#). With parental consent, David will also be available to work one-on-one with children who may need extra support. If you're interested in learning more about how David's expertise can benefit your child, please reach out to Mrs. Cornish at Mail@. Having a counsellor on site is a fantastic asset, and we look forward to the positive impact David and Hendrix will have on our school community!

I hope the 5-minute remote meetings, on Tuesday and Thursday, with your child's class teacher were helpful. Connecting early in the year is valuable for

both parents and teachers, helping to establish strong communication and ensure everyone is aligned regarding your child. Thank you for your participation, and we look forward to a successful partnership in supporting your child's education.

This week, Mrs. Cornish and Mrs. Chamadia led our Wednesday assembly, where they explained their crucial roles as our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL). They took this opportunity to explain these roles in child-friendly terms, emphasising to the students that there are many trusted adults in school who are here to support them. It's important for us that every child feels they have a voice and feels confident to speak out. We encourage all pupils to share any issues with a teacher or trusted adult at school as their first step. When problems are only brought to our attention after they've been discussed at home, it can sometimes create more complications than necessary. Addressing concerns early on with a teacher helps us resolve them more effectively and prevents them from growing into larger issues. Remember, our goal is to ensure that every child feels supported and that problems are managed swiftly and appropriately.

Do enjoy your weekend.

Mr Carter

Head Teacher



Newsletter

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Recycling Week

This week, we have been celebrating Recycling Week at St Christopher's. Younger children enjoyed reading 'The Messy Magpie', to learn about the impact recycling and disposing of refuse properly can have on animals and ecosystems. Older children learnt about what items can be recycled and looked at challenge cards to see how they could continue this good work outside of school. Finally, the wonderful Year 5 Recycling Monitors began their invaluable weekly work ensuring paper and cardboard around the school was placed into the Bromley's Schools Recycling Bins, ready for collection.



Grandparents' Tea

Just a quick reminder about our Grandparents' Tea on **Wednesday, 6th November**, during the first week back after half-term. This special event is for grandparents and elderly relatives to enjoy tea, scones, and a performance by their grandchild.

Timings:

- **Reception - Year 2:** 09:45-10:45 (10:15 start)
- **Year 3 and 4:** 13:15 - 14:15 (13:45 start)
- **Year 5 and 6:** 14:45 - 15:45 (15:00 start)

Please fill out the Google Form [here](#) to confirm attendance. Note: There is a limit of four guests per child and this event is specifically for grandparents and elderly relatives, not parents.



Reception

This week, Reception have enjoyed trying out different vegetables in their English lesson! They have been thinking about a range of adjectives to describe the delicious veg whilst tucking in. We have had some fantastic descriptions such as 'crunchy', 'snappy' and 'gooey'; someone even thought the baked beans felt 'bubbly'! This immersive experience is leading up to the children attempting to write adjectives in their English books to caption the pictures. We can't wait to see what fantastic words they will produce!



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Ipads and Digital Strategy

We could not be happier with our launch of 1-to-1 devices across Years 3 and 4. We have been using iPads as part of our new hybrid system at St Christopher's, which allows us to remain on the cutting edge of digital learning while continuing to develop the traditional skills such as writing for the children too. We have had such fantastic support from the parents involved but equally, the children have risen to the occasion, flexing their indepen-

dence in regards to looking after the iPads and showing resilience when learning new skills. We have had plenty of fantastic experiences using iPads to learn but the winner this week has to be Digimaps. Year 3 have been using Digimaps to learn about Egypt's location and what countries neighbour it. It has been a fantastic tool to help children understand where countries are located and we are only just getting started!



REMINDER: Parent Partnership - Reading and phonics workshop for Reception Parents

We are pleased to invite you to our *Reception Reading Meeting* on:

Monday, 23rd September at 4:00 PM.

Reading is a fundamental aspect of the Reception curriculum, and we hope parents will actively engage in supporting this key area of their child's development. During the meeting, we will outline our approach to teaching reading in Reception and discuss ways you can further support your child's progress at home.



For those unable to attend, the presentation slides will be shared after the meeting to ensure you have access to the key information. We look forward to your participation in this important event.

Year 5

Year 5 has enjoyed a magnificent, productive and positive start to the academic year. Whilst getting to know their new peers, we read the initial chapters of 'Wonder' by R J Palacio. This text inspired a lively conversation about everyone's individuality and what makes each one of us special. Following on from these discussions, we created our own self portrait in the style of Wonder's front cover. The children then decorated these with words that best describe their personality, hobbies and characteristics. We hope you enjoy seeing our Year 5 display celebrating each student within 5S & 5L.



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Flu Vaccinations

Flu can be a serious illness in children. Every child from Reception to Year 11 is offered the flu vaccine each year. The School Immunisation Team is visiting our school on Monday 7th October. If you wish your child to have the flu vaccine, please complete your consent form <https://sav.hrch.nhs.uk/flu/2024/bromley>

If you have any questions about the flu vaccine, please contact the Bromley School Age Immunisation team:

020 3903 3375

HRCH.ImmunisationTeamBromleyMailbox@nhs.net



Protect your child from flu this winter!



The Bromley School Immunisation team will be visiting your child's school soon



Scan the QR code to complete the Flu consent form

For more information on the Children's Flu vaccine, search: "NHS Children's Flu"

Contact the Bexley School Immunisation team on: 020 3903 3375

Social Media

If you are not following us on social media, you are only getting half the story!

You can follow us at @stchristhehall on Insta and X, as well as @stchristhehallsport to get all the inside info from school life! You can also now follow us on Facebook where we have St Christopher's School Group.



PE

Two and half weeks into the term, it has been an absolute pleasure getting to know the children from Preschool through to Yr 6. The focus so far this term in PE has been gymnastics and hockey and we are already extremely impressed with the work the children are producing. In gymnastics, pupils have been working on their balance and movement skills and will be linking these different elements to create individual and group sequences over the coming weeks. In hockey, pupils have been working on their dribbling and passing skills and will be developing their understanding of how these skills can be applied to match situations. Netball and rugby continue to be the focus in games and it was great to see our Year 3 & 4 girls play their first netball fixture this week at Royal Russell. The hard work they have put in in lessons was clear to see and they should all be proud of how they performed.



We are also extremely pleased to welcome Sam Tyler to the team on Friday afternoons, to work with our pupils in Year 5 & 6. Sam's experience as a coach will translate well to the games field and we look forward to utilising his knowledge and skills to develop tennis at St Christopher's over the coming months ahead.



Please check out our regular weekly roundup of fixtures and sporting events posted by the PE department on Instagram.

What's Happening Next Week

Monday 23rd September

- Parent Partnership Event - Reading workshop for Reception parents (16:00-16:30)