

Newsletter

Weekly news at St Christopher's



Dear Parents,

Before anything else, a small but mildly alarming milestone... This is the 150th newsletter I have written since becoming Head. Which means I have now produced enough words to fill several short novels or at least one moderately sized encyclopedia.

It also means you have very patiently read (or politely skimmed) updates involving lost jumpers, weather observations, theatrical productions, character education, and the occasional over-excited use of exclamation marks. For this, I thank you deeply.

Now onto this week... if, like me, the dark mornings are starting to feel a little bit personal, you are very much not alone. However, I heard something genuinely cheering on the radio this week. By mid-January, the daily increase of daylight jumps to about two minutes a day and from 20th February, it speeds up to three minutes a day! So brighter mornings are definitely coming. Slowly, and steadily, but they are coming.

In terms of big events, this week has been fairly quiet on the surface, but busy in all the right ways. There have been plenty of sports fixtures and matches going on, with lots of enthusiasm, teamwork and slightly rosy cheeks making an appearance. And of course, as mentioned last week, our new screen was fitted in the Hall on Thursday and I can confirm: I LOVE it. It makes a huge difference already and will be a fantastic addition to assemblies, events and performances. We will be making very good use of it during the Year 5 and 6 production of *Oliver!* later this year which everyone will, of course, be invited to (start practising your "Food, glorious food"...).

The launch of our St Christopher's Compass Clubs has also been a real success. I've been making a point of asking pupils how they're finding the clubs they've chosen, and the feedback has been genuinely lovely, lots of enthusiasm, lots of smiles, and quite a few children keen to tell me exactly what they've been up to. Staff have also absolutely revelled in taking these clubs on. Even better news: the badges should be arriving next week, so pupils will soon receive their Compass Direction colour-coded badge, linked to their cur-

rent club pathway. There will be three more for them to collect over the coming terms, so this is very much the start of their Compass journey.

On Tuesday, we held our House Assembly with a focus on Team Challenges. These assemblies are an important part of school life. They give pupils a chance to mix with children from other year groups, and practise the kinds of skills that don't always fit neatly into a lesson, listening properly, sharing ideas, solving problems together and supporting one another when things go a bit wrong. In short, they help turn very capable pupils into very great humans too. On Wednesday, we also marked Martin Luther King Jr. Day; reflecting on his message and the importance of fairness, respect and standing up for what is right, values that sit very naturally at the heart of our school.

It does, however, feel fitting that in a week with relatively little everyday news to report, I am using this space to share something rather significant. Mrs Jeffery, my PA and our School Registrar, will be retiring at the end of this academic year. She has been with the school for 16 years and is not only my confidant, my organisational safety net and my daily source of laughter, but also my friend. Writing this makes me feel a little bit like someone has quietly moved the furniture when I wasn't looking. I know many of you will feel genuinely sad about this news too. Mrs Jeffery is very much part of the heartbeat of our school, and countless families have benefitted from her calm manner, friendly presence and wonderfully welcoming personality. I suspect more than a few of you could share a story about a moment when she made something stressful feel manageable, or simply made your day a bit easier. The PA role is an incredibly personal one for any Head, so I will really feel her absence. That said, with a grandchild on the way and a growing list of hobbies (including recently taking up pottery), she has a very exciting new chapter ahead, even if it doesn't involve filling my diary or gently reminding me what day it is. There will be plenty of time later in the year to celebrate her properly, and we will absolutely be doing so.

Wishing you a warm weekend, and slightly brighter mornings ahead.

Mr Carter

Head Teacher

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EYFS

This week our Fun Story Friday took us on a thoughtful and heart-warming journey with *Forever* by Beatrice Alemagna. This story explores the concept that not everything lasts forever - feelings, moments and weather! As the story gently unfolds, the children discover that some things change... and that's okay. Together, we talked about growing, sharing, waiting, and the children decided that some kinds of love can last forever. The children were completely absorbed, spotting details in the illustrations and they especially loved the use of tracing paper to make the illustrations change such as the spotty bird who flew away. This beautiful story sparked conversations about time, emotions and change in a way that felt safe, calm and meaningful for our youngest learners. It was a

lovely reminder that stories don't always need a big twist to make a big impact. We would definitely recommend it as a perfect pick for a cosy read and some gentle thinking together. Big Congratulations to our Observation Question winners: Lola in Pre-school and Oscar in Reception.

Next week, it is RS's turn to join and we're already looking forward to more Fun Stories Friday Fun!



St Christopher Hall Week 1 Spring

Weekly menu



Monday

Spaghetti Pasta with a Homemade Tomato Sauce

Cheese and Tomato Flan with Cheddar Cheese

Sweetcorn

Green Beans

Baby New Potatoes and Spaghetti

Chocolate Sponge or Fresh Fruit

Tuesday

Pepperoni Pizza

Cheese Pepper and Tomato Pizza

Chefs Mixed Green Salad

Peas

Salt and Pepper Golden Wedges

Assorted Yogurt's with Fresh Fruit Cocktail

Wednesday

Sausage Meat Platt with Onion Gravy

Cheese and Spinach Wellington

Herby Roast Potatoes

Sliced Carrots

Fresh Cabbage

Short Bread Biscuit or Fresh Fruit

Thursday

Traditional Beef Lasagne

Mushroom and Onion Lasagne

Fresh Crispy Coleslaw

Fresh Green Vegetable

Garlic Bread

Assorted Yogurt's and Fresh Fruit

Friday

Breaded Chicken Goujons

Vegetable Spring Rolls

Peas

Baked Beans

Chipped Potatoes

Apple Sponge with Custard or Fresh Fruit

Available daily

Homemade Fresh Soup, Fresh Homemade Breads, Seasonal Salad Bar, Homemade Sandwiches and a Pudding of the Day.

