

Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and refreshing half-term break. It's been lovely to see the children bounce back into school full of energy and enthusiasm - and we've certainly hit the ground running!

Before we launch into what's already been a brilliant start to the week, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on a truly fantastic success story: the launch of our new Holiday Club, expertly run by the wonderful team at Munchkins. From all reports and over social media - and the smiles on the children's faces - it was a roaring success! The sessions were brimming with variety, creativity, and adventure, from themed activity days to sports, crafts, and everything in between. The feedback from families has been overwhelmingly positive, and we're so pleased it was such a hit. Many parents shared how much they appreciated the flexibility and how valuable it was to have such an enriching option available during the half-term, especially for working families. We're already looking forward to our Summer Holiday Club, which will run throughout the holidays - booking details will be coming your way very soon. Watch this space!

Speaking of energetic adventures, Year 6 had a very exciting start to their week, as a fantastic opportunity arose for them to visit the Chelsea FC training ground in Cobham. They enjoyed a full tour of the grounds and even got to take part in a professional training session led by the club's own Academy Coaches. It was a day to remember - and there were certainly a few future Premier League stars in the making!

Over the next two weeks our school will have a touch of extra sparkle, as we welcome a professional photographer to capture the joy, creativity, and buzz of daily life at St Christopher's. These images will be used to refresh our website and marketing materials. We are sure that the photographs will truly capture the magic that happens here every day. I can't wait to share them with you.

And on the subject of school magic... it has been especially wonderful to see our exceptional ISI inspection report continuing to gain recognition!

Several education and news publications have picked up the story, and the write-ups have been just lovely. It's so heartening to see the hard work of our pupils and staff being celebrated in such a public way. The report shines a bright light on all that makes St Christopher's so special - our nurturing ethos, inspiring teaching and the joyful, purposeful buzz that fills our corridors.

Please follow these links to see:

[Absolutely Education](#)

[Primary Times](#)

[Inside Kent](#)

[Southwark News](#)

Finally, I have some important staffing news to share. As many of you are already aware, our long-standing and much-loved Bursar, Mrs Stamate, will be retiring at the end of the academic year. I am truly saddened by this news on a personal and professional level. Mrs Stamate has been more than a colleague - she has been a guide, a wise counsel, and a deeply loyal advocate for the school in every way, shape, and form. Her knowledge, her humour, and her heart will be sorely missed by us all - and by me most of all. However, I'm pleased to say that in the same breath, I am also able to share some exciting news about the future. I am delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Nilsson as our new School Operations Manager. This is a vital role for the school, encompassing leadership and strategic oversight of administration, finance, estates, facilities, and all aspects of the school's operational running. Equally important, Mrs Nilsson will act as our key link between the school and the wider group, helping us to make the most of the exciting opportunities that come from being part of a family of schools, while always advocating clearly and passionately for St Christopher's at every operational level. Following a highly competitive recruitment process with a strong field of candidates, I know Mrs Nilsson will carry out this role with style, efficiency, and real clarity of purpose. She is already keen to begin streamlining systems and procedures to make our internal operations as smooth and effective as possible - and we are thrilled to have her on board in this new capacity.

Warmest wishes,

Mr Carter

Head Teacher

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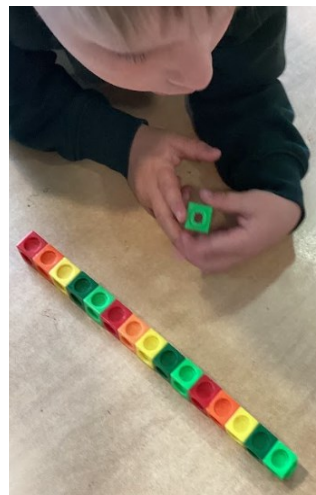


Reception

This week, Reception has made the most of the wet weather and we have enjoyed exploring and discovering the minibeasts in the Prep garden. In between the heavy clouds we dashed around the garden, carefully lifting planters and digging in pots to find many bugs and insects. The rain fall has enabled us to look closely at snails, slugs and worms and to discuss the differences in the insects and bugs we have found. The children were fascinated to learn that some minibeasts have an exoskeleton. We compared it to a suit of armour!

We have also been having lots of fun challenging

ourselves with tricky repeating patterns in maths. The children have attempted to create and complete a variety of complex repeating patterns for each other using a range of resources. They have begun to use the correct mathematical language to name these patterns, exclaiming phrases such as "I have made an AABBC pattern!"



SCA

We're excited to share some wonderful events coming up in the next few weeks! Here's everything you need to know:

Balloons of Gratitude – Father's Day Event

We invite families to join our special Father's Day celebration, *Balloons of Gratitude*. Please confirm whether your child will participate by completing the Google form by **Friday 6th June**. Rest assured, the children will bring their thoughtful gifts home—they will not be released into the air.

[Confirm participation here](#)

Bottle and Toy Donations – Summer Fair Tombolas

On **Tuesday 17th June at drop off**, please bring along any bottle and toy donations for our

Summer Fair tombolas. Your contributions help make this event a success and add to the fun!

Save the Date: Summer Fair

Our much-loved Summer Fair will be held on **Friday 27th June from 3pm to 5:30pm**. Tickets will be available soon, so keep an eye out to join in the festivities.

