

Weekly News

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

Friday 13th June 2025

Dear Parents,

The Blue Crystal

What an incredible performance! Year 1 and 2 truly dazzled us with *The Blue Crystal* — a thrilling adventure to save the world as we know it. With confident singing, energetic dancing, and impressive acting, the children delivered a show to remember.

Behind the scenes, the effort and talent were just as remarkable. The children showed amazing dedication in learning their lines, remembering cues, and knowing exactly when to come on and off the stage. From mastering technical aspects to supporting one another with teamwork and camaraderie, their hard work and collaboration shone through in every moment.

A huge thank you to all who attended and cheered them on, and an even bigger thank you to the incredible staff for their tireless work in preparing and guiding the children so beautifully. The talent and spirit on display were truly inspiring — bravo to all involved!

We are supporting Macmillan Cancer Support as our chosen charity for this production if you enjoyed the performance and would like to contribute to this charity please click on the link here.

Celebrating Creative Talent - Regional Art Competition Winners

On Tuesday I went to the ISA (Independent School Association) region meeting where I took along some amazing pieces of art to enter the region art competition. We are thrilled to celebrate the outstanding success of our budding artists at the recent Regional Art Competition!

We were awarded 4 first prize places. A huge congratulations to Luca (Year 2) for his inspired pencil drawing of a fantastical creature in the style of Quentin Blake, showcasing both imagination and technical skill. Well done to Izzy (Year 1) for her delicate and beautifully executed watercolour, and to James (Year 2) for his striking textile painting of autumn leaves — a wonderful blend of colour, texture, and creativity.

Special congratulations to the entire Reception class, who were awarded for their collaborative autumn-inspired painting. Their teamwork and creativity impressed the judges and made us all proud.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the just-brilliant Mrs Degg, whose weekly inspiration, encouragement, and artistic guidance have nurtured such extraordinary talent across the school. We are so lucky to have her!

These winning pieces will now be taken to the National Art Competition in the Autumn Term.

Year One News

What a performance! The children in Year 1 dazzled us all in the school production of The Blue Crystal. Their acting, singing, and dancing were absolutely fantastic – a huge well done to everyone involved!

This week in Literacy, the children completed their fantasy stories. One particularly magical tale by Sophia ended with fairies, mermaids, and unicorns splashing together in a sparkling pool! Tying into our topic on clothing, we read The Emperor's New Clothes and the children worked in groups to come up with questions they would like to ask the Emperor about his unusual outfit. Next week, they'll get the chance to dress up as the Emperor and answer those questions in role. With the weather improving, our comprehension work took us to the seaside, where the children learned about rock pools, popular UK beaches, and piers.

In Maths, we focused on number work. The children practised finding one more and one less than any two-digit number, compared numbers by looking at the number of tens, and used the greater than, less than, and equal to symbols to compare values.

Our science topic on animals continued as the children identified and named common domestic pets. Some children brought in photos and shared lovely stories about their own pets.

With the Epsom Derby recently taking place, we explored the history of this famous event. The children looked at pictures from past and present Derbies and discussed how it all began. To finish off, we held our very own Derby outside – complete with hobby horses and lots of cheering!

Year Two News

What a week!

It has been an incredibly exciting week in Year 2!

We began with three fantastic performances of *The Blue Crystal*—first for the rest of the school, and then for parents and other special guests. This production really stretched our pupils, with lots of movement on stage, tricky lines to memorise, songs with integrated dialogue, and full action sequences! The children rose to the challenge with maturity, confidence, and enthusiasm. They sang their hearts out and truly showed what they can achieve when expectations are high. We are so proud of each and every one of them!

In the classroom, our learning has continued to be inspired by *James and the Giant Peach* in both Literacy and Art. In Literacy, the children imagined the world from the perspective of a tiny minibeast, using vivid descriptive language. Ryan wrote that he was "as small as a peanut with the grass as tall as a tree"—a wonderful example of creative thinking!

In Art, we explored how Quentin Blake exaggerates features in his illustrations to bring out each character's personality. The children experimented with different drawing techniques such as continuous line, straight lines, and watercolour washes. We talked about the importance of risk-taking in creativity and trying new things. Jamie made a brilliant connection to our Mighty Minds session this week, where we discussed listening to the encouraging voices in our heads and quieting the critical ones.

As we write, we are putting the final touches on preparations for our residential trip to Juniper Hall. It's a big step for children at this age to spend time away from home, and we admire their bravery. We know they'll have an unforgettable experience—bringing their science learning to life and tackling new challenges with resilience and a positive mindset.

Here's to another week full of learning, laughter, and growing together!

Join Us for Ashtead Village Day - Saturday 14th June

For the first time St Christopher's will have a stall at the Ashtead Village Day on Saturday 14th June – a fantastic celebration of community spirit, local talent, and family fun.

From colourful stalls and food vendors to live performances and cherished cars run, there's something for everyone. We look forward to seeing you there.

This week's lunch time superstar is Izzy in Year 1. Your exceptional manners have been noticed this week and we're all very proud of you for trying seconds. Well done Izzy!

