



## Weekly News

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

Friday 9th May 2025

Dear Parents,

### **VE Day celebrations**

We had a truly memorable VE Day celebration on Thursday! The whole school came together in a spirit of remembrance and gratitude, with both children and staff proudly dressed in red, white, and blue. Every child created their own clay poppy, inspired by the iconic installation at the Tower of London, as a symbol of remembrance.

Our special assembly was a poignant moment, featuring the stirring hymn I Vow to Thee My Country. Farzan did a fantastic job reading the VE Day proclamation as we paused to reflect on the sacrifices made by so many for our freedom.

The celebrations continued with a delicious fish and chip lunch, accompanied by lively 1940s music that brought the era to life. PE lessons were filled with joy as the children took part in traditional street-party style PE games, rounding off a wonderful day of learning, remembrance and community spirit.



### **LAMDA Showcase for St Christopher’s Community**

What a wonderful event our LAMDA Showcase turned out to be! Mrs Russell and the children began by sharing the fun and engaging warm-up games that kick off every lesson – activities designed to develop intonation, expression, conversation skills, and movement.

We were then treated to a delightful array of poetry recitals from our talented Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. Each performance was unique, expressive, and brilliantly delivered, showcasing the confidence and creativity of our young performers.

A special highlight was the return of three of our former pupils, who impressed us with their continued passion for drama through both poetry and short scripted pieces. What superstars!

A huge thank you to Mrs Russell for inspiring our children and creating such a joyful and enriching experience.

### **Open Morning**

We were delighted to welcome prospective parents to St Christopher’s on Friday this week. They all commented on how wonderful the children were and what a lovely atmosphere we have here at St Christopher’s. I couldn’t have agreed more!

## **Year One News**

Year One have been continuing the story of Clara Button from last week. The children stepped into her shoes and imagined themselves as Clara. They wrote heartfelt thank you letters to the museum, capturing their thoughts creatively. After our enjoyable trip to Chertsey Museum, the children wrote detailed recounts of the visit, carefully using adjectives and connectives to bring their experiences to life.

In Maths this week, we focused on making and sharing equal groups. Using playdough, the children made imaginative cupcakes and used counters to represent sweets. These hands-on activities helped them understand and apply their learning in a fun, practical way.

We had an exciting and informative visit to Chertsey Museum! The children were warmly welcomed by our guide, Heidi. Our morning began with a fascinating talk about Tudor clothing. Henry dressed up as Henry VIII and Tabitha as Queen Elizabeth I – both looked fantastic in their costumes! We then explored Georgian fashion, and the children had the chance to try a variety of costumes and accessories, including Georgian wigs and hoops worn under dresses. They also created beautifully decorated fans and ped dolls to take home.

In science, Year One explored the similarities and differences between birds and reptiles. The children compared features such as skin coverings, eggs, and movement, deepening their understanding of these two animal groups.

## **Year Two News**

This week in Year Two, the learning has been bursting with creativity and curiosity!

In Literacy, the children have been diving into James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl. The children explored how Dahl builds suspense – particularly in the scene where James drops the mysterious bag of green crystals. Inspired by this, they experimented with changing the pace and energy in their writing, using a mix of powerful verbs and varied sentence lengths to craft their own suspenseful moments.

In art, the lessons have taken inspiration from the brilliant Quentin Blake, whose whimsical illustrations bring so many stories to life. We began our extended art project learning about Blake's distinctive style and following along with some of his famous character drawings. Using charcoal, the children then created imaginative creatures of their own – Luca's Hornswoggler drawing was a real highlight!

We've also been introduced to Mighty Minds, our new series of lessons all about understanding how we learn. This week, we looked at the brain and discovered that it's a bit like an elastic band – the more we practise, the stronger and stretchier it becomes! Zhibo shared a brilliant analogy, comparing the way neurons pass messages without touching to a game he plays at playtime where he avoids bumping into others.

Year Two have shown such enthusiasm and creativity this week – well done to everyone!

## 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.



**CALL FOR CLASS REPS 2025/26\***



As we head into the final term of the school year, it's time to start looking ahead! We're on the lookout for enthusiastic parents to volunteer as Class Representatives for the 2025/26 academic year.

