

# **Weekly News**

"St Christopher's – nurturing independent, highly-motivated and engaged children."

# Friday 2nd May 2025

### Dear Parents,

This week has been filled with excitement and energy, as the wonderful weather has given pupils the perfect opportunity to enjoy learning and playing outside. With the sun shining and a gentle breeze in the air, our playground and outdoor learning spaces have been buzzing with activity. Children have eagerly participated in outdoor lessons and games, making the most of every moment. It's been a fantastic start to the first full week of term.

### Class of 2024 Reunion Tea

On Thursday we were delighted to welcome back last year's Year 2 for the annual Reunion Tea. It is always a joy to see our former pupils and, as well as admiring their colourful range of new uniforms and new height (!) we all relived some very happy memories in between some entertaining games. Thank you Year 2 2024 - It was lovely to see you.

### **Year One News**

Linking with our topic about clothes, Year 1 enjoyed the story 'Clara Button and the Magical Hat Day' by Amy de la Haye. In the story, Clara and her family visit the Victoria and Albert Museum in search of a milliner to fix Granny Elsie's hat. Inspired by this adventure, the children planned and rewrote the story, inventing their own imaginative endings. In the original version, Clara's family visits the museum café for a treat. However, in our Year 1 versions, the stories took exciting turns – from climbing rock walls to going on a shopping spree for clothes and shoes, as in Sophia's ending! The children loved using their imaginations to explore different possibilities.

This week in Maths, we explored equal groups using practical resources. The children practised recognising, adding, and recording equal groups, then progressed to using mathematical notation. We followed this with lessons on making arrays using columns and rows — egg boxes and bun trays made perfect tools for this! We wrapped up the week by exploring doubles using Numicon pieces.

Our Science topic this term is animals. This week we focused on mammals, learning their key characteristics. The children then sorted mammals into domestic pets and wild animals, sparking great discussion and curiosity.

In topic, the children explored the question: "Who wears a uniform and why?" They compared different uniforms, including a Victorian school uniform and their own. It was fascinating to see how clothing has changed over time and to discuss the reasons for those changes.

#### **Year Two News**

The children have returned from the holidays refreshed and ready to dive back into learning!

In literacy, Year 2 explored how to craft riddles. They read and discussed various examples before

creating their own using personification and descriptive language. Rory impressed us with this clever riddle:

My sleek soft saddle is really comfortable I adore running and I'm made of metal.

Can you guess what he was describing?

What a busy and brilliant week it's been!



In Maths, it was a splash-filled week as the children explored capacity and volume. Lessons were hands-on and full of energy, with lots of practical measuring and problem-solving activities.

During ICT, the class took on an exciting challenge: coding a Lego satellite! After building the satellite by following step-by-step instructions, they programmed it to rotate. Edward declared it was "the best lesson ever" – he's a big Lego fan!

In topic, the children used iPads and atlases to locate the five oceans. Combining their knowledge of continent with new learning, the completed a

world puzzle and deepened their understanding of global geography.

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### Information Evening with Dr King talking about Self-regulation

Last year, we held our first parent information evening with a local Clinical Psychologist. We are delighted that Dr King is able to join us again on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 6pm where she will be talking about how to support children with self-regulation.

Self-regulation is an essential skill for child development, forming a cornerstone of early learning and social-emotional growth. In practical terms, self-regulation is used for managing emotions and behaviour, allowing children to navigate social situations, cope with challenges, and engage effectively in learning. Well-developed self-regulation leads to children being able to focus, follow instructions, persist with tasks, and form positive relationships with peers and adults alike.

Do join us on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 6pm to hear more. A link will be sent closer to the time so we can have an idea of how many people will be joining us.

### LAMDA Showcase for St Christopher's Community

We will be holding a LAMDA evening in the school hall; to showcase some of the poems and activities the children enjoy during their Monday lessons

Now that Year 2 are in their final term, there will be space in the timetable from September for any Year 1 & 2 newcomers who may wish to take up LAMDA lessons.

For those who may be wondering what LAMDA is and how this can enhance your child's literacy and communication skills, this evening will be a great opportunity to find out more about the LAMDA lessons that take place here, at St Christopher's, during the school day.

We also have two pairs of former St Christopher's pupils returning to showcase their acting skills with some drama pieces, giving the audience a flavour of the LAMDA acting syllabus that follows on from the Introductory exams.

We do hope you can join us. No booking necessary.

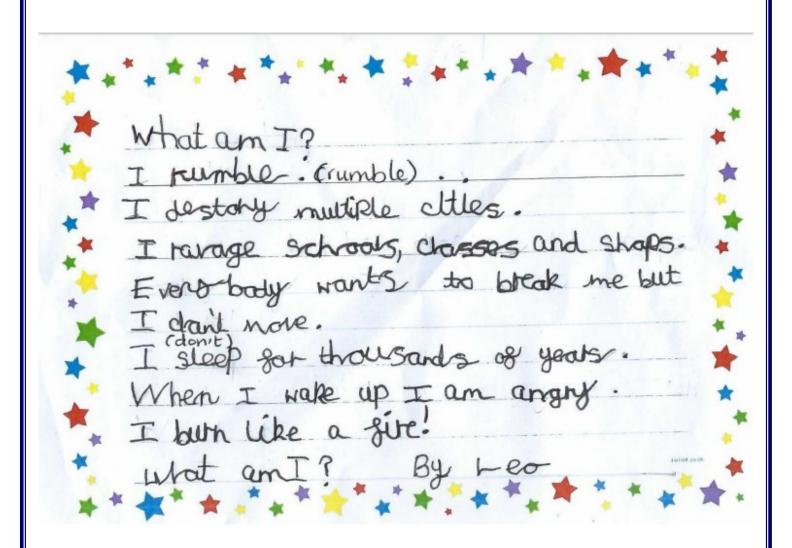
May 6<sup>th @</sup> 6 o'clock. We anticipate a finishing time of approx. 7.15.pm.