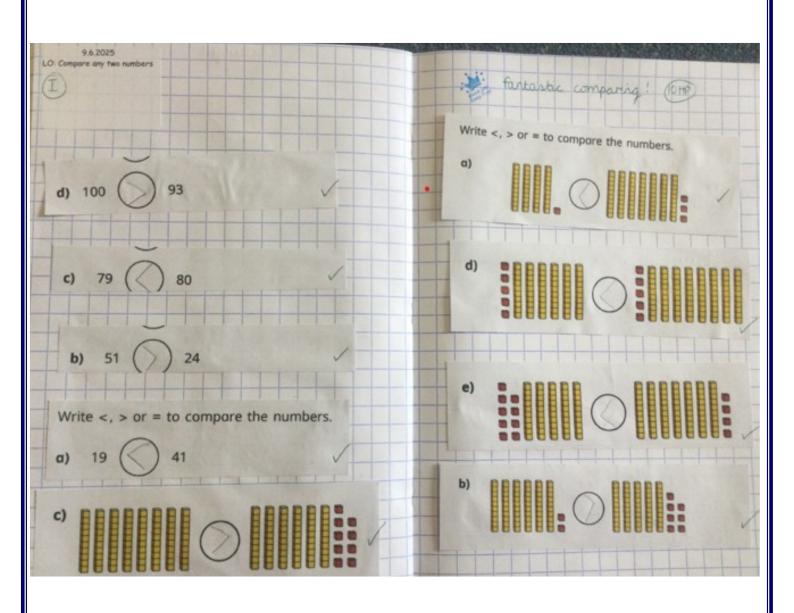
Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

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

Work of the Week

This week Year 1 have been busy in Maths comparing numbers. We ended the week by comparing two numbers across 100 using symbols, here is Alex Z fantastic work.





ISA Region Art Competition



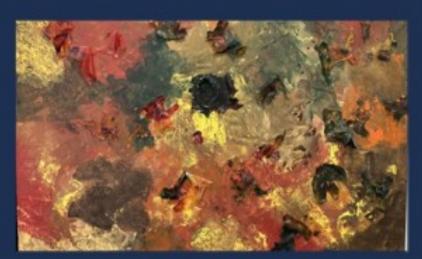
1st Place - Textiles James M



1st Place - Drawing Luca



1st Place - 2D Izzy H



1st Place - 2D Group Reception

Well done everyone

Nursery and Pre-Reception News

What a wonderful week we have had in Nursery. Our theme this week has been 'Doctors' we have been sharing our own medical experiences with our friends and finding out about all the wonderful things that medical professionals can do to make us feel better. Our featured story has been 'Zog and The Flying Doctors' by Julia Donaldson. In Green room, we have had our very own doctors looking after their friends in a hospital role-play table, the children have been wrapping their arms in bandages, checking temperatures, and showing love to all their patients. In the craft area, the children have been creating their very own doctors first aid kits; by using amazing cutting and decorating skills to make them unique! In Yellow room, we have been creating our own thermometer's and get well soon cards. The children have been writing numbers 1 to 5 on their thermometers independently and then using their fine motor skills to peel plasters to decorate their cards and they all look wonderful. We have had some amazing climbing and balancing in the garden as the children have been building their very own obstacle courses. The children have been particularly excited about skeletons and x-rays this week; we have been looking at some model skeletons and have even drawn our own using the whiteboards. The kitchen has also had a wonderful warm aroma going through the air as the children have been creating different recipes that involve apples as... 'An apple a day keeps the doctor away'. The children have been discussing a lot in the kitchen about what foods will help keep us healthy and strong! Wow what a busy week!









Reception News

What a fantastic week we've had in Reception! We've been busy exploring our pirate theme and using it to inspire lots of creative learning. In preparation for Father's Day, the children made special pirate-themed cards and wrote all about why their dad (or grandad!) is the best. We were so proud to see the children using their phonic sounds and key words to write such thoughtful messages. We hope all our amazing dads and grandads have a brilliant day on Sunday – you deserve it!

In Maths, we've been diving into the world of fractions. We started by exploring halves and quarters, and then moved on to finding half and a quarter of amounts using cakes and Smarties – a fun (and tasty) way to help us understand these tricky concepts. A sweet treat well-earned after some fantastic maths thinking.

Phonics continues to be a big focus. We are now confidently using our Phase 3 sounds and are beginning to learn some new tricky words by sight, such as *said*, *come*, *like*, and *out*.

Our pirate adventures didn't stop there! We crafted our own pirate telescopes and climbed aboard our role -play ship, The Jolly Roger, to keep a lookout for other ships out at sea. There's been no shortage of imagination and teamwork! Well done, Reception – you are a clever, creative, and hardworking bunch.











The Foundation Team

Dates for the Diary





Saturday 14th June - Ashtead Rotary Village Day 11.30am-4.30pm

St Christopher's has a stall

Please come along to support the local community



Wednesday 18th June - Pre-Reception trip to Little Street

The children should wear their usual Nursery uniform for this trip, we advise shorts as it gets very warm inside

Friday 20th June 8.30am -10.30- Father's Day Challenge (Don't forget dads to bring a bottle with you for our Summer Fair Bottle Tombola)

Fathers with children in Nursery or Pre-Reception only will enjoy fun activities in the Nursery areas

Fathers with a child in Nursery or Pre-Reception and a child in R, Y1 & Y2 will join their oldest child for the start of the morning and take their oldest child to Nursery for the last 20 minutes

Fathers with children in different year groups within R, Y1 & Y2 will be able to enjoy the time with both children as the youngest child will join the older child for activities



St Christopher's PTA Summer Fair - Saturday 28th June. 2-5pm

Tickets will be available on the PTA website. New September Starters are very welcome. <u>https://www.pta-events.com/stchristophersepsom/</u>





PASSPORTS £12