



Weekly News

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

Friday 7th November 2025

Dear Parents,

 **All Aboard the Polar Express – St Christopher’s PTA Christmas Fair!** 
Saturday 22nd November | 2:00 – 5:00pm

Step into the magic of Christmas and climb aboard the Polar Express at St Christopher’s! Our annual Christmas Fair promises an afternoon full of festive fun, sparkle, and wonder — with stalls, games, treats, and a touch of North Pole magic.

Tickets are selling fast!

Be sure to buy your tickets in advance to secure your spot on this magical journey — you won’t want to miss the fun!

Get your golden tickets ready and join us as we celebrate the spirit of Christmas together.

Year 2 Singing at Bourne Hall

On Wednesday, Year 2 represented St Christopher’s at Bourne Hall for the Remembrance Service. Their rendition of “In Flanders Fields” was beautiful and incredibly moving. A special congratulations to Cora and Luigi, who sang their solo parts superbly. Next Tuesday, the whole school will come together for a moment of silence and stand in the playground to remember those who gave their lives so that we may enjoy peace.

“We will remember them”.

A Sweet Visit from Mars!

A huge thank you to Mrs Wood for visiting St Christopher’s on Monday to talk about her fascinating job as a lawyer for Mars Wrigley. She was joined by her colleague Claire, from the marketing team, who explained the exciting process of how chocolate is made and how companies develop and promote their brands.

As part of their visit, Mrs Wood and Claire launched a chocolate design competition that has certainly captured the children’s imaginations! Pupils have been challenged to create a brand-new chocolate bar — with the special requirement that it includes some healthy ingredients. Nursery, Pre-Reception and Reception are asked to design their chocolate as part of homework, whereas Year 1 and 2 will do this in class.

The winning designs from each class will be sent to the Mars Head Office, where winners will be selected. We can’t wait to see the creative and delicious ideas our pupils come up with!

PTA WOW Event – A Visit from a Chocolatier! ♦

We had a truly sweet day at St Christopher’s this week thanks to a fantastic WOW event organised by the PTA! A professional chocolatier visited the school to share his expertise and passion for chocolate-making with our pupils.

The children took part in a series of fun and educational workshops, including:

-  Exploring cocoa pods and beans – discovering where chocolate really comes from and how it’s grown.
-  A guided chocolate tasting – learning how to taste chocolate like true experts!
-  Hands-on chocolate-making – every child made their own delicious chocolate lollipop to take home.

Interactive storytelling – following the fascinating journey of chocolate from bean to bar.

It was a wonderful day filled with learning, creativity, and (of course) plenty of chocolate! A huge thank you to our PTA for organising such an engaging and memorable experience for all the children.

Year One News

We began the week with a “wow” event from **Mars (the chocolate factory – not the class!)**, where the children had the chance to create their very own chocolate! We linked our learning to the *Inventing Room* in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. The children explored chocolate using all their senses — thinking about how it smells, tastes, feels, looks, and even the sounds it makes when we eat or unwrap it. Using an AI image creator, they gave detailed instructions to design their dream chocolate bar before drawing their own designs and writing wonderful descriptive sentences full of adjectives to tell Mars exactly what their creations would be like.

In **Maths**, we’ve been focusing on the language of *greater than*, *less than*, and *equal to*. The children enjoyed comparing numbers in fun ways — even investigating whose name had the greatest number of letters, whose was equal to, and whose had the least! It was a brilliant, hands-on way to apply their learning.

For **Design and Technology**, our theme was *Bonfire Night*. We learned why Bonfire Night is celebrated and practised recalling the traditional rhyme. The children explored how fireworks and rockets move before designing and making their own colourful rockets using a range of cutting and sticking techniques — it was lots of fun!

In **Science**, our focus was on the *sense of touch*. The children investigated ‘feely bags’ and described how different objects felt. They then took part in a quiz to guess the mystery item based on its descriptive properties — there were lots of giggles and great scientific thinking!

Finally, in our **Topic** work, we reflected on everything we learned last half term. Working in pairs, the children created fact files about *toys from the past*. These have now been turned into our very own class book titled “**Toys from the Past.**” The children are so proud of their work and have loved reading through the class book in our book corner.

