Newsletterneek Ed Weekly news at St Christopher's

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Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a lovely time over the Bank Holiday on Monday - didn't the shorter week seem to whizz by in the blink of an eye? With just four days, it's been a jam-packed but wonderfully vibrant week here!

This week has been our an-

nual Focus Week - a time when we pause the regular rhythm of school life to shine a spotlight on a key area of learning. In the past, we've zoomed in on Science and STEM, but this year, we've turned our attention to something at the very heart of who we are: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). In today's world - and especially for the young people growing up in it - understanding and celebrating differences is not just important, it's essential. EDI isn't a box-ticking exercise; it's about nurturing empathy, curiosity, respect, and a global perspective. These values are vital as our children step into a world that is both beautifully diverse and, at times, challenging to navigate. We are incredibly lucky to have Mrs Shivers and Mrs Titchener leading this area across the school. Over the past few years, they've been working with curriculum leads to make sure that EDI is reflected in everything we teach - from the books we read, to the historical figures we study, to the examples we use in science and maths. It's a whole-school approach, and one we're deeply proud of. This week, each class was allocated a part of the world to research and explore through a broad, cross-curricular lens. From art to geography, music to food, children have been learning about different cultures and communities - celebrating the richness of the world we live in. It's been a colourful, creative, and inspiring celebration of EDI in action! We hope many of you were able to join us in the Upper Hall today for our "Walk Around the World," where the children showcased their learning from the week. It's always a joy to see their work come to life, and even more special when they can proudly share it with you.

As if that wasn't enough excitement for one week, we also launched our brand new Kindness Initiative during our House Meeting! Last term, we focused on life skills; this term, we're turning our attention to one of the simplest but most powerful human qualities: kindness. Each child has been given a Kindness Menu—a selection of kind acts to try and complete throughout the term. In a busy world, kindness can sometimes be forgotten amidst the rush of everyday life. But taking a moment to notice, to help, to uplift - it matters. You can find the full list of tasks and more information on the initiative here on our website. Throughout the term, we'll be celebrating children who con sistently show this remark-able quality - not just in grand gestures, but in small, meaningful ways that brighten someone's day.

And finally... drumroll please... last week I hinted (okay, gushed!) about our inspection report—and now it's live and ready for you to read! You'll find the full report on our website, and it is a source of huge pride for all of us. We are absolutely delighted to share that our inspection by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI), which took place in March 2025, resulted in a brilliant outcome across the board. The report celebrates not just academic excellence, but every part of school life: leadership, teaching, pastoral care, and personal development. We are especially proud to have been awarded a Significant Strength in the leadership of teaching and learning - an accolade only given in rare and exceptional circumstances. This highlights the sustained, wide-reaching impact of our teaching across the school, and it's a powerful affirmation of what we strive for every day: a culture of reflection, excellence, and belief in every child's potential. The inspectors praised our inclusive ethos, the richness of our curriculum, and the strong sense of community that runs through the school. Most of all, they recognised what we value most: children who feel known, inspired, and excited to learn. This report is a celebration of everything our school community stands for thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and partnership in making St Christopher's The Hall such a special place to grow and learn. You can read the full report by clicking on this link where it is housed on our website.

Wishing you all a restful weekend ahead! Mr Carter

Head Teacher

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Reception

In Reception children have been busy on an exciting journey around Asia as part of EDI week. As part of their learning they explored different aspects of Asian culture, with a special focus on food, transitions and celebrations. The classroom



was filled with colour and curiosity as the children took part in a wide range of fun and engaging activities. They tried Asian food, learnt about various cultural transitions across



Asian countries, listened to stories from different parts of Asia and learnt some interesting facts about animals that live in Asia. It has been a fantastic, hands-on way to introduce Reception to the rich and diverse cultures of Asia and encourage respect for different traditions.

Year 3 and 4

Year 3 and 4 have been having a brilliant time learning all about North and South America! Our classrooms have been filled with excitement as we explore these fascinating continents' rich cultures, landscapes and histories.

One of our favourite activities has been designing and creating our Mayan hot chocolate pots. Using traditional patterns and designs from across South America as inspiration, the children have produced some truly eye-catching pieces while learning about the importance of art in ancient civilisations.



We also had great fun making guacamole from scratch. It was a delicious way to discover more about South American foods; we learnt about where the ingredients come from and how they are used in different cultures.

These fantastic activities are part of our EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) Week celebrations. It's been a wonderful opportunity to learn about different cultures and traditions through creative, hands-on experiences—and this is only a small glimpse of all the exciting learning we've been doing.

There's still so much more to share, so don't forget to ask us about EDI Week today!