HARRISON
food with thought

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U11 Bromley School's Hockey tournament

Eight pupils from Year 6 proudly represented St Christopher's at the Bromley Schools Hockey tournament held at Langley Park this week. After playing 4 group games, the team powered through to the quarter finals and then the semi-finals, where their fantastic run came to an end following a narrow 1-0 defeat. Finishing 3rd out of 19 local Bromley schools is a huge achievement! The team showed outstanding teamwork, determination and effort, battling hard on a chilly and windy afternoon. They should be extremely proud of their performances.



Year 2

Year 2 have been busy developing their computing skills by designing their own maps and writing simple programs (algorithms) to control a robot. Working in teams, they divided their map into squares so each member knew exactly what to draw in their section. They then programmed the robot to travel to specific points on the map and tested how accurate their instructions were. This fun, hands-on activity helped them practise teamwork, clear instructions, and problem-solving as they debugged and improved their programs.



Year 4 - The Romans are coming!

At St Christopher's, we believe that the best learning happens when children can see, touch and experience the past for themselves. The children certainly did this on our Roman Day, last Thursday, which was a total success!

Year 4 were transported nearly 2,000 years back in time and discovered what it was really like to live and work as a Roman soldier. The day was delivered by Centurion Julius Marcellinus, an acting centurion of the II Legion Augusta, the legion that served with Emperor Claudius' invasion force of Britain in AD 43. Throughout the day, the children took part in a wide range of engaging activities, including: battle formations, creating



the Testudo (turtle) and Cuneus (wedge) formations, sampling 'delicious' Piadina Romagnola (flat bread) and Apicius (basic lentil stew) and exploring secondary and primary history artefacts, including original silver and gold denarius. There was even a visit from Lucius Gluteus Maximus who uncannily looked a lot like Mr Chowdhury! The equipment, costumes and characters they encountered were as historically accurate as possible, helping pupils to develop a deeper and more memorable understanding of the Roman world, and all the children left with a deeper understanding of life as a Roman and furthered historical detective skills.



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HOLIDAY COURSE

FEBRUARY HALF TERM



Fun, engaging, inclusive, safe football activity for Boys & Girls of all abilities, during the school holidays. Book now by scanning the QR code or using the below website and course code.

To highlight you can book or select individual days through our booking system.

Course Code	Venue	Date
SS-SDUN-L-14	St Dunstons Jubilee Ground	16th-20th February
Timings	Age	Cost
09.00-15.00	School Year 1-8	£180.00

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Spring Term – Save the Dates

Please add the following dates to your calendars!



Friday 6th February

- PrePrep Disco - tickets are now live via the SCA website. <https://www.scasales.co.uk/disco-2026>

Friday 27th February

- Prep Disco - tickets are now live via the SCA website. <https://www.scasales.co.uk/disco-2026>

Wednesday 25th February, 8:00pm

- SCA AGM (Annual General Meeting)

Friday 6th March

- Parent's Bingo Social! Tickets launch next week!

Thursday 12th March

- Mother's Day Pop-Up Shop (during school hours, children only)

Thursday 21st May

- Rescheduled Open-Air Cinema Night (after school, children only). More details will follow in the coming weeks.

We would like to invite you to our AGM on Wednesday 25th February at 8pm. It will be a short meeting, and your attendance would greatly help us meet our obligations as a charity.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to lots of exciting events this term!

THE SCA PRESENTS
ST CHRISTOPHER'S THE HALL

SCHOOL DISCOS!

TICKETS £10
INCLUDING A SNACK

PRE-PREP - FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 3:30PM - 4:45PM
PREP - FRIDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 3:30PM - 4:45PM

RECEPTION - YEAR 6

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE ST CHRISTOPHER'S THE HALL ASSOCIATION

BINGO Night

SAVE THE DATE!

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN AND GAMES AT THE
SCA BINGO NIGHT! SILENT AUCTION TO BE HELD,
DRINKS AVAILABLE AND PRIZES TO BE WON!

FRI 6TH 7.00 PM
MARCH

What's Happening Next Week

Monday 26th January

- Year 3 Football v Breaside
2 teams (Home), 2 Teams (away).
All pupils.

Tuesday 27th January

- Year 4 Football v Farringtons (away).
All pupils.

Thursday 29th January

- Year 5 boys Football v St Dunstan's (away).
- Year 5 girls Netball v Royal Russell (away).

Friday 30th January

- School Council (Yrs 1-6) to St Dunstan's, (9.00am - 12noon).
- Year 6 Football v Eltham (away) All pupils.