Parking on the Corner of Chartwell Place
You may have noticed a cone placed at the corner of Chartwell Place. This has been put in place due to safety concerns, as parking in this area is creating a hazard for pedestrians. When vehicles are parked too close to the corner, it prevents parents and children from using the pavement safely, often forcing them to walk in the road. We kindly ask all families to park considerately and help us keep everyone safe during drop-off and pick-up times.
Thank you for your cooperation.
This week's lunch time superstar is Nami in Pre-Reception, well done for trying lots of new foods and making such a great improvement with your eating at lunch times. Well done Nami!
Top of the leader board this week is Ahlberg House with a superb total of 368 House points. Congratulations to house.
Merit Awards:
Alife H, Hugo Q, Laksh P, Arvid M, Jack S, Hattie B, Charlie L, Luca G, Leo SM, Edward F, Lars R,
and Lucy S
Best wishes
Mrs Grehan
"St Christopher's – the best possible start through excellence, empathy and endeavour."
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## Work of the Week

Year 2 have been crafting riddles. This is Leo's fantastic example.

Can you guess what it is?



# **Nursery and Pre-Reception News**

What a wonderful first full week we've had! This term our topic is 'I wonder who can help us?' This week we have been learning all about dentists and our story has been 'Alan's Big Scary Teeth'. By Jarvis

In our big room we have been exploring how different foods affect our teeth. The children did a fantastic job of sorting a range of foods into two groups; healthy for our teeth and unhealthy for our teeth. The children were great at being able to decide which foods might be too sugary to eat all the time. We also learnt about the importance of brushing our teeth and the correct steps to do so. The children used their scissor skills to cut and stick some pictures of how to brush your teeth. We we're super impressed with how all the children could sequence them independently, what superstars! I wonder if they can remember how many times you should brush your teeth and for how long?

Linking back to our story 'Alan's Big Scary Teeth' the children have been busy creating their very own Alan the allegator. Using green card to create their alligator shape first; then rolling the dice to find out how many teeth Alan needs. We we're so impressed with the counting superstars!

In the kitchen, the children had lots of fun making their very own set of teeth using apple slices, marshmallows, and pink honey. The children used their cutting skills to slice the apples in half and then again to create top and bottom lips. Then they mixed pink food colouring and honey to make the 'gums' and each counted out 5 marshmallows for the teeth. Not only did they look fabulous they were super tasty too!

Alongside all this, the children have been busy practising for the Early Years production. They have been doing a fabulous job so far with their lines, songs, and dances. What a fantastic start to the summer term!









**Reception News** 

Reception have taken a deep dive into our exciting new topic, *Under the Sea*! We've started our learning journey by exploring the importance of friendship, inspired by the beautiful story of *The Rainbow Fish*. Through the tale, we've been thinking about what makes a good friend and how we can show kindness and share with others in our own lives.

The children have enjoyed getting creative, making their very own Rainbow Fish using a range of art techniques including weaving and layering to create sparkling, colourful scales. These wonderful creations are now proudly displayed in our underwater-themed display and role play area—it's truly a sea of imagination! We also put our thinking caps on and explored how we might politely ask the Rainbow Fish for one of his shiny scales. This sparked some lovely conversations and role play around kindness and generosity.

In Maths, we've been diving into subtraction! Using dice, the children rolled a number and then practically took that number away from a group, helping to visualise the concept. They then recorded their own number sentences to represent their learning—great work, Reception.

Finally, we are full steam ahead with rehearsals for the Early Yearsour summer show. The children have been practising with enthusiasm and growing confidence—get ready, it's going to be a real treat!





**The Foundation Team** 

# **Dates for the Diary**

## **Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday**

### Tuesday 6th May 6pm - 7.15pm - LAMDA Showcase Evening

## Wednesday 7th May - Year 1 trip to Chertsey Museum

Your child will need to bring a <u>named water bottle</u> with them. Please send your child in full uniform plus a raincoat. They will not need a book bag that day.

## **Thursday 8th May - VE Day**

To celebrate can children wear their own clothes in red, white & blue

### Friday 9th May - No drama club



**Mathletics**: Congratulations to Alisa S for your Diamond Certificate.

Congratulations to Sophia M, Arvid S and Estrella W for your Emerald Certificates

Mateo B, Luigi CM, Ryan P, and Alisa S for your Epic Certificates



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

Heidi L - StarTastics certificate for working towards Bronze 1 and Swimming certificate Octopus Level 1

Chloe L - StarTastics certificate for working towards Bronze 1

Leonardo D - Swimming certificate level 1

Ottillie H - Swimming certificate 10 metres

Nola T - Swimming certificate level 1

Faith H - StarTastic certificate for such amazing growth in confidence in circling forward down the bar and StarTastic certificate working towards badge 3.

Sophia M - StarTastic certificate working towards badge 3

Florence P - Leatherhead and Dorking gymnastics certificate for Top Gym Award 6

Adam Z - Absolute martial arts achieved grade L.Croc Orange

Luca G - Stage Coach record of achievement three-year award

Lucy S - Awarded star of the week for fantastic floor work and great backward rolls, for having a positive attitude to all activities and a certificate and medal for bronze 3 and she is very proud to be able to ride her bike without stabilizers.

Georgie GD - Swimming certificate for swimming 5 metres.

Alisa S - A great performance in your stagecoach show.

