



Weekly News

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

Friday 10th October 2025

Dear Parents,

St Christopher's Celebrates Harvest Festival

On Friday, the whole St Christopher's community gathered in the beautiful setting of St Martin's Church to celebrate Harvest Festival. Families, friends, staff and children from Pre-Reception through to Year 2 came together on a crisp autumn morning to give thanks for the food we enjoy, the people who grow and prepare it, and the importance of sharing with others. The church was brought to life with a colourful autumnal display, thoughtfully arranged by Mrs Degg using the children's generous harvest donations, while the festival itself was beautifully curated and conducted by our music teacher, Mrs Colchester, who also accompanied the children on the piano.

Year 2 took the lead, bursting with confidence and flair as they guided the service. With clear voices and plenty of enthusiasm, they kept everyone engaged with fun facts - from how bananas can travel the same distance as a flight from London to New York and back, to how harvest festivals are marked across the world, from Latin America to China.

Each class brought something special to the morning. **Pre-Reception** were a delight with their sweet performance of *Five Little Peas* and the song *Picking Berries*. **Reception** children shone with confidence too - Mars Class recited *I Like...*, Neptune Class shared *My Secret Ingredients*, and both classes joined in with the cheerful harvest tune *We've Got Tomatoes*.

Year 1 followed with plenty of energy and thoughtfulness. Jupiter Class performed the poem *Harvest Hands*, while Saturn Class celebrated colourful foods with, *I Can Eat A Rainbow* before lifting everyone's spirits with *Harvest Time*.

To round off the celebrations, **Year 2** entertained with their poems *Italian Food*, *Food Glorious Food* and *Brian's Picnic*, before showing off their fantastic Harvest Dance choreographed by Miss Greenwood. The children embraced the spirit of a traditional barn dance, with plenty of lively steps and everyone eager to do-si-do - a joyful highlight that had the whole church smiling.

The festival finished with the entire school singing the much-loved harvest song *Cauliflowers Fluffy*, filling St Martin's with joy and gratitude. A special thank you for your generous food donations which will support **Epsom & Ewell Food Bank**, and for your contributions to the retiring collection which raised £382 for **Save the Children**, a charity close to our school's heart. The Harvest Festival was a wonderful celebration of community, kindness and thankfulness - and a perfect way to welcome the autumn season together.

Black History Month

This October, we are delighted to celebrate Black History Month 2025, with the inspiring national theme “Standing Firm in Power and Pride.”

This month gives us a special opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements, stories, and contributions of Black people in the UK, both past and present.

Power represents influence, leadership, and the ability to create positive change. Pride celebrates cultural identity, heritage, and the richness of Black excellence—from art and music to literature, science, and community leadership.

Throughout the month, we will be sharing activities and learning experiences with the children to help them explore these themes, understand the importance of diversity, and appreciate the contributions that have shaped our society.

Year One News

What a busy and exciting week we’ve had!

In English, the pictures from *Cave Baby* got all jumbled up! The children worked brilliantly to reorder them and then received a letter from Cave Baby himself, saying he had lost the words to his story. Using their pictures, the children retold their own versions of the tale, using fantastic story language such as “Dad was furious!” and lots of lovely adjectives.

In Maths, we have been counting backwards from any number within 100 and noticing what happens when we cross over a ten — the children were quick to spot the pattern!

In Topic, we explored a range of toys and sorted them into those from the past and those from the present day. The children were fascinated by how much toys have changed over time.

In Science, we focused on our sense of hearing and went on a sound hunt around the school to discover different noises. The children were great detectives!

We have also been preparing for our Harvest Festival, learning songs and poems to celebrate the season. The children talked about the journey of food from ‘farm to fork’ and shared thoughtful ideas about why it’s important to thank our farmers for all their hard work.

Well done, everyone, for another fantastic week of learning!

Year Two News

Our Year 2 authors have been hard at work learning how to *tantalise their readers* with exciting story openers! These wonderful examples from Oscar and Muzhi really had us hooked.

Oscar wrote:
“*The lady with ancient skin had only two pieces of money. No-one will ever know her powers.*”

Muzhi used the same stimulus photo and described:
“*The wise, old lady has pale, white, wrinkly skin. I wonder why she is smiling...*”

In another English lesson, the ‘*Year 2 Said Police*’ were given their first assignment — to track down every instance of the word *said* in a passage and replace it with something more interesting! The children then practised using their new vocabulary while learning to punctuate speech accurately with speech marks.

