



Weekly News

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

Friday 12th September 2025

Dear Parents,

Wonderful New! Finalists!

We are delighted to announce that St Christopher’s has been selected as a Finalist in the Independent Pre-Prep of the Year category at the Independent Schools of the Year 2025 Awards!

This recognition highlights our commitment to providing a nurturing, inspiring, and high-quality education for our pupils. We are absolutely delighted to be recognised on a national stage. This achievement reflects the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our pupils, and the incredible support of our parents – all of whom are at the very heart of our school community.



Forest School

This week marked the exciting start of Forest School led by Mrs Taperell at St Christopher’s, and the children have truly embraced the adventure! From exploring the woodland and discovering nature’s treasures to creating their very own bog babies in Year 1, the sessions have been filled with curiosity and joy.

The mud kitchen proved to be a favourite spot, with plenty of imaginative play and messy fun! It’s been wonderful to see the children working together, problem-solving, and expressing their creativity in the great outdoors.

We’re looking forward to many more weeks of learning, laughter, and muddy boots!

Thank You for Attending Our Parent Information Evening

A big thank you to all the parents who attended our Parent Information Evenings. We were delighted with the great turnout and hope you found the sessions informative and useful.

It was wonderful to share important information about the year ahead and give you a glimpse into what your children will be learning and experiencing. Here’s to a fantastic year ahead for everyone!

Be A Guest Speaker: Show Children the World of Work

As part of our curriculum at St Christopher’s, we explore a wide range of jobs, and the skills people use in their work. One fantastic opportunity to make learning meaningful and inspiring, is by inviting parents and carers into school to talk to the children about their careers.

These visits offer pupils a valuable opportunity to learn more about the world of work and to make links between their learning in school and real-life experiences.

If you’d like to take part, we’d love to welcome you to join us at 8.45am to speak during an assembly for around 15 minutes. You’re welcome to bring a short presentation, to share what you do. Presentations would need to be shared with the school in advance, and we are of course, on hand to support with any preparation and on the day itself.

Depending on interest, we’ll schedule visits throughout the year to give everyone a chance to take part.

If you are interested in being a guest speaker, please complete the form via the following link: [Be A Guest Speaker](#)

Dress Like a Pirate Day – Friday 19th September



Ahoy, St Christopher's! On **Friday 19th September**, we're inviting all pupils (and staff!) to **dress like a pirate** for the day.

Get ready to don eye patches, bandanas, and pirate hats as we sail through a day of fun activities. We can't wait to see all our little buccaneers in action.

Year One News

This week, Year 1 stepped back in time as we entered the classroom to discover mysterious cave paintings! We enjoyed reading *Cave Baby* and used our phonics skills to write about times when we had been a little cheeky. We also learnt about adjectives and had fun thinking of exciting words to describe the animals in the story.

In Maths, we practised careful counting by finding specific numbers of objects from larger groups. We also focused on number formation and enjoyed making number necklaces and building number towers. Andrew built an enormous tower and then split it into tens and ones to work out how many cubes he had used – well done!

In Art, the children explored collage, creating wonderful pictures of their favourite toys using paper and fabric. Florence collaged a beautiful bird, carefully thinking about the colours of the feathers – great work!

For our Topic work, we discussed our favourite toys, how they work, the materials they are made from, and how they feel. The children had some brilliant ideas and loved sharing them with the class. Sebastian drew an amazingly detailed picture of his toy dinosaur – fantastic effort!

Year Two News

Year 2 have got off to a flying start this term!

In Literacy, the children have been busy writing around the classic tale of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. They have practised using expanded noun phrases, powerful verbs, and adverbs of time to sequence their stories. Polly impressed us with her dramatic line, "*the outrageous, young criminal trespassed through the bears' home,*" while Tabitha painted a vivid scene of a "*beautiful forest with muddy puddles.*" The children 'Wanted' posters were so persuasive that Goldilocks herself appeared in the classroom to apologise for her mischief!

