



Weekly News

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

Friday 17th October 2025

Dear Parents,

St Christopher's Wins *Independent Pre-Prep School of the Year 2025!*

We are absolutely delighted to announce that St Christopher's School & Nursery has been named Independent Pre-Prep School of the Year at the *Independent Schools of the Year Awards 2025!*



Chosen from over 1,000 nominations by an independent panel of judges, this prestigious national award recognises the exceptional achievements and dedication of schools across the independent education community.

A huge thank you to our amazing staff, pupils, and families — this achievement belongs to all of you! Together, we continue to make St Christopher's a truly special place to learn, play, and flourish.

Parents Evening

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for Parents' Evening this week. It was wonderful to see so many of you and to have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and achievements. We really value your ongoing support and partnership in helping our pupils thrive.

Parent Survey

In feedback from our recent parent survey, parents asked us to provide more information about our PSHE curriculum and your child's academic progress.

At the start of the year, during our parent information sessions, a leaflet was shared outlining an overview of our PSHE curriculum, including some of the new language and concepts that will be introduced throughout the year. We hope this was useful and informative.

This week, during our parent evenings, parents of children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 received feedback on their child's progress in Reading, Writing, and Maths, along with suggested points for further development. Parents of Pre-reception children will receive the same feedback in the Spring Term.

We hope this helps you feel informed and involved in your child's learning journey.

Year One News

In English, we have started our exciting new book *Astro Girl!* At the beginning of the week, the children used their predicting skills to make guesses about what the story might be about, using clues from the front cover. Later, they took part in some fantastic drama activities, stepping into the roles of Astrid and her friend Jake. Everyone shared wonderful ideas about what they would like to see in space. We were so impressed by the children's brilliant use of adjectives and their ability to link ideas using the conjunction *and*.

In Maths, we focused on finding *one less*. The children used 100 grids to solve missing number sentences and continued to explore numbers using Numicon, cubes, number lines, and bead strings. Their confidence with number patterns is growing beautifully!

Our Science lesson was all about the *sense of taste*! We carried out a fun taste experiment and discovered the different flavours: bitter, sour, sweet, savoury, and salty. The children noticed that their sense of taste seemed even stronger when they closed their eyes. Unsurprisingly, the marshmallows were a class favourite!

In Topic, we explored *toys across the decades*. The children learned that a decade means ten years and were fascinated to find out about popular toys from the past, including Furbees, Tamagotchis, Nintendo Game Boys, Polly Pockets, Beyblades, and Beanie Babies.

In Art, we experimented with *printing techniques*. The children used different objects dipped in paint to create beautiful repeating patterns. The results were colourful, creative, and full of personality!

Year Two News

This week in English, we've been planning and writing our own sequels to *The Minpins*! The children focused on using exciting descriptive tools such as expanded noun phrases and similes and explored different ways to make their sentence openings more interesting. They produced some wonderful stories — for example, Sophia wrote a brilliant sequel about Little Billy entering a haunted palace and being locked in by an evil King and Queen. Quite a sequel indeed!

In Maths, we consolidated our understanding of column subtraction. Some children moved on to abstract calculations, while others used sticks and crosses to support their working. We were also introduced to multiplication and division and revisited how to recognise and use different coins to make a variety of amounts.

On Tuesday, we enjoyed a fantastic visit to The Poppy Factory, where we learned more about Remembrance Day and the importance of the poppy. Everyone even had the chance to make their own poppy to take home!

In Topic, we explored the Armistice and discussed how people reacted to the end of the war, thinking carefully about what life might have been like at that time.

In Science, we planned and carried out an experiment to find out which material would be best for wrapping a parcel. After testing and recording our results, we used our findings to draw conclusions about the most effective material.

In PSHE, we revisited the rights that children have at school and talked about the responsibilities we all share to make sure those rights are respected. We also discussed the praise and consequences that help us make good choices at St Christopher's. Georgie made a particularly thoughtful comment, saying that an important right children have at school is *the right to be happy* — a lovely reminder of what really matters in our classroom!

It's been a busy and exciting week, and we're all ready for a well-deserved half-term break!

Coffee Morning with Chinthurst – Thursday 6th November in St Christopher's School Hall

We would be delighted if you could join us for a relaxed coffee morning on Thursday 6 November from 8.30am – 9.30am in the school hall. Parents don't have to stay for the whole hour as we know many parents need to get to work.

As we are now part of the RGS family of schools, we are very pleased to welcome visitors from Chinthurst School, including Headteacher Cathy Trundle, Deputy Headteacher Lia Winchester, and Year 6 teacher and 11+ lead Mr Will Beadle. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet some of the Chinthurst team in an informal setting, enjoy a chat over coffee and cake, and hear more about life at their school.

While the decision for next schools may still seem a little way off, many families find it reassuring to begin exploring the options for life after St Christopher's - both at junior and senior school level early on.

This is an opportunity to learn more about Chinthurst but also the different pathways it offers to senior school.

A Spooktacular Halloween Disco

A huge thank-you to our wonderful PTA for organizing our annual spooktacular Halloween disco! We know that from the moment the music starts to the final dance, the event will be filled with laughter, fun, and festive Halloween spirit.