In Maths, the children have been busy exchanging ones for tens in column addition and tens for ones when solving column subtraction. It's a tricky method to master, but they've shown real determination! We've practised using base-10 equipment and whiteboards. Do ask them to show you what they've learned — there are some excellent budding maths teachers in Venus and Mercury!

As we prepare for our visit to *The Poppy Factory* next week, the children have been learning about Remembrance and the Armistice. They have asked such thoughtful questions and shared meaningful reflections as we've explored how the poppy has come to symbolise hope.

Parking Considerately

A reminder to all drivers to please park thoughtfully, especially on the corners of Chartwell Place. These areas are particularly tight, and when cars are parked too close to the corner, it makes it difficult for prams, buggies, and wheelchairs to pass safely.

Please take an extra moment to check that you're leaving enough space for pedestrians to get by — your care makes a big difference to everyone's safety and comfort. Thank you for helping keep our community safe and accessible!

PTA Halloween Disco – 17th October!

Get ready for a spooktacular time! The PTA Halloween discos will be held on 17th October, and children are invited to come dressed in orange and black on that Friday for the whole day. We can't wait to see everyone join in the fun!

Top of the leader board this week is **Dahl** House with a superb total of **1280** House points. Congratulations to **Dahl** house.

This week's lunch time superstar is Sam in Reception for using great manners especially when requesting seconds. Well done Sam!

Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

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



CERTIFICATE OF KINDNESS

St Christopher's School and Nursery

Thank you for your incredible donation 147.1 kg of food.

This equates to an amazing 62 meals for those in need in the local
community

We are so grateful for you support



charity number : 1197493



Nursery and Pre-Reception News

We've had a wonderful week in Nursery continuing our autumn adventures! On Monday, the children arrived with their creative binoculars, ready to help Squirrel find his missing leaves in our story *'The Leaf Thief'* by Alice Hemming. They were delighted to discover there was no thief at all, just the autumn wind!

In maths, we've been counting and weighing conkers, exploring heavy, light, and balanced weights. The children showed great teamwork as they compared conkers and pinecones.

In the kitchen, we made warm hedgehog rolls by weighing the ingredients, kneading dough, shaping hedgehogs, and adding raisin eyes and spiky tops. The Nursery smelt amazing, and everyone was so proud of their tasty creations!

Our corn-on-the-cob playdough in the Green room was also a hit, with lots of rolling, pressing, and discussions about farms and yummy vegetables.

We ended the week with our Harvest Festival. The children performed their poem and songs beautifully, their confidence shone, and we couldn't be prouder. A big thank you to everyone who helped and came to watch! We hope you loved it just as much as us.



Reception News

This week in Reception, we've explored the tasty world of fruit and vegetables through *'Oliver's Vegetables'* and *'Oliver's Fruit Salad'* by Vivian French. These stories inspired our own fruit shop and vegetable patch role play, which the children have loved!

In phonics, we learned the sounds e, r, u and the digraph ck, practising how two letters can make one sound. We used these in our writing as we recalled the days of the week and the vegetables Oliver found in his Grandpa's garden, we have all impressed our teachers with our writing and listening.

Our number of the week is 6. We've been forming it in lots of creative ways with pens, glitter, and even pink sand. We have been carefully practising our counting in our vegetable patches and fruit shops.

In Forest School, we made our own clay spiders with matchstick legs and experimented with a pulley system to lift and move objects from high to low.

Mrs Degg also introduced us to the colourful, wobbly world of the artist Hundertwasser, and we've started a big class artwork inspired by his style.

We hope you enjoyed our Harvest Festival at St Martin's Church, with our clear voices and big smiles!

Next week is Parents' Evening, and we can't wait to share all the wonderful progress we've made after only five weeks in Reception!



The Foundation Team

Dates for the Diary



Tuesday 14th October - Year 2 trip to The Poppy Factory

The children should wear their School uniform and have their waterproof coat in school. The children will not need any money and a packed lunch will be provided.

Please remember due to parents evening there is no Drawing, Sing & Sign, Playdough, Lego or Unwind Storytime club next week. If your child is booked into B/C Owls sessions after their teacher led club , we will automatically book them in for session A unless you advise otherwise

Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th October - Parents Evening 4-7pm

Thursday 16th October 3.30pm - Pre Nursery Tour

For Nursery Spring children & parents/carers

Friday 17th October - PTA Halloween Disco

Nursery, Pre-Reception, and Reception 3.30pm -4.15pm

Year One and Year Two 4.30 pm - 5.15pm.



Friday 17th October -The PTA will be hosting their monthly Tea House in the Outside classroom from 3.00pm.

