



Weekly News

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

Friday 13th February 2026

Dear Parents,

Children’s Mental Health Week

This week we marked **Children’s Mental Health Week**, with a focus on the theme of **belonging** and how we can help everyone feel included, valued, and part of our school community. The children took part in thoughtful discussions about kindness, friendship, and what it means to belong, sharing ideas about how small actions can make a big difference to others.

As part of the week, the children followed the **St Christopher’s Kindness Calendar**, which encouraged daily acts of kindness. It was lovely to see so many kind words, helpful actions, and thoughtful gestures taking place around the school.

On Tuesday, the whole school came together to create a paper chain, with each link symbolising every child’s place within the St Christopher’s community. This collaborative activity was a wonderful visual reminder that we all belong and that we are stronger when we are connected.

Spring Music Concert

Congratulations to everyone who took part in our Spring Music Concert. We were absolutely delighted by the extraordinary talent on display and so proud of every performer. From beautiful piano playing and confident violin and cello performances to recorders, singing, and even the harmonium, the variety and quality of musicianship made the concert a real treat for all who attended.

A huge thank you to the parents and families who came along to support the children and form such a wonderful audience. Your encouragement made the occasion even more special. The concert was filled with amazing performances and was truly enjoyed by everyone. Well done to all involved – a joyful celebration of music and talent across the school.

Saturn Class Assembly

Saturn Class delivered a truly fantastic assembly celebrating Lunar New Year. The children confidently shared the traditional story of how the animals were chosen for the Lunar New Year calendar, helping everyone understand the meaning behind this important celebration. They then delighted the audience with an energetic dragon dance, which was performed with great enthusiasm and teamwork.

The class also sang a cheerful New Year song and spoke about a range of traditions linked to this special occasion, including how families celebrate, prepare, and come together during Lunar New Year. Every child played an important role in the assembly and showed excellent confidence, cooperation, and pride in their learning.

It was wonderful to see the effort and care the children put into their performance. Saturn Class should be extremely proud of themselves — they were all absolutely fabulous. Well done to everyone involved!

Mars Class Assembly

This morning’s Mars assembly was a truly joyful and uplifting celebration of the power of love and compassion. Through enthusiastic singing and warm, engaging storytelling, pupils met Leo the lion, who showed us all that real strength is found in kindness, hugs, and caring for one another.

The assembly finished with brilliant disco dancing that filled the hall with energy and laughter. It was a moment that brought tears to the eyes and huge smiles to faces, leaving everyone feeling happy, connected, and ready for the day ahead.

PTA Quiz

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the PTA Quiz Night last week – it was a fun-filled evening from start to finish!

The quiz featured a great mix of rounds, including music, guess the celebrity, literacy and geography, and was perfectly accompanied by delicious fish and chips and even better company.

Huge thanks, particularly to our brilliant quizmasters, Mr Secker, Mr Hayward and Ms Scally for organising such an enjoyable event, and to everyone who came along to support the PTA. We're already looking forward to the next one!

Parent Teacher Meetings

Thank you to all the parents who attended the recent Parent–Teacher Meetings. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to share and celebrate the progress your child is making, as well as to discuss next steps in their learning. We greatly appreciate the time you take to meet with staff and value the strong partnership between home and school, which plays such an important role in supporting every child's development.

Year One News

In the build-up to the poetry recital, Year 1 has enjoyed an exciting and creative week with a strong focus on poetry. The children began by learning about alliteration and what it means, exploring how words that start with the same sound can make language more fun and memorable. They then worked collaboratively to create a class alphabet book, coming up with some very funny, imaginative, and inventive alliterative phrases. The children took great pride in their work, and it was wonderful to see their growing confidence when playing with language.

