



## Weekly News

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

Friday 1st May 2026

Dear Parents,

### **Special Visitor Assembly**

We had a fantastic assembly this week, where Mrs Secker (Polly and Rupert’s mum) came in to talk to us about her exciting job as a journalist and radio newsreader. She shared lots of interesting insights into what her work involves and the skills needed to be successful in this field.

We learned that being a good journalist requires:

- Careful listening
- Asking thoughtful and meaningful questions
- Reading clearly and confidently
- Being brave and curious
- Always telling the truth

After the assembly, the children had the opportunity to practise their own interviewing skills by asking Mrs Grehan some questions. They worked hard to think of interesting questions and listened carefully to her answers.

It was a brilliant experience that helped us understand the importance of communication and curiosity in the world of news!

A huge thank you to Mrs Secker for coming to visit us.

### **Special Fundraising Appeal**

Sophia (Year 2) would like to share with the school community that she will be taking part in the Marsden March on Sunday 10th May, in loving memory of her sister, Kimia.

This is a cause that is deeply meaningful to Sophia and her family.

If you would like to support Sophia you can click on the following link for further information <https://march.royalmarsden.org/fundraisers/zeynabfallah>

### **Year One News**

In English, we have continued enjoying our class text *The Sea Saw*. This week, the bear in our story went missing! The children created fantastic missing posters, using adjectives and question marks to describe him. They then wrote bossy commands to the sea, asking it to look after the bear left behind on the beach.

Later in the week, we retraced the bear’s footsteps and wrote diary entries about where we thought he might have been, making sure to use the correct spellings of the days of the week. We also learned about prefixes and explored how they can change the meaning of words.

In Maths, our focus has been on weight and mass, followed by capacity and volume. The children loved being practical learners, using weighing scales and measuring jugs to investigate and compare different amounts.

In Topic, we explored how to use atlases, globes and maps to locate the United Kingdom. The children enjoyed becoming little geographers as they searched for different places.

## **Year Two News**

This week, the children have been diving into the fun and creativity of riddles in English. They enjoyed reading and solving a variety of riddles, carefully considering clues and hidden meanings, before having a go at writing their own. Using descriptive language, clever word choices, and a sense of mystery, they created riddles designed to keep their readers guessing. The class thoroughly enjoyed sharing their work and trying to trick their friends—there were some wonderfully imaginative ideas!

In Maths, we have been revising fractions, with a focus on recognising and finding one quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) and one third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ). The children used practical resources and visual representations to help them understand how shapes and quantities can be divided into equal parts. It has been fantastic to see their confidence grow, along with their ability to explain their thinking clearly.

In Science, we launched our new topic on habitats with an outdoor exploration of the school environment. Equipped with iPads and magnifying glasses, the children searched for animals and insects in their natural habitats. There was great excitement as they discovered woodlice, worms, butterflies, and even a centipede, as well as spotting a variety of birds. Their curiosity and enthusiasm really shone through.

In Art, we linked our learning to *James and the Giant Peach* by exploring the work of Quentin Blake. The children studied his distinctive illustration style before creating their own pencil drawings of Willy Wonka, focusing on shape, proportion, and detail. They showed excellent concentration and creativity, producing some fantastic artwork.

In Computing, we continued developing our skills using Scratch. The children added photos of themselves to create personalised characters and used the microphone tool to record their voices, bringing their projects to life. It has been wonderful to see their creativity flourish.

The children have worked incredibly hard this week and are certainly ready for a well-deserved weekend!

## **Parking Reminder to Parents and Carers**

We have recently received a number of concerns from local residents regarding inconsiderate parking around the school, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times. Residents have informed us that they will begin contacting the police with details of vehicles that are parked illegally.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to be mindful of parking regulations and the safety of others when arriving at and leaving the school

We ask for your cooperation in parking responsibly, respecting our local community, and helping to keep all children and families safe.

Thank you for your continued support.

## **Annual Reunion Tea**

It was lovely to welcome back our former Year 2 children for our annual reunion tea. They all seemed so grown up as they reminisced about their time at school and reunited with old friends.

The children had great fun playing games, enjoying time on the playground and the trim trail, and sharing sandwiches together on the lawn. It was also wonderful to catch up with parents and hear how well the children are all doing.

A truly joyful afternoon for everyone involved!

