



Weekly News

Friday 3rd May 2024

Dear Parents,

National Space Day



We have had just the best day in St Christopher's. The whole school celebrated National Space Day, which offered a fantastic opportunity to marvel at the wonders of the cosmos and ignite our curiosity about the universe.

To that end, every single child in the school was involved in a joyous House Challenge where each House had to build its own rocket, and what an incredible competition it was. It was an opportunity that showcased the spirit of collaboration, creativity, and innovation.



Each House displayed remarkable ingenuity in designing and constructing its rockets, making it a tough decision for the judge, so much so that each House was given recognition in 4 separate categories.

Congratulations to Dahl House for their winning entry, which beautifully captured the essence of Dahl's imaginative world. Kemp House's futuristic design and connection to Mars earned them well-deserved recognition. Donaldson House stood out for its use of scientific and technical language. Ahlberg House deserves applause for its outstanding engineering feat and commitment to sustainability.



Overall, it was a thrilling and inspiring competition that showcased the incredible talents and teamwork of our children. Congratulations to all the Houses for their exceptional contributions!

A huge thank you to all the parents who brought in recycled boxes and materials to help us make our amazing rockets. Great fun was had by all!

Courtroom Drama in Year 2

What an engaging experience for Year 2! Reading "The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs" by Jon Scieszka sparked an interactive journey into the legal system. With the class teachers taking on the roles of the characters, and a barrister parent guiding the proceedings, the children delved into the world of law and order. Witnessing the courtroom drama firsthand, they gained valuable insights into the role of a barrister and the workings of the legal system. After thoughtful deliberation, the jury delivered a not-guilty verdict for the wolf, highlighting the importance of fair judgment and critical thinking. A heartfelt thank you to Mr Pahlavanpour for his invaluable support and for providing a memorable experience for the children. Through our Future Leader lessons in Year 2, the children continue to explore the principles of debating, citizenship, and justice, fostering a deeper understanding of the world around them.

The Doris Cumber Trophy



Last weekend our Music Captains, Jason and Karen represented St Christopher's at the 85th celebration concert of the Coulsdon and Purley Music Festival. They had the honour of collecting the trophy won by the Year 2 choir earlier in the year. They also enjoyed listening to some outstanding performances from other winners, playing a huge variety of instruments to an extremely high standard. They sat beautifully and listened to the concert before heading up onto the stage to receive the trophy from the chairman of the festival. A huge thank you and well done to Jason and Karen, whose maturity and behaviour were noted by others. Mrs Mulhern was very proud of them both!

Year Two News

What an exciting and enriching week for Year 2!

In literacy, the class delved deeper into “James and the Giant Peach”, utilising a thesaurus to explore new vocabulary such as “spellbound”. They crafted their own rendition of the exhilarating scene where James races with magic crystals, employing dynamic verbs and the power of three to enhance the pace of their storytelling. The children vividly described James’ slow-motion descent and the mesmerising scattering of the crystals, showcasing their creativity and descriptive skills.

In mathematics, the focus remained on length and width, with pupils honing their measurement abilities using rulers. They applied their newfound knowledge to solve worded questions, demonstrating their proficiency in mathematical problem-solving.

Exploring the fascinating world of living organisms, the children were introduced to classifying vertebrates and invertebrates in science. The hands-on learning experience allowed them to discover the diversity of life forms.

A highlight of the week was the engaging debate led by guest speaker Mr Pahlavanpour, who presided as the judge in the case of “The Big Bad Wolf Vs The Last Little Pig.” Through this interactive activity, the children actively participated in deciding the guilt or innocence of the wolf, fostering critical thinking and debate skills.

Dangerous Parking Incident

It is with concern that I write to you to address this issue once again, but recent events have highlighted the importance of ensuring the safety and consideration of all members of our school community.

On Thursday, an incident occurred involving a parent attempting to navigate the pavement with young children and a pram, only to encounter a car parked in a manner that obstructed their path. The response from the driver, suggesting they simply walk in the road, is worrying and underscores the need for greater awareness and mindfulness regarding parking outside St Christopher’s.

