



## Weekly News

“St Christopher’s – nurturing independent, highly-motivated and engaged children.”

Friday 7th March 2025

Dear Parents,

### **The Great Pancake Race**

On Tuesday morning, we gathered for our much-anticipated annual Inter-House Great Pancake Race. Excitement filled the air as children, representing their houses, lined up at the starting line, ready to race while skilfully flipping pancakes. With laughter echoing across the playground, the competition was clear, as each participant gave their best effort to keep their pancakes airborne and land them back in the pan!

A special thank you goes to Mrs Rendall, her legendary “indestructible pancakes” withstood every flip, drop, and mid-air twist! Her efforts ensure that every child had a pancake to race with – no matter how many times it hit the ground!

It was wonderful to see such great team spirit, determination, and, most importantly, plenty of fun. We can’t wait to do it again next year!



### **World Book Day**

We had an incredible World Book Day filled with creativity, imagination and superhero adventures! A huge thank you to all parents for their fantastic effort in organising costumes – the children looked amazing.

We were also delighted to welcome the wonderful children’s author, Kate Thompson, who inspired the children to create their very own superhero storybooks. Thank you to the PTA for arranging this special visitor. The children designed their superheroes from scratch, deciding on their appearance, superpowers, fears, and gadgets. It was fantastic to see their creativity come to life!

Congratulations to the following World Book Day costume winners:

Nursery – Dion, Pre-Reception – Caiyro, Reception – Ashwin, Year 1 – Polly, Year 2 - Chloe.

Congratulations to the following “Book in a Bag” winners:

Nursery – Christopher, Pre-Reception – Edward, Reception – Isabella, Year 1 – Dawn, Year 2 – George.



### **Saturn Class Assembly**

Today, Saturn Class put on a truly wonderful assembly all about pancakes, delighting the audience with a mix of history, storytelling, music, and comedy. The assembly explored the origins of pancakes, entertained with a lovely take on “Mr Wolf’s Pancakes”, and even featured an entertaining pancake-themed rap! A catchy song about how to make pancakes, gave us all a caution not to put too much sugar on our pancakes and had everyone tapping their feet. The children’s brilliant performances made the morning a joyful start to the day. Well done, Saturn Class, for serving up a fantastic assembly!

## Year One News

This week, the children listened to the story “Whatever Next”, where baby Bear embarks on an exciting journey to the moon. Some children dressed up as Baby Bear and answered questions by the class. Laksh asked, “How did you get up the chimney?” while Cora wondered, “What did you have in your picnic up on the moon?”

In Literacy, their comprehension work linked to our topic lesson on continents. The children listened to and read information about Africa, then answered questions such as “How many countries are in Africa?” and “Which country are the Pyramids in?”

In Maths, the children explored number differences using themselves as visual aids and lining up in the playground. They then worked with the part-whole model and ten frames to use related facts in addition and subtraction before solving missing number problems.

Year 1 are now also enjoying learning about plants. Equipped with magnifying glasses, they explored the outdoor area to observe the plants growing around the school. They then labelled different plant parts and set up an exciting investigation to discover the best conditions for plant growth.

In Topic, the children worked in pairs to create vibrant posters about different continents. Using iPads and books, they conducted research to gather fascinating facts about each region.

Meanwhile, in DT, the children brought the classic story of *The Gingerbread Man* to life by designing a sliding mechanism. Their creations featured different characters in pursuit of the Gingerbread Man, showcasing both creativity and technical skills.

## Year Two News

This week, Year 2 have been busy exploring the properties of 2D shapes. They applied their knowledge to problem-solving activities and even challenged themselves to draw polygons using a ruler – no easy feat!

In English, they have continued reading ‘Lizzie and the Cloud’ and got creative by writing persuasive adverts to convince others to buy their very own pet cloud. Ethan wrote, “If you would like an unusual, unique cloud, I have just the thing for you!” We also learned about prepositions and pushed ourselves to write “wow” sentences that included a preposition, a conjunction, and a noun phrase.

Our science lessons saw Year 2 revisiting their knowledge of plants as they planned an investigation into water absorption. They placed 3 carnations of varying lengths in dyed water and observed the results the next day. Edward concluded, “The shortest stem has absorbed the most water because there is more dye in the petals.”

To round off the week, we completed our insect sculptures, inspired by William Morris, who had a deep love of nature. The bodies were created from plasticine, the legs from wire, and the wings from laminate.

## Change to Owls Timings

Thank you to all parents who are working with us in regard to the new timings for Owls. We have added an additional pick-up time of 3.45pm for parents who are also collecting children from other schools.

This weeks lunch time superstar is Heidi for continually having amazing manners, the catering team are very impressed. Well done Heidi!

Top of the leader board this week is **Kemp** House with a superb total of **1626** House points. Congratulations to **Kemp** house.

Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

*“St Christopher’s – the best possible start through excellence, empathy and endeavour.”*

## Work of the Week

Year 2 have been learning about the artist William Morris, whose work was inspired by animals and nature. This is Teddy's own wonderful design based on Morris's work.