## **Warmer Weather Ahead**

With the weather set to get warmer next week, we kindly remind parents to ensure that children come to school prepared for the sun. Please make sure your child:

- Wears a sun hat
- Has had sun cream applied before coming to school
- Brings in a water bottle filled with fresh water

Our updated systems may now send attendance letters automatically when certain thresholds are reached, helping us keep communication clear and consistent for all families.

Good attendance and punctuality help children feel settled, confident, and ready to learn. If you are experiencing any difficulties, please do get in touch — we are here to support you.

## **Attendance Information**

We would like to gently remind families about the importance of regular school attendance.

In line with government guidance, schools are required to share a child's details with the local authority if they miss 15 days of school due to illness (either consecutively or over time). To keep you informed and offer support, we will contact you if your child reaches 10 days of illness absence.

If attendance falls below the expected level, we may invite you in for a supportive conversation to understand any challenges and discuss how we can help. Please also note that holidays during term time are not authorised, except in exceptional circumstances.

This week's lunch time superstar is Jocelyn for impressing the catering team with clearing you plate nicely after lunches. Well done Jocelyn!

Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

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

## Work of the Week

Year 2 have been learning to write riddles. This is Sophia's wonderful piece, she has spent a lot of time editing and improving her work.

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
LO: To write a riddle

I'm tiny, like a mango and I'm not <sup>monoth.</sup> ~~in~~   
and I'm the colour of a branch.

Also I'm ~~round~~ and soft,

I live in South America

I don't ~~run~~ I ~~walk~~ stroll!

You love <sup>sprints</sup> me but some don't!

I can't talk to people but I can to ~~animals~~ animals.

I'm a vegetarian so I can't eat meat.

I can be adorable sometimes but not that much.

I'm not dangerous but I can bite!

I'm not ~~a~~ transparent.

I can't be a pet because I'm a wild animal!

I don't have a shell

I'm not delicious & because I'm not good.

I'm the largest living rodent:

What am I? - capybara

Success criteria

I can use powerful verbs	✓
I can use the pronoun I	✓
I can begin a new sentence on a new line	✓
I can use interesting adjectives	✓
I can use a question mark	✓

## Nursery and Pre-Reception News

What a great first full week back in Nursery!

We've jumped straight into our new topic, *People Who Help Us*, focusing on firefighters and police officers. The children have loved exploring these roles through a range of activities.

At the start of the week, the role play area was covered in "flames," and the children stepped in as firefighters, using helmets and hose pipes to save the day. In the craft room, they made ladders using straws, developing both creativity and counting skills. In the Green room, we talked about emergencies and the important numbers to call.

On Wednesday, the role play area became a crime scene! The children turned into detectives, spotting footprints, investigating spilled food, and searching for clues.

Outdoors, they balanced over "flames" and worked together to build a fire truck using pool noodles.

To finish the week, our pre-Reception children were excited to receive their book bags. A fantastic start to the term—we look forward to more adventures next week!



## Reception News

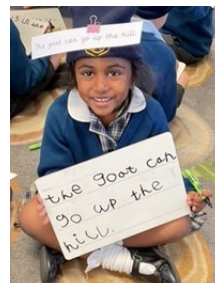
This term in Reception, our learning focus is Homes and Habitats. We began by exploring our own homes, with children confidently talking about where they live, who they live with, and what makes a house a good home. After reading *The Three Little Pigs*, we discussed what makes a strong house, deciding that brick houses are the best! The children loved dressing up and acting out the story together.

As the term continues, we will move on to habitats, linking to the animals in our summer production of *Into the Wild*.

In Maths, we have been working on numbers beyond 10. The children have practised recognising 11–20 and representing them using tens frames and Numicon, learning that numbers can be made by adding to ten (e.g.  $15 = 10 + 5$ ).

In the creative area, the children have enjoyed designing and making their own houses—future architects in the making! In phonics, they worked in pairs to read and write secret sentences, showing great teamwork and accuracy.

We are very proud of the children's enthusiasm and curiosity, and look forward to seeing where their learning takes us next!



**The Foundation Team**

## Dates for the Diary

**Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday**

**Tuesday 5th May 5.45pm-6.45pm - Lamda Showcase Evening**

**Saturday 16th May 10am-11.30am - Nursery Open House**

*A special morning of fun, discovery and exploration, if you know of families who are looking for a nursery, please do let them know about our open house morning.*

**Friday 22nd May - Non uniform Day**

*Bring a bottle for the tombola for the PTA Summer Fun Day*

**PTA Summer Fun Day on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2pm – 5pm**



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