In Maths, the focus has been on partitioning numbers up to 100 in different ways, using Numicon and Base 10 equipment. They worked hard to represent their ideas pictorially through part-whole and bar models and then took on the extra challenge of finding missing values. Daniel even stepped into the teacher's shoes, setting his classmates some particularly tricky problems!

In Art, the children created stunning self-portraits. Using a photograph of half their face, they carefully observed and drew the missing half before colour-matching to complete their picture. The results were so impressive that our classroom Art Gallery is now filled with smiling portraits of Year 2!

Finally, our Topic work has taken us up, up, and away with our *Flying High* theme. We've explored objects and places from a bird's eye view, and as the children begin their *Future Leaders* sessions, we are confident that Year 2 will continue to soar to great heights this year.

Calling All Quiz Masters

The PTA will be hosting its much-anticipated Annual Quiz Night this coming February and is seeking two Quiz Masters to help write the questions, run and lead the event.

Could you be the next Magnus Magnusson or Clive Myrie, keeping the contestants in check with a firm "*I've started, so I'll finish*"? If so, we would love to hear from you!

This is always a popular and enjoyable evening in the school calendar, and the Quiz Masters play an important part in making it a success. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the PTA for further details.

Open Morning at St Christopher's – 3rd October 2025

Do you have friends or family looking for a Nursery or School place? Please do tell them about St Christopher's!

We will be holding an Open Morning on 3rd October, offering the perfect opportunity to explore our school, meet our staff, and see our wonderful learning environment in action.

We look forward to welcoming new families to our school community!



This week's lunch time superstar is Nola, you have impressed the catering team this week with trying lots of new and delicious foods. Well done Nola!

Merits

Florence D, Harry P, Quinn S, Hugo Q, Polly S, Macie C, Alexander P S, Aathvika S, Leo S, Akshaana S, Alexander D, Stella M and Maria O