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May Half Term Holiday Club

We are delighted to launch our new holiday camp provision, in partnership with Munchkin Sports. Many of you may already know of Munchkins, as several of our pupils go to their holiday camps or weekend classes at St Dunstan's and Langley Park Boys.

This partnership is really good news for our school, as for some time now we have been looking to expand our childcare offering outside of term time and we are so pleased that Munchkin Sports are providing this provision for us. With over 40 different activities each week to keep the kids entertained, safe and happy during the school holidays, we know they are going to love it. We will also have more exciting news of other provisions to share with you all very soon.

Camp is open to all children from Preschool through to Year 6. The typical day at camp runs from 9:30am – 4:30pm with extended hours available to anyone who may require the additional childcare. Day rates start from £35, with discounts available for full week and sibling bookings. Payments can also be made using childcare vouchers or Tax Free Childcare.

Munchkins are also offering all parents of our

pupils a 25% discount across all days in May

For more information, please visit www.munchkinsports.com

Bookings are now live for May Half Term

- Pre-school camp: https://munchkin-sportsholiday-camps.classforkids.io/camp/606
- Main camp (Reception Year 6): https:// munchkin-sports-holiday-camps.classforkids.io/ camp/605

Parent Reviews

"I've spent the last few years trying to find a holiday camp that both my children (aged 8 and 10) enjoy, to no avail, until they spent summer at Munchkin Sports. They had an absolute ball! At drop off and pick up I was really struck by the energy of all the coaches working with the children and left them each day confident that they'd have a good time, unlike previous years with other camp providers. My kids had so much fun they even asked to go on days that I don't work and hence didn't require childcare!" Parent of two St Dunstan's College Camp children

"Munchkin Sports have done an amazing job, it is literally the first summer club that our children

> have been really happy at. They came out bouncing. In our experience other camps' staff are not of the same calibre as the Munchkins crew and the children are not as inspired. The whole attitude, approach and activities that Munchkin Sports offer is much better. They were so imaginative with small touches, like playing music and having bubbles, that really helped with drop off." Parent of a Langley



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Year 1 & 2

Year 1 & 2 had a fabulous time learning about Australia and New Zealand this week, during EDI week.

We listened to Aboriginal Dreamtime stories, or Jukurrpa, which are a vital part of Aboriginal culture. We learned that the Indigenous peoples of Australia have lived there for over 50,000 years. We also looked at Aboriginal art which represents a deep connection to the land, cultural traditions, and the Dreaming, and often features symbolic imagery and stories. We all created our own stories and art work inspired by Aboriginal art and Dreamtime stories.

Year 1 also had so much fun flying kites decorated with Kowhaiwhai Patterns. These are a unique Maori art form from Aotearoa New Zealand. Traditionally painted on rafters and Waka paddles, increasingly they are used in many other contemporary contexts, from sports clothing to phone covers. Traditionally they are red, black and white. Year 1 designed our own Kowhaiwhai inspired patterns and used them to decorate Matariki celebration kites.

In Maths we were trying to work out what time it was in Melbourne, which meal they would be eating, when their new school year starts and why it is different from ours. We also learned that we have the same King, but we have different holidays and celebrations, for example, we commemorate VE day, but in Australia they have ANZAC day. We researched lots of the differences and similarities between the UK and Australia and decided that many of these are due to the fact that the counties are in different hemispheres and different continents.

In Year 2 We laughed our way through our music lesson trying to play a didgeridoo, Stefan

was really good at it! We all made a great noise! We also loved making boo-merangs in art with Miss Williams and we cannot wait to try them out at home! Year 1 and 2 have had a fan-tastic week focusing on a culture and continent on the other side of the world.



SCA

The SCA team has been busy planning a range of exciting events for the summer term!
We're thrilled to be hosting our first Sound Bath in collaboration with Mindful Sounds on Thursday, 22nd May at 7:30pm in the main school hall.We've had a fantastic response so far, and if you'd like to join us, please use the link below to book your place:

https://www.scasales.co.uk/product-page/sound -bath

We're also delighted to present our very first Open Air Cinema Day on Saturday, 30th August. Bring your family and friends to St Christopher's The Hall and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with Sapore Vero pizza, cocktails, sweets, popcorn, and a great film to round off the summer together. It's the perfect way to reconnect before the new school year begins! Tickets available soon!

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.



What's Happening Next Week

△ Monday 12th May

- Year 6 away IOW Residential (all week)
- Preschool Drama Workshop (09:00-10:00)
- Year 3 Parents' Meeting re: Residential (16:00-16:30)

Tuesday 13th May

- Year 4 Cricket v Colfes All Year 4, (13:00-16:20)

Friday 16th May

- Preschool Stay and Play for Prospective Parents (13:15-14:15)