The PTA's hard work and dedication truly made this event unforgettable. We appreciate all the volunteers, parents, and helpers who made this magical night possible.

Here's to many more fun-filled events thanks to our amazing PTA!

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 5th November – Year 2 singing at Bourne Hall for the Remembrance Service at 10.30am

Thursday 6th November – Coffee Morning with Chinthurst Staff

Monday 10th November – Odd Sock Day – children are invited to wear odd socks to school in support of Anti-Bullying Week

Saturday 22nd November – Christmas Fair

We wish all our families a wonderful half term and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 3rd November.

This week's lunch time superstar is for **Tristan** the Catering Team are pleased at your fantastic eating and for appreciating the delicious lunches so much for . Well done !

Top of the leader board this week is **Kemp** House with a superb total of **1692** House points. Congratulations to **Kemp** house.

Merit Awards:

Marth VA, Dawn F, Chloe L, Sylvie A, Otilie H, Alfie H, Edward C, Sienna B, Kit W, Laksh P, Alexander D 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 we focused on independently writing our capital letters, full stops and finger spaces when writing in role. Quinn even challenged herself to use 'and' and 'because', incredible work!

+2(hp)

16.10.2025
LO: To write in role.

① use of
word mat.

I want to see the huge
galaxy be cos it has twinkling
stars.

I can see the round moon.
I want to go on a fast
rocket and go on the moon.



Well done Quinn for challenging
yourself to use 'and' and 'because'.
Lovely finger spaces, full stops
and capital letters!

Nursery and Pre-Reception News

It's been another wonderful week in Nursery as we head into our half-term break!

We enjoyed two stories — *'The Scarecrow'* by Beth Ferry and *'Funnybones'* by Janet and Allan Ahlberg. Inspired by *The Scarecrow*, the children created their own "Old Scarecrows" using straw, leaves, and paper hats, now proudly displayed in our Art room.

After reading *'Funnybones'*, we explored the human skeleton by making x-ray handprints with white paint on black paper, we added cotton buds, and even traced around each other to label the body parts, a fun way to learn about our bodies!

In the Kitchen, the children baked pumpkin-shaped tarts with apricot filling and they looked (and smelt) amazing!

We also learnt about the four seasons, creating beautiful trees for each one using different materials like tissue paper, shiny leaves, and cotton wool.

Finally, we carried out a pumpkin science experiment in the garden, predicting which pumpkins would float or sink, with some surprising results!

We have loved all of the wonderful outfits we have seen today and we hope that those who went to the disco had the best time!



Reception News

It's the last week before half term but we have still been working very hard, with all things pumpkin! We have been making pumpkin soup, building our fine motor skills by scooping out the seeds and then using instruments such as pipettes and syringes to add our ingredients.

We have also been using our pumpkins to hammer in golf tee's and stretching elastic bands around. This was tricky work but we didn't give up and we were extra careful to make sure we wore our safety goggles! We have also been looking at comparing the sizes of our pumpkins by placing them into size order.

We have been writing instructions for the *'Little Red Hen'* in Holy Moly, Sqwaukamole. We have thought about the bossy words that were needed to make the guacamole such as cut, mix, snip and cut.

Our number of the week is 7. We have been practising how to write this, count seven objects accurately and find 7 represented in 7 different way, such as numicon. Along with learning about the number 7 we have been learning the days of the week by singing our days of the week song!



The Foundation Team

Dates for the Diary

Half Term 20th - 31st October

Term Starts - 3rd November 2025

Please remember to wear your winter uniform



Wednesday 5th November - Year 2 singing at the Garden of Remembrance

Year 2 parents are welcome to attend the event at Bourne Hall, please arrive by 10.30am

Thursday 6th November 8.30-9.30am - Coffee Morning in the Hall

Cathy Trundle, Chinthurst's Headteacher and other members of staff will attend



Mathletics: Congratulations to Hugo Q, Austin F, Reva M, Otilie H, Martha VA, Heidi L, Henry W and Fin G for your Bronze Certificates

Reva M, Chloe L, Ashwin S, Austin F, Muzhi D, Henry W, Sebastian PM and Oscar M for your Silver Certificates



Spotty Box: Awards for success outside school:

Malyk RK - Awarded a certificate for being player of the session at 'we make footballers'

Hugo Q - Awarded a certificate for coming 1st place in a calculation competition

Irina B - Awarded a certificate for taking part in the 'Story Garden' summer reading challenge

Martha VA - Awarded a bracelet for running a ½ marathon with park run.

Chloe L - Awarded a certificate of achievement for completing the Wukong Chinese Program KS1

Sylvie A - Awarded a certificate for achieving her level 2 swimming badge

Isabella D - Raised £250 for Great Ormond Street to help build a new children's centre. Isabella ran 2km without slowing down and even a sprint finish in the Great Ormond Race and exceeded her target of £150



Art Award:

Chloe L - For your beautiful, careful weaving to make a cardboard table mat

Izzy H - For your beautifully expressive "The River" painting; using lots of different brush strokes.

Andrew L, Alfie H, Quinn S, Austin F, Finn G, Sylvie A, Isabella D, Georgia S, Heidi L, Sebastian PM, and Florence D for making Mrs Degg proud for remembering our artists name 'Friedensreich Regentag Dunkelbunt Hundertwasser's'.



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