### **\*What does a Class Rep do?\***

Class Reps help strengthen the school community by:

- Acting as a key link between parents, PTA and the school.
- Helping to organise year group coffee mornings /tea houses/ social evening(s) etc
- Supporting communication and fostering a sense of connection among families

Each year group ideally has two reps, so there are plenty of opportunities to get involved!

### **\*Interested?\***

Let your current class reps know by **\*Friday 23 May\*** if you'd like to put your name forward.

## Year 2 Maths Stars

Congratulations to our amazing Year 2 mathematicians who have achieved their times tables stars this week. Well done to Florence, Kian, Rory, Sebastian, Charlie and Ethan for achieving their Bronze Stars and to James, Vihaan, Ryan and Zhibo for achieving their Silver Stars. A great achievement!

This week's lunch time superstar is Joshua in Nursery, the kitchen team have noticed how beautifully you are using your knife and fork. Well done for such tremendous manners!

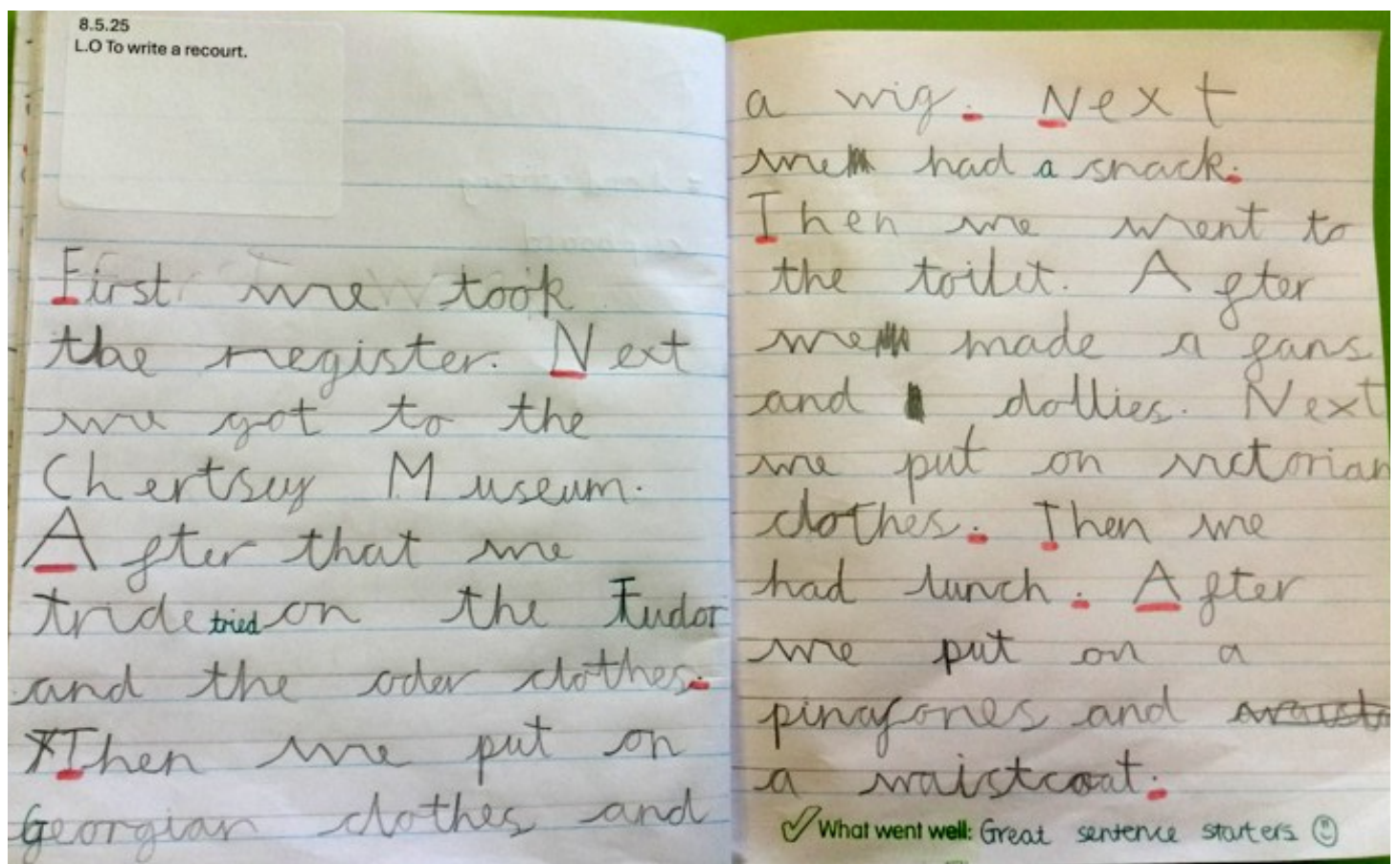
Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