This week in maths, the children have been busy building their confidence and fluency with numbers. We began by exploring doubles and near doubles. They demonstrated excellent reasoning skills by recalling known doubles and using these to help them work out near doubles efficiently. Later in the week, we turned our attention to developing a fast and secure recall of number bonds to 20. The children worked hard to practise these important number facts and showed great confidence when using them, particularly during subtraction activities. We were especially proud of the perseverance and enthusiasm they demonstrated — they truly embraced the challenge and celebrated their progress along the way!

For Science, we continued our exploration of materials and their properties. The children took part in a materials hunt around the school, carefully observing and identifying objects made from different materials. They then discussed the positive and negative aspects of these materials, considering why certain materials are chosen for specific objects. This encouraged thoughtful discussion and helped the children begin to understand how materials are used in everyday life.

In Topic, our learning was all about fashion. The children explored iconic and unusual designs, discussing the bold colours, patterns, and shapes. Inspired, the children thoroughly enjoyed designing and making their own fashion pieces using cardboard rolls. Their creativity and originality really shone through, and they were very proud to share their finished creations.

The highlight of the week was the Music Recital. Many members of Year 1 took part, showing incredible bravery, confidence, and enthusiasm when performing in front of an audience. The children supported one another beautifully, and their performances were a joy to watch. We are incredibly proud of all the children who took part and the effort they put into practising and performing.

Year Two News

This week, Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed activities linked to *Children's Mental Health Week*. They worked together to help create the giant school paper chain, sharing thoughtful discussions as they linked each piece about how we are all connected through common interests, a sense of community and being part of something bigger. Each day, the children also spent time practising mindfulness exercises and reflecting on the things they are grateful for. Ivy even said she was grateful for the rain: *"It's raining, hooray! I'm grateful because it makes water for us."*

In Maths, the children have been using their growing confidence with multiplication to solve problems involving division by 2, 5 and 10. Classrooms have been abuzz with mathematical chatter, with some children using counters to visualise problems, others choosing pictorial methods, and some applying their knowledge of inverse multiplication facts. The quest for times tables badges continues, and we are delighted by the determination shown as children work hard to achieve their next star.

In English, Year 2 rose beautifully to the challenge of writing their own poems inspired by *The House Held Up By Trees*. The children explored using adverbs, adjectives and even personification to bring their ideas to life, and we were so impressed by their creativity and imagination. Macie wrote, *"Gently, the house whispers to the trees while they sway."* What a beautiful opening line.

Our Tudor topic continues to inspire the children. They learned more about Henry VIII by carefully selecting and analysing different source materials before creating their own fact files. Through their research, they discovered fascinating details about his character, hobbies, clothing, homes and wives. In Art, the children began transforming last week's self-portraits into Tudor portraits, choosing Tudor clothing templates and patterned papers to build collages of themselves as Tudor kings and queens.

A busy and exciting week, full of thoughtful discussions and wonderful learning. Well done, Year 2!

Year 2 Maths Superstars

A huge congratulations to our amazing Year 2 superstars for learning their times tables and earning their star badges!

Your hard work, focus, and determination have really paid off, and we are so proud of everything you've achieved. Keep up the fantastic learning—you're all doing brilliantly!

Congratulations to Cora, Leonardo and Sophia for gaining their bronze stars and to Luigi, Izzy and Alexander for achieving their silver stars!

This week's lunch time superstar is JT, the Catering Team have nominated you for being so complementary about the delicious lunches this week. Well done JT for such super feedback!

Top of the leader board this week is **Kemp** House with a superb total of **1943** House points. Congratulations to **Kemp** house.

