### Weekly news at St Christopher's





Dear Parents.

I hope you have all enjoyed a good week. It is a pleasure to be writing to you in Mr Carter's absence whilst he attends the annual Heads' Conference in Brighton. I am sure he will return with plenty of valuable insights and, no doubt, some entertaining stories to share.

This week brought some exciting announcements. At Monday's assembly, we revealed our new Heads of Houses. It was wonderful to see the pride and joy on the children's faces as they received the highest number of votes from their peers. Our warmest congratulations go not only to those who were elected, but also to every child who prepared a speech and stood so confidently before their House – that in itself is an achievement to be proud of.

Head of Blyton: Oscar - 6P
Head of Campbell: Oliver - 6P
Head of Hillary: Samuel - 6P
Head of Johnson: Monty - 6R

We also announced our new School Council Representatives, who will serve for the year ahead. Supporting and leading the Council is one of my favourite responsibilities, and I am looking forward to working with this group on projects that will benefit both our school and the wider community. Plans include litter picking, recycling initiatives, and visits to local care homes – practical ways for our children to see how their actions can make a difference. Congratulations to all who have been selected:

• Reception: Woody & Anabelle

• Year 1: Evelyn & Eva

• Year 2: Charlie & Ilani

• Year 3: Emma & Emi

Year 4: Sammy

• Year 5: Grace & Maggie

• Year 6: Seth, Junior & Kayla

Our Head and Deputy Pupils, Emily and Tamara, will also join these meetings to help shape new initiatives.

On Monday, Mrs Eastwood and I had the privilege of visiting the Royal Festival Hall to begin

preparations for our SDEG Christmas Concert on Wednesday 10th December. This promises to be a very special occasion – a collaboration of music across the Group's schools. We look forward to sharing further details with you soon. This concert will involve some of our Prep School children.

On Wednesday, we were delighted to welcome Emily from Living Well, Bromley to our school. They are a local charity that supports people facing homelessness, food poverty, and hardship through their food bank, free café, hot meals, clothing, counselling, and advice services. Their team explained how they provide not only essentials like food and clothing, but also practical guidance and a safe, welcoming community space for those in need. It was inspiring to hear about the difference they make locally, and we are grateful for their visit in helping us better understand the importance of their work. More details in this newsletter below.

On Wednesday, we also had our annual Year 6 Secondary transfer meeting. We hope this was a useful opportunity for parents to find out more about the process of moving from St. Christopher's to Senior Schools. The meeting, led by Miss Rule, provided clear information on the application timeline, how to make informed choices, and the support available to families throughout the process. We hope parents felt we were able to answer those all important questions and that you now feel confident in helping your child take this next exciting step in their education. Thank you to Miss Rule for her wonderful presentation. Slides are on the website.

This Wednesday afternoon, the older children took part in a special Community Clear-Up. As part of our ongoing commitment to **sustainability**, children and staff worked together to take pride in our school environment by tidying and caring for the spaces we share. This practical activity was a natural extension of our Horizon Project, giving pupils the chance to see how small, everyday actions contribute to looking after our planet and living out our school values. Far from just "moving rubbish," this was about teamwork, responsibility, and understanding the impact we can have when we work together for a common goal. It really was a worthwhile and rewarding hour that helped our children see sustainability in action.

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You may notice the front of our school is looking a little different as we begin an exciting re-vamp. Whilst it might look a bit untidy for a short while, please bear with us as the transformation takes place. We have carefully planned improvements that will see overgrown bushes replaced with beautiful planted pots, colourful flowers, and landscaped borders. These changes will not only brighten the entrance but also create a welcoming first impression as we prepare to showcase our

school on Discovery Day on 11th October.

We hope you found the Remote Meetings with your child's teachers both helpful and reassuring this week. It is a great opportunity to share how well the children have settled into their classes and to talk about how they are feeling about their learning so far. They all seem to be off to a positive start to the year! I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs West

#### **Deputy Head**

#### **Living Well Charity**

On Wednesday, we were delighted to welcome back Emily, from Living Well Food Bank, who led an assem -bly as part of our Harvest Festival

celebrations. She spoke about the wonderful work the charity does to support our local community and explained which items are most needed. Emily also shared just how much of a difference our school's contributions have already made to Living Well - something we can all feel proud of.

Please help us to continue supporting Living Well, by bringing in donations as part of our work towards our Harvest Festival. Every item, big or small, makes a real difference to local families in need. Please could we ask for the below donations from you this year:

- Baked beans
- Pasta
- Cereal
- Tins of custard /fruit
- Shampoo

These items can be brought into school from Monday 22nd September until Friday 10th October. Mrs West, Mrs Titchener, Mrs Eastwood and our Prep School Council Representatives will then personally deliver the donations to the food

bank and help to organise the items, ensuring that they reach those who need them most.