## Nursery and Pre-Reception News

Nursery has been a hive of excitement this week! We have had so much fun making our own pancakes in the kitchen; we watched how the mixture changed as we cooked it. We then topped our pancakes with jam, lemon and sugar or syrup and enjoyed them at the snack table.

We have been using our super number skills to make playdough pancakes for our friends in our creative room. A highlight on Tuesday was the 'Great Pancake Race'; Nursery waved their flags to support their friends in the upper school and then it was their turn to run a relay whilst flipping pancakes! They all did a great job!

Our story of the week has been 'Mr Wolf's pancakes'. In the story Mr Wolf writes a shopping list of the ingredients he needs to make the pancakes; he then counts out the coins in his wallet to buy them. The children helped Mr Wolf by using their fabulous mark making skills to create their very own shopping lists for him to take to the shop. They also helped make sure he had enough coins in his wallet to buy what he needed using their fantastic counting skills.

We got to enjoy a 'Super' World Book day on Thursday! The children looked fabulous dressed up in their costumes as did the teachers! We got to enjoy a wonderful visit from the author Kate Thompson, who read us one of her lovely stories "Super hero's don't get scared..... or do they", followed by a day full of superhero activities and games. Super work everyone!



## Reception News

In Reception we have been very busy!

We started the week off by reading the story 'What the Ladybird Heard' by Julia Donaldson. We looked at the characters and discussed the story. We found the animals making different noises very funny.

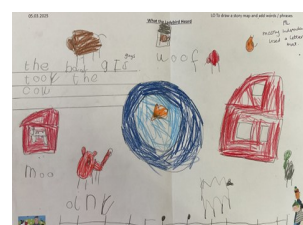
On Tuesday, we were treated to the 'Great Pancake Race'. Excitement was at an all-time high and to top the day off we had a 'Pancake Tasting' too. We loved the sugar pancakes the best – Yum!

On Wednesday we drew our own maps of the farm featured in our story and added labels and sentences. Our teachers were very impressed with our double sound knowledge and handwriting. We also looked at number bonds to 10 using a tens frame to help us. We found lots of ways to make 10 and will be practising this skill over the next few weeks.

On Thursday it was World Book Day. All the children looked fabulous in their outfits. A special 'shout out' to Ashwin who won best dressed for Reception as Supertato! You looked fab Ashwin. We listened to a special assembly with the author and made books with her in a workshop. She could not believe how talented and creative we were for a Reception class. Top job Reception!

On Friday we continued our work on number bonds and some of us started to write number sentences linked to the sum we had made on our ten's frame.

The fun and learning never stops in Reception!



**The Foundation Team**

## Dates for the Diary

### Thursday 13th March - Year 2 Wakehurst trip

Children please arrive at school in PE kit including trainers. Children must also bring a named carrier bag with named wellies and a waterproof even if it is sunny.



### Friday 14th March - Neptune Assembly

Refreshments for Neptune parents will be served under the porch from 8.30am



#### Cross Country Competition

Estrella W, Teddy S, Charlie L, Rory L, Faith H, Sebastian C, Kian y, Marth VA, Cora M, Lyanna L, Chloe B and Remy K - for their participation in the Danes Hill Year 2-4

#### Art Awards by Mrs Degg

Florence P - for your glorious acrostic poem about ART and the artwork with it.

Daneil G - for your wonderful sculptures of an apple and an apple picker. I love that you are exploring our 'sculpture nature project' at home. Bravo!



**Mathletics:** Congratulations to Ryan P and Luigi MC for your Emerald Certificates

Congratulations to Reva M for your Diamond Certificate

Congratulations to Tristan T and Sophia M for your Platinum Certificates



#### Spotty Box: Awards for success outside school:

Faith H - Skiing Medal

Amy M - StarTastic certificate for amazing walking and balancing on the beam & amazing jumping on the trampette

Lucy S - StarTastic certificate for amazing shapes & JoCo Dance school certificate for being star of the week

Chloe B - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place silver medal for her floor routine at Aerial Tumbling & a certificate of achievement for a score of 27.6 at the ATC tumbling competition

Sebastian C - Level 3 skiing award with new generation

Isabella D - Awarded Top Gym award 6 certificate from Leatherhead and Dorking Gym Club & swimming certificate for swimming 5 meters.

Heidi L - StarTastic certificate for great effort on all apparatus & excellent attempt at backwards roll to handstand

Lyanna L - IDTA award gained Honours for demonstrating proficiency in theatre craft juvenile award

Sylvie A - Awarded a certificate for completing a 4-day swimming course. despite being nervous to begin with Sylvie impressed the instructors and participated with enthusiasm.

Nola T - Certificate for completing a swimming crash course

Estrella W - Swim certificate for swimming 25 metres

Caitlyn M - Stage coach star of the week for amazing focus all lesson and fabulous singing and dancing.

Sofia L - IDTA rosette awards for theatre modern jazz - green and acrobatic - lime

George Z - Skiing certificate and medal

Alex Z - Skiing certificate and medal

Dawn F - Completed an intensive 3 day learn to skate course

Luigi Cm - Awarded a cup and medal for football

Cora M - Awarded star 2 medal at ski school