Year Two New

A mystery awaited the Year 2 children on their return to school this week... where had all these dragons come from, and what were they doing in our school?! It was an exciting start to our **literacy** work. The children went on a dragon hunt and practised **positional language** while writing a “*Guide to Spotting Dragons*”. Aaron spotted a dragon camouflaging amongst the art boxes, noting it was hiding from friends — brilliant observation!

Next, they were introduced to the delightful book *The Dragon Machine* by Helen Ward. The dragons in the story were causing all sorts of problems, so Year 2 wrote thoughtful letters of advice to the main character, giving their own creative solutions.

In **Maths**, the children revisited **problem solving, multiplication, and division**. Their teachers were very impressed by their growing confidence in these skills. They also practised **measuring accurately using rulers**, and when some objects were too long for our classroom rulers, J-T cleverly suggested using metre sticks, remembering that 100cm equals 1 metre — excellent thinking!

Chocolate Week was another highlight. The children came up with wonderful new chocolate bar designs in ICT, and Michael Rosen’s poem *Chocolate Cake* has quickly become a class favourite.

Year 2 were also invited to attend the **Remembrance service** at Bourne Hall on Wednesday. They had been practising the song *In Flanders Field* in their music lessons with Mrs Colchester and sang it confidently and beautifully in front of parents, the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell, and children and staff from other local schools. Each child also planted a celebration cross in the Garden of Remembrance. We were incredibly proud of them.

Staffing News

We would like to welcome Mr Steve Bullenthorpe to St Christopher’s. Mr Bullenthorpe joins our premises team as Mr Bennett is away on long-term sick leave at the moment. I know you will all make Mr Bullenthorpe feel very welcome when you see him.

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Payne will be joining us in January 2026 as our new Nursery Teacher and Assistant Head for the Early Years. Mrs Payne brings a wealth of early years and senior leadership experience. There will be an opportunity to meet Mrs Payne in the last week of this half term.

Tobun Family Fundraiser: Supporting Families Impacted by Hurricane Melissa in Jamaica

This weekend, the Tobun Family are taking on an incredible challenge to raise funds for families in Jamaica affected by Hurricane Melissa. Together, they'll be completing a sponsored walk covering 28.7 miles — with Tristan, aged just 6, walking 5.7 miles, which will be a huge achievement!

The 28-mile total distance holds special meaning: it's the same as the journey from Tilbury Docks in Essex to Brixton — a symbolic route that many of the Windrush Generation travelled after arriving in the UK to help rebuild the country after the war.

Every step of this walk honours their legacy and supports those most affected by the recent devastation in Jamaica.

Any support would be deeply appreciated.

Please follow the link below to donate or learn more: [Help raise £5000 to support families impacted by Hurricane Melissa in Jamaica – JustGiving Crowdfunding](#)

Odd Socks Day on Monday 10th November

Odd Socks Day on Monday 10th November marks the start of a national Anti-Bullying Week in the UK. It provides a chance for children and adults alike to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a positive way. Children and are asked to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is to wear odd socks.

Coffee Morning with the Chinthurst Team

A big **thank you** to everyone who joined us for the recent coffee morning with the **Chinthurst team**. It was a wonderful opportunity for parents and carers to meet the Cathy Trundle the **Headteacher**, Lia Winchester, the **Deputy Headteacher**, and **Mr Beadle the Year 6 teacher and 11+ lead**, and to gain valuable insights into life at **Chinthurst School**.

The morning provided a warm and relaxed atmosphere for parents to ask questions, share experiences, and connect with the Chinthurst team. We're grateful to everyone who attended and helped make the event such a success — and we look forward to welcoming the team back again in the future.

This week's lunch time superstar is Raya and Lana for being super eaters and for showing exceptional manners. Well done !

Top of the leader board this week is **Donaldson** House with a superb total of **2010** House points. Congratulations to **Donaldson** house.

Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

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

Work of the Week

Year 2 returned to school this week to be met by a multitude of dragons poking out of various hiding places. The children used positional language to describe where they found them.