We have also been sent a link, whereby you can donate something - however big or small - should you wish. If you would like to donate, please follow this link and add that you are a St Christopher's parent when donating, so that they can thank you accordingly.

https://www.livingwell.life/p/donate

Thank you so much for your ongoing support, **Mrs Titchener.** 



### Allergy reminder:

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





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### **EYFS**

This week in Fun Stories Friday, we celebrated the exciting beginnings of our new Early Years phase with the heartwarming book *What We'll Build: Plans for Our Together Future* by Oliver Jeffers.

Big congratulations to our Observation Question champions: Gaston in Preschool and Tavior in RO! Next week, it's RS's turn to join and we are already looking forward to more Fun Stories Friday fun!



This week, Reception have been reading 'Ruby's Worry'. As part of our Literacy scheme 'The Power of Reading' the children have been using their comprehension skills to delve into the book and imagine how Ruby is feeling through the story and what things make her happy. We have then



thought about what a worry is and what we could do if we or a friend has a worry. The children discussed different emotions and feelings such as happy, sad, angry, shocked and worried. We labelled these using initial sounds we have learnt in phonics.

The children used

their art skills to show different emotions through drawing. We explored how to draw and change eyes, mouths and eyebrows to show the key emotions of sadness, anger and happiness.

The children developed their vocabulary and explored the more complex emotions of jealousy and playfulness. We spoke about every emotion being okay to feel and how to feel those emotions safely. The children pulled some excellent facial expressions such as grumpy and shocked!







### Weekly news at St Christopher's



#### Year 3

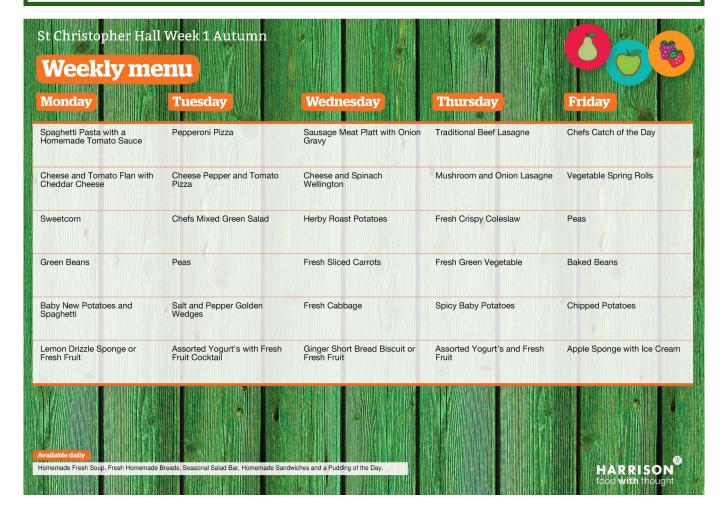
Year 3 have started the term with lots of exciting science! We have been learning all about forces – push, pull, twist and squeeze – and discovering how they make things move in different ways. We have also found out about friction, and how different surfaces can change how quickly something moves. To test this out, we used toy cars and ramps to see how far the cars would travel on different surfaces. There was plenty of



excitement as we made predictions, watched the cars zoom along, and compared our results.
Everyone worked hard to

keep the tests fair – but most importantly, we made sure they were fun! It has been fantastic to see Year 3 so engaged, curious and enthusiastic. We can't wait to try out even more exciting science experiments in the weeks ahead!





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### SCA

We are thrilled to share that we have agreed with Mr Carter on a FULL year of exciting events with the school! A list of dates will be coming your way soon so you can pop everything straight into your calendars.

First up, for the remainder of the Autumn Term: on Friday 17th October, the last day of term, we'll be hosting a 'Spooky' Dress Down Day. Children can come along in their scariest rags or ghoulish robes and see if they can spook their teachers! £1 donation at the gate includes a spookylicious treat to enjoy over half term. Please note: Dressing up is optional. If your child would prefer to come in their own clothes, that is absolutely fine too!



#### **Pre-Prep Vegetable Patch**

Harrisons, our Catering supplier, have kindly supplied us with a huge variety of herbs that Phil and the Catering Team will be using in our School lunches.



Mrs Craig and some Pre-Prep children planted these this week in our new 'Pre-Prep vegetable Patch'. We can't wait to start sampling the delicious flavours at lunchtimes!



### **Emailing teachers**

#### REMINDER:

ALL emails to teachers should use this email address:

mail@stchristophersthehall.org.uk



### What's Happening Next Week

- **△** Tuesday 23rd September
  - Year 5 & 6 Swimming Gala v Colfes -Selected Pupils.
- **△** Thursday 25th September
  - ISFA Football @ Alleyn's School -Selected Pupils.
  - Parent Education Reading and Phonics for Rec (15:30-16:30)
- **△** Friday 26th September
  - Year 6 Eng/Math workshop SDC.