Best wishes

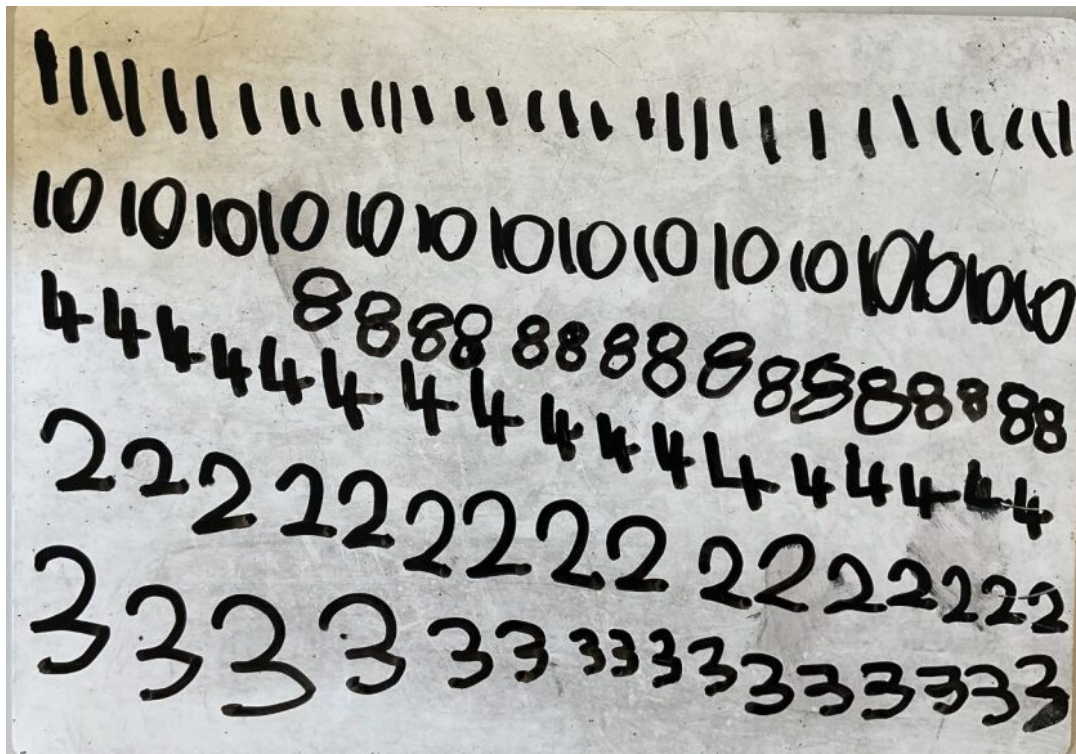
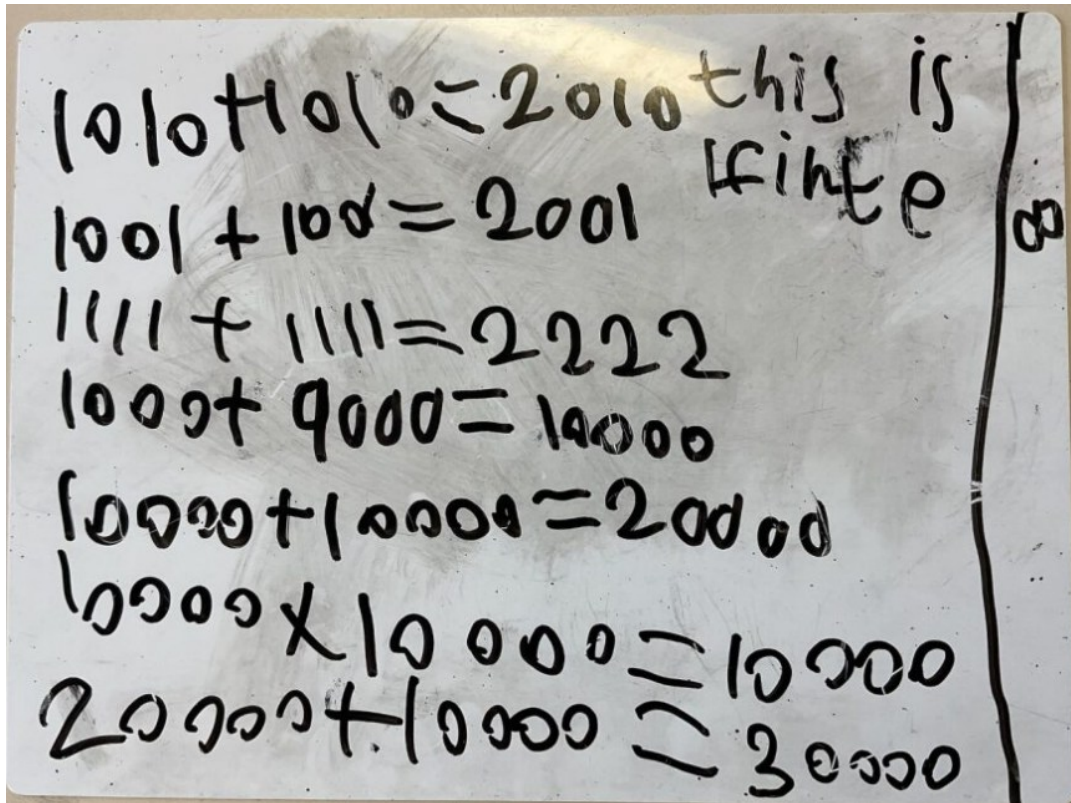
Mrs Grehan

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

Work of the Week

This week Year 1 have been eager to show off their incredible maths skills!

Together we have practiced identifying numbers and matching them to the correct amount. We have also practised writing numbers. Take a look at some of our amazing whiteboard work from Quinn and Andrew!



Nursery and Pre-Reception News

A warm welcome back from the Nursery team to everyone and a special hello to all of new families joining us this term. We have had the most wonderful start to the new school year and we are so proud at how the children have settled back so beautifully during our first full week together. And what a busy and exciting week it has been too!