Here is Martha's fantastic 'Guide to Spotting Dragons.'

A guide to spotting dragons

Tuesday 4th November

Most people thought dragons ~~not real~~ are not real but when I was looking for them I saw a little one. I noticed under the pencil pot there was a dragon but it disappeared.

It wasn't long since I've seen a dragon the best place to look is on the window ledge. I saw it beside the books because ^{it was} about to go to sleep!

I once saw a dragon I didn't know what to do with it so I fed it ^{cabage} cabbage soup. It perched ~~on~~ on a timer between the stove. When I saw it in the morning it was gone!

LO 2: Use positional language in sentences ✓

I can use positional language to describe ✓

I can use conjunctions to extend ideas ✓

These sentences are very detailed and have super prepositions to help us spot those pesky dragons! Great work, Martha.

Nursery and Pre-Reception News

What an exciting week it's been in Nursery! The children have been busy exploring shapes in all sorts of creative ways, from building brilliant shape rockets that zoomed across the nursery up onto our display wall, to learning the names and properties of 2D shapes such as circles, squares, triangles, and more!

We've also been practising our counting skills, working hard to count back from 10 like true astronauts preparing for blast-off. In celebration of Bonfire Night, the children created stunning bonfire pictures using a wide range of materials from shiny foil and colourful tissue paper to textured paints making our classroom sparkle with fiery reds and golden yellows.

During PE, everyone showed fantastic focus and coordination while practising throwing skills, aiming carefully and cheering each other on.

The highlight of the week, though, was in Forest School, we used our fine motor skills to hammer golf tees into pumpkins and attach elastic bands to create patterns, and we learnt all about fire safety and even gathered around a real fire! The children listened carefully, shared their ideas about staying safe, and watched in awe as the flames flickered and danced. Being a firefighter was part of our Forest school adventure; we used a water squirter to shoot water at a target. It's been a week full of discovery, creativity, and fun, we are so proud of our curious and confident learners!



Reception News

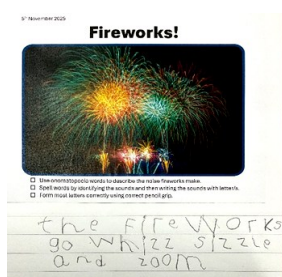
We were so excited to see our freshly decorated Reception classrooms and all the wonderful changes that had been made over the holidays! Of course, the excitement hasn't stopped there and this half term has quite literally started with a bang!

This week, we have been exploring fireworks and learning about the reason behind Bonfire Night on the 5th of November. In our writing, we were inspired to use *onomatopoeic* words such as *whoosh*, *bang*, and *pop*! We have even started incorporating some of our tricky words (which cannot be sounded out) like *the* and *go* to write sentences such as "*The fireworks go...*".

We loved dressing up as though we were going to a real fireworks display, wrapping up warm in woolly hats, gloves, boots, and scarves.

As we are exploring a range of festivals this half term, we also created firework-inspired sticker charts to collect rewards for all our hard work. While exploring the types of logs we might use to build a bonfire, we ordered sticks by length and used comparative language to describe them, talking about which were longer, shorter, or the same length.

It was Neptune's turn to start their artwork with Mrs Degg inspired by the artist Hundertwasser. We loved exploring how to mix colours to make green and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to make their own green – each and every shade came out unique.



The Foundation Team

Dates for the Diary



Monday 10th November - Anti Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day

Children and adults to wear odd socks to school



Friday 14th November - PTA Non Uniform Day

Children to wear their own clothes to school and bring in a luxury bottle for the tombola



Friday 14th November - Return of your PTA Christmas Goodie Bag



Tuesday 18th November - Sharing Our Learning

All parents warmly invited from 8.30am – 8.55am



Saturday 22nd November 2pm—5pm - PTA Christmas Fair

Book your tickets now

[St Christopher's School & Nursery PTA](#)





All aboard

*St Christopher's
Christmas Fair*

*Saturday 22 Nov
2-5pm*



*Tickets now on
sale*