The safety of our children and families is paramount and no one should ever be put in a position where they feel compelled to walk in the road, especially when accompanied by young children or infants.

Please could I ask that all parents and visitors park responsibly and allow for safe passage on the pavement for pedestrians. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Staffing News

It is with mixed emotions that I share some staffing news with our school community. Miss Jemima Drayton will be departing St Christopher’s at the end of this academic year, as she embarks on an exciting new chapter in her career. Miss Drayton has been offered the position of Head of Pre-Prep at a school in Guildford, a well-deserved promotion that is also closer to her home.

While we are sad to bid farewell to Miss Drayton, we are immensely proud of her accomplishments and congratulate her wholeheartedly on this significant achievement. We also look forward to welcoming new staff members and making the necessary adjustments for the upcoming academic year. Updates regarding class assignments and staffing arrangements will be provided later in the summer term.

Mathematics Awards

Congratulations to Leila, Roberta and Sybil for achieving their Bronze Star in our Year 2 mathematical challenge and a big well done to Micah for achieving his Silver Star! What fantastic achievements!

This week’s lunch time superstar is Lyana for always using such polite manners and for enjoying your seconds. Well done Lyana!

Top of the leader board this week is **Kemp** House with a superb total of **2346** House points. Congratulations to **Kemp** house.

Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

Work of the Week

In Year 1 we have been learning about significant explorers. Zhibo in Jupiter class has written about the explorer Ibn Battuta.

Ibn ^Bbattuta

Ibn battuta was born in Morocco in 1304. When he was 21 years old Ibn battuta made a religious journey to ^MMecca. When he got back he was 50 years old. He ^{travelled} ^{through} India, China, Egypt. In total he travelled over 78,000 ^{miles}. He enjoyed to travel.



✓ Super work
about the explorer
Ibn Battuta

Nursery and Pre-Reception News

Zoom, zoom, zoom we're going to the moon!

This week has been a blast in Nursery as we have been learning about Space. Our topic story of the week has been 'Whatever Next!' The children had the opportunity to create their own rockets in Yellow room made from lots of different shapes such as circles, rectangles, squares, and triangles. Outside in the Nursery Garden they have been getting creative using large boxes to make rockets to the moon, just like baby bear did in the story. The bikes turned into speedy rockets that the children zoomed around on and imagined they were astronauts flying through space! The delicious smell of biscuits wafted from the kitchen as the children baked moon and star shaped biscuits, they got to use 'special' moon and star dust to decorate them too. In Green room they have been putting their counting and mark making skills to the test, creating their own star constellations. The children had to roll the dice and count out the correct number of stars to match the die, then they joined the stars together and named their constellations after themselves. Finally, we all really enjoyed taking part in international space day on Friday. We got to build huge rockets using all the recyclable materials brought in. It was great fun!



Reception News

Our little party planners have been hard at work! Every successful party needs delicious treats, and this week we were busy making sandwiches. Reception enthusiastically chose between jam and cheese sandwiches (some even wanted to try both together). They then explored the art of giving clear instructions to demonstrate the sandwich-making process which they showcased with sequencing pictures and provided written instructions too. We couldn't wait to tuck in to our sandwiches which were a welcome treat to end the week.

The stage awaits for our early years production, Hats Off! Reception students have been diligently rehearsing their lines for the upcoming performance. Next week, we'll step onto the stage, don our imaginary hats, and bring our characters to life.

So much excitement awaits next week. We can't wait for our trip to Nower Wood and of course have 2 Grandparents mornings to prepare for!



The Foundation Team

Dates for the Diary

Monday 6th May - Bank holiday

School closed

Tuesday 7th May - Reception trip to Nower Wood

Children should wear their PE kit (track suit) and trainers and bring their waterproof coat (no plimsolls).

Thursday 9th May—Grandparents Morning

For Donaldson & Kemp

Friday 10th May—Grandparents Morning

For Ahlberg and Dahl