Merit Awards:

Nami Y-D, George H, Cece E, Malyk R-K, Adam Z, Quinn S, Ashwin S, Isabella D, Caitlyn M, J-T C, Georgie GD and Laksh P

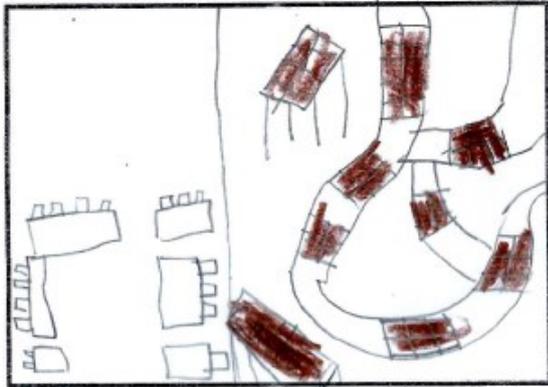
Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

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

Work of the Week

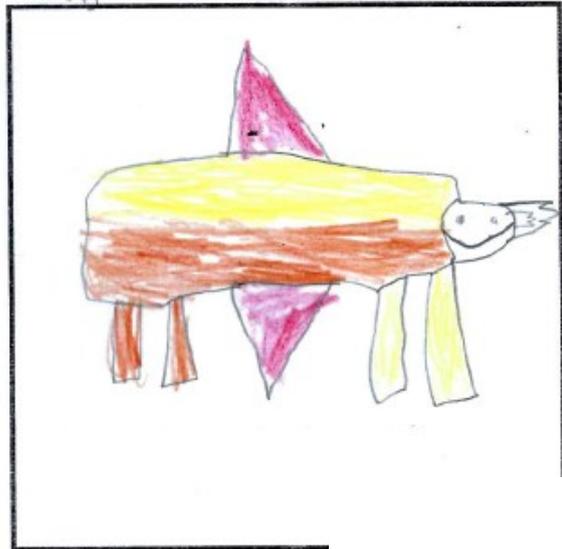
Year 1 have been exploring using time words, conjunctions and adjectives in order to create a guide on: how to feed a dragon, how to keep a dragon safe and where to fly your dragon. Austin has provided a great example of all of the wonderful skills we have been learning in Literacy .



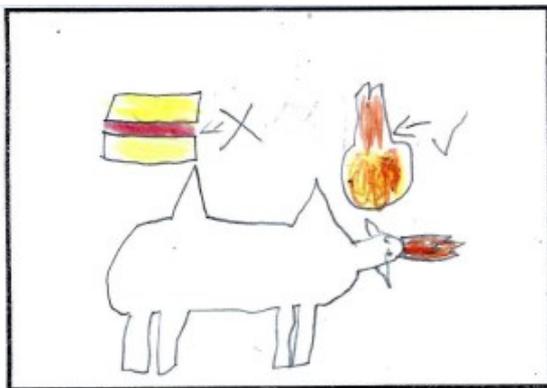
First fly to Cadbury world then glide to Dragon park. Finally sail to Lego land.

4

Keeping your dragon safe!

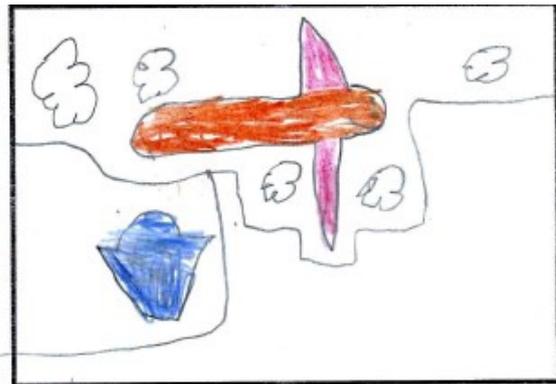


Austin twinkl.com



Avoid Jam sandwiches because he's not a fan. Make him some chunky burgers and some juicy turkey.

2



Dragons are fun but they need a big space. Dragons need one flight every day. You need to douse your dragon.

3

Nursery and Pre-Reception News

We have had a lovely week celebrating Lunar New Year and Valentine's Day, with lots of fun, creative learning taking place across the classroom.

As part of our learning about Lunar New Year, the children enjoyed using chopsticks in the playdough area, strengthening their fine motor skills as they pinched, rolled, and shaped the dough. They showed great perseverance and curiosity while trying out something new. We have also been cutting snips in coloured paper to make our own fantastic lanterns.