Save the Date: Open Air Cinema Evening

Looking ahead to the summer, don't miss our **Open Air Cinema evening on Saturday 30th August**. Tickets for this magical night under the stars will be available soon.

We look forward to seeing families at these exciting events, celebrating community, fun, and togetherness!



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Year 4 Residential Trip to Leeson House

Year 4 had a terrific time away at the beautifully located Leeson House in Dorset, near Poole Bay. Leaving early on Monday morning, the children travelled in style aboard the West Ham United team bus, making the long journey comfortable and enjoyable.

Upon arrival, we were greeted by our tutor, Steph, who outlined the expectations for the visit and gave us an overview of the exciting activities ahead. We jumped straight into our first task: orienteering around the expansive grounds of Leeson House. With maps in hand, the children worked in teams to locate checkpoints and tackle some fiendish challenges that required collaboration and problem-solving.

After a delicious dinner of burgers, chips, and Eton Mess, the children settled into their rooms and faced the next challenge - getting their rooms ready and making their own beds, before heading out to explore the nearby village of Langton Matravers. Steph shared fascinating tales of the village's smuggling history, including the tragic story of a local boy named Frederick. By the time we returned, had showers, and sipped on hot chocolate, it was time for a well-earned rest.

On Day 2, after a hearty breakfast, the children recapped their knowledge of the water cycle and river formation before heading out to study the River Piddle. Using scientific equipment, they measured and recorded data—and even sampled the river for signs of life. Many wellington

boots ended up full of water, but the hands-on experience made for a memorable morning.

After lunch, tutor Alex led a map-reading and compass-based activity that challenged the children to crack a spy-themed code using their navigation skills. The day ended with another tasty dinner and a fun-filled evening playing games on the upper field as the sun went down.

Our final morning was grey and drizzly, but spirits remained high. The children packed their belongings, stripped their beds, and enjoyed breakfast before boarding the coach for a visit to the seaside town of Swanage. Despite the rain, everyone thoroughly enjoyed time on the beach and a delicious gelato treat—purchased with their own pocket money!

By late morning, it was time to return home to the families we

had all missed. Year 4 were a real credit to themselves and to St Christopher's. Every child found something they enjoyed and felt proud of during this special three-day adventure.

Well done, Year 4!



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Lost Property!!!

We currently have an overwhelming amount of lost property in the box located in the Reception area - and sadly, much of it remains unnamed and unclaimed. Before the half term break, we laid everything out on a table by the gate in hopes of helping items find their way home, but once again, many belongings were left behind. We completely understand that school uniform is a significant expense, and we want to assure you that we are continuing to encourage all pupils to take greater responsibility for their belongings. This is not just about tidiness - it's an important life lesson about ownership and care.

However, we need your help too. Please ensure that every item of uniform is clearly named. This makes it so much easier for us to return lost items promptly to their rightful owners.

We will be putting the lost property out again on a table next week. Any items not claimed by the end of the week will be passed on to our second-hand uniform store so they can be repurposed. Thank you for your support and understanding!

Supporting Children Through Change **Upcoming Parent Talk**

As the academic year draws to a close, many children will be navigating change - whether it's moving up a year group, getting to know a new teacher, or preparing for a new school altogether. We recognise that these transitions can be both exciting and challenging for young minds.

To support families during this period, we're delighted to invite you to a short talk led by our School Counsellor, titled "Positively Framing Change." The session will explore how we, as adults, can help children view change as a natural and manageable part of life, and offer practical strategies to build their confidence and resilience.

We warmly encourage you to join us:

Date: Monday, 9th June 2025

Venue: Upper Hall, St Christopher's The Hall

Time: 08:30–09:00

We hope you'll find this session both insightful and reassuring as we help our children step positively into the next stage of their journey.

Celebrating Pupil Success!

At St Christopher's, we love to celebrate our pupils' achievements both inside and outside of the classroom—and over the half term, one of our young stars got seriously muddy for a great cause!

A huge congratulations to Erik Adams-Day (3C), who completed the Pretty Muddy 5K Run in aid of Race for Life. Not only did Erik power through the mud and obstacles with determination and a big smile, but he also raised an impressive £165 to support cancer research. Well done, Erik—we're so proud of you!

If your child takes part in any exciting activities or achieves something special outside of school, do let Mr Carter know - he loves to hear about it and would be thrilled to share their success with the school community!



What's Happening After Half Term

Monday 9th June

- Parent Partnership Talk
Pastoral (David Brooks) (08:30-09:00)
- Munchkins workshops for Preschool - Y6
(8:30-12:20pm)

Tuesday 10th June

- Pre-Prep Open Morning (08:15-09:00)
- Class Photos
- AI Parent Partnership Talk (16.00—17.00)

Wednesday 11th June

- Year 6 Tonbridge Cricket Tournament
(selected pupils). All day event.
- Prep Parents Open Morning (08:15-09:00)

Thursday 12th June

- Bromley School Athletics
(selected pupils Years 4/5/6). All day event

Friday 13th June

- Science Workshops (Years 3-5)
- SCA Father's Day Event (am)