The children were excited to start their Forest School sessions this week. As we ventured outdoors the children were busy exploring nature, collecting, climbing and engaging in inventive play using natural materials. It was wonderful to see their confidence, independence and imaginations grow outdoors. Alongside our Forest School the children have also had their first P.E, art, music and French lessons. In P.E the children practised balance and coordination by trying to pick up a beanbag using only their feet. It was trickier than it looked, but we were so proud of how the children kept trying, encouraging each other, and not giving up.

In the Nursery we have been getting to know each other. We created self-portraits through use of natural materials such as wood chips and buttons. We worked on our fine motor skills to draw our families and in the garden we talked about our emotions and drew some wonderful large chalk images. The kitchen smelt super yummy as we celebrated birthdays by baking a cake together. The children measured and mixed independently and decorated with pride. We also harvested some apples from our very own garden tree and turned them into a delicious crumble. The children loved being part of the process of picking the apples. The Nursery really has been full of happy chatter, smiles, busy hands and lots of friendship building.



Reception News

We are off to a flying start in Reception! As we settle into our new environment, learning the rules and routines, the children have already been busy developing skills that will help them become confident and independent learners.

It's been wonderful to see the children playing and exploring with their new friends. Their enthusiasm and curiosity have filled the classroom with energy, and they are eager and ready to dive into learning.

We've launched straight into our phonics journey, exploring our first set of sounds: s, a, t, and p. Already, the children have been using sound buttons to blend these sounds into words such as *sat*, *tap*, and *pat* — an impressive achievement for just the first week!

Alongside our phonics, we've been sharing our knowledge of numbers and discovering different ways to represent them. The children have shown great creativity and understanding as they explore early mathematical concepts.

Emotional wellbeing is also a key focus in Reception. Through our Mighty Minds approach, we've been discussing feelings and emotions - especially those that come with starting school. The children are learning to recognise which "zone" they're in and how to regulate their emotions to stay in the Green, Good to go zone.

The children have also been impressing our specialist teachers in PE, Music, and French. As they move around the school with growing confidence, they've shown great enthusiasm and engagement in all their lessons - we couldn't be prouder!

A real highlight of the week was the launch of Forest School. The children absolutely loved taking their learning outside, discovering and exploring the natural world. From investigating minibeasts to building with natural materials, their excitement and curiosity were truly inspiring.



The Foundation Team

Dates for the Diary



Monday 15th September - All clubs start
(except Tennis which starts on Friday 26th September)

Thursday 18th September - Reception trip to Priory Park
The children should wear their PE tracksuit, trainers and raincoats



Friday 19th September - Talk like a Pirate Day
Children to wear pirate themed outfits



Mathletics: Congratulations to Chloe L and Oscar M for your Bronze Certificate



Leonardo D - Won a trophy from 'We make footballers' Summer camp for winning the tournament

Muzhi D - awarded a medal for winning the Summer reading challenge, reading 6 books and writing reviews for each

Georgia S - Awarded a certificate for achieving a half marathon by completing 11 junior park runs

Isabella D - Awarded a rosette award for proficiency theatre ballet - cream, a rosette award for proficiency theatre tap - salmon and a rosette for a horse whispering session

Heidi L - awarded StarTastics star of the week certificate for great work on the air track, lovely balance on the beams and achieving gymnastics Bronze 1

Chloe L - awarded StarTastics certificate for achieving gymnastics Bronze 1 and a certificate for a prep test in piano

Hugo Q - awarded a certificate for attending a submarine safari and a certificate of appreciation for the participation in the development of conservation of turtles and endangered animals in New Bulih Bali

William I - awarded certificate for taking part in a Summer reading challenge

Otilie H - Awarded a rosette award for proficiency theatre ballet - cream and a rosette award for proficiency theatre tap - salmon



Art Award - Sebastian PD - For your amazingly detailed and masterful dinosaur drawing.