In our Creative Area, the children have been printing and cutting flowers to make their own bouquets, exploring colour, pattern, and design. This linked beautifully to our Valentine's Day theme, where the children also became little chefs and made heart-shaped pizzas. They loved choosing toppings, following instructions, and sharing their creations with friends.

During our phonics learning, we have been recapping the sounds we have learned so far s, a, t, and p. The children are beginning to listen carefully to words and identify sounds at the start, which is a fantastic early reading skill. It's been lovely to see their confidence grow as they spot familiar sounds in everyday words.

The children have been so engaged and enthusiastic, and we're really proud of all their efforts this half-term.



Reception News

This half term has absolutely whizzed by! It was so lovely to meet with you all and talk through the children's progress. We really enjoyed sharing their achievements, along with some of the next steps in their learning.

In phonics, we've quite literally sailed through Phase 3. The children have worked brilliantly to learn many digraphs, and we're incredibly proud of how confidently they're already applying this to their reading and writing. We're sure you've noticed the fantastic progress they've made, it's wonderful to see their growing independence.

In maths, we've built on our work with "one more," extending learning to include "one less," understanding that one more makes a number bigger and one less makes it smaller.

Love has been in the air this week! The children wrote their own Valentine's cards with thoughtful, independent messages inside. We also reinforced phonics with a giant Valentine's sorting activity, matching words to digraph postboxes before writing them down, a fun challenge packed with learning.

Neptune Class enjoyed a special treat, baking Valentine's cookies to give to someone special, we hope you enjoy them! And what a fantastic way to end the half term with the Mars Class assembly. Bravo to all the children for performing with such confidence and enthusiasm, we were incredibly proud of them.



The Foundation Team

Dates for the Diary

16th February - 20th February - Half term

Monday 23rd February 8.45am - 9.15am - Coffee morning

*For prospective, Nursery & Pre-Reception parents
Please email the office if you wish to attend this event*

Tuesday 24th February - Inter House Pancake Relay Race

Full PE kit with house T-shirt worn over their long sleeve sweatshirt. School shoes to be worn with trainers in a carrier bag



Thursday 26th February - Poetry Final



Friday 27th February 9.15am - Open Morning for Prospective Parents



Art Award: William I - for thinking and talking about Van Gogh at home and sharing a beautiful book with us.

Luigi CM and Daniel G- for making a 3D stage set model

Otilie H- for making gorgeous beaded bracelets and sharing them



Mathletics: Congratulations to Quinn S for your Silver Certificate

Congratulations to Sylvie A for your Gold Certificate

Congratulations to Heidi L for your Emerald Certificate

Congratulations to Heidi L and Oscar M for your Platinum Certificates



Spotty Box: Awards for success outside school:

Heidi L for Star-Tastic gymnastics new skill award and superstar award

Duke P for Powerhouse Parkour climbing

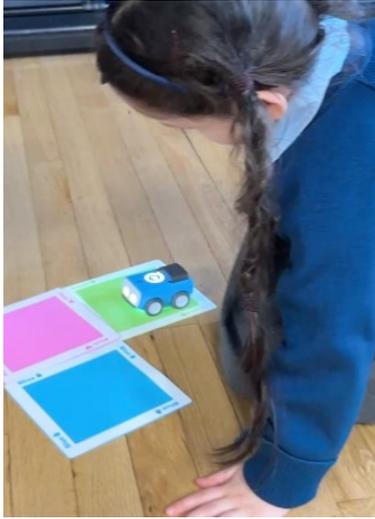
Austin F for Learning to Swim Seahorse 3 award

Malyk R-K for We Make Footballers player of the week

William I for Parkrun half marathon



IT workshop at Chinthurst



Spring Music Concert



Saturn class Assembly



Mars Class Assembly