*"St Christopher's – the best possible start through excellence, empathy and endeavour."*

## Work of the Week

Following Year One's trip to Chertsey Museum Mateo wrote a brilliant recount of their trip to Chertsey Museum. He used a range of sentence starters and has been working hard on his cursive handwriting. Well done!





## Nursery and Pre-Reception News

It's been a shorter but very busy week in Nursery! We began our learning by exploring the role of police officers and how they help keep us safe. The children amazed us with all the facts they already knew.

They created their own wanted posters, using their fine motor skills to draw self-portraits and carefully identifying the key features of their faces, including eye and hair colour. They also used ink to make fingerprint marks on paper.

Our young detectives then used magnifying glasses and paintbrushes to hunt for phonics sounds—what an exciting challenge!

In addition to learning about police officers, we also celebrated VE Day on Thursday. The children made their very own clay poppies, inspired by those displayed at the Tower of London. We baked scones in the kitchen and enjoyed them with jam—they were delicious.

To finish the week, we enjoyed a fun VE day party afternoon we played some traditional 1940s games, like hopscotch and skipping—just like children might have done back then. We listened to music from the 1940's and enjoyed some delicious cake!



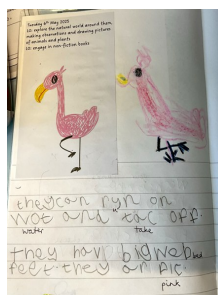
## Reception News

In Reception this week, we have been busy to rehearsing for the Early Years Production 'A Grand Day Out' on the stage. We are trying to remember where to stand, to say our lines loud and clear, and sing and dance with maximum gusto! In the show Mars class are smart guards in London and Neptune class are flamingos at Bird World. We are very much looking forward to performing to you all soon.

After lots of phonics learning, we are revisiting some of our phonic sounds. This week we have looked at: ar – park the car, igh – light at night, oa – toad on the road and oo – zoom to the moon and wool and wood.

We have also starting learning to write complete sentences including capital letters, finger spaces and full stops – impressive stuff.

In Maths, we have continued learning one more/one less than a given number and doing subtraction using practical resources, using pictures to tick each item off and then trying to write these as number sentences too.



## Dates for the Diary

**Monday 12th May - Juniper Hall Meeting 6pm - Year 2 parents**



**Wednesday 14th May - Grandparents Morning**  
*Ahlberg & Dahl Houses*



**Thursday 15th May - Grandparents Morning**  
*Donaldson & Kemp Houses*



**Friday 16th May—PTA Tea House**  
*Open from 3pm*



## Future Dates


**Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st May EYFS Production**  
*Select your tickets will via parent mail*

**Thursday 12th June - PTA 2nd Hand Uniform Sale 2.30-4pm**  
*Entry via the front door*



# SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH SELF-REGULATION

 Date & Time: Tuesday 3rd June | 6:00pm – 7:30pm

 Location: St Christopher's School & Nursery, 6 Downs Road, Epsom,

 Guest Speaker: Dr. Janine King

- Clinical Psychologist
- Expert in Child & Family Support
- Former NHS CAMHS Specialist


FREE ENTRY

## Topics Include:

- ✓ The importance of self-regulation as a life skill
- ✓ Practical techniques to help children self-regulate
- ✓ Effective strategies for challenging moments

## Why Attend?

Empower your child with tools to manage emotions, improve focus, and build positive relationships.

 Don't miss this valuable and informative session designed to support parents. This free event is open to all, so please feel free to share with your friends.



Reserve your spot: Email: [office@st-christophers.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-christophers.surrey.sch.uk) or telephone: 01372 721807