



Weekly News

Friday 29th November 2024

Dear Parents,

PTA Christmas Fair

A huge thank you to all the amazing members of the PTA for your incredible hard work in making the Christmas Fair a spectacular success. We'd also like to extend our gratitude to Santa for joining us and of course, to all our families who joined in the fun; none of this would be possible without your continued support.

Particular thanks must be given to the core PTA team for their wonderful efforts – Kay Wood, Katie Robbins, Justina Kapanci and Anita Ezeanaka. The attention to detail was extraordinary and a brilliant time was had by all.

Year One News

Year 1 have been practising really hard for their production of "I'm Gonna Shine!" our nativity extravaganza and are excited and ready to welcome you to the Christmas production next week. They have been singing, dancing and rehearsing their lines diligently and with great enthusiasm. It promises to be an amazing show.

In Literacy, the story this week has been The Elves and the Shoemaker (Miss Kay's favourite traditional tale!). The children completed storyboards telling this wonderful story with the emphasis on correct punctuation. There were then discussions about how kind the elves in this story had been. The children then thought about someone who had been really kind to them and they then wrote letters thanking their chosen person. There have been many kind Grandmas in Year 1! William, for example, wrote to his Grandma thanking her for making him delicious cakes.

In Maths, the focus has been on number bonds and addition. Expect to play number bond ping pong this weekend! In Science, the focus has been learning about the weather and the associated scientific vocabulary. Arvid has made an excellent start on his weather diary and read and recorded the temperature and rainfall. Well done, Arvid!

Year Two News

This week in Year 2 has been another exciting and productive one, packed with learning. In Maths, the children have been revising essential arithmetic skill, including quick-fire number bonds to 10 and 20, near doubling, and addition and subtraction calculations. Arthur impressed us all by answering questions with remarkable speed and accuracy. The class also tackled problem-solving challenges involving all four operations. A special mention goes to Teddy, who made excellent progress in finding non-unit fractions of amounts, confidently using a bar model to support his work.

In English, the focus was on writing story openers with a partner. The children shared terrific ideas, incorporating ambitious adjectives, powerful verbs and thoughtful edits to refine their final paragraphs. Farzan particularly shone by sharing his idea of using dramatic dialogue featuring an elephant crying out for help whilst clinging on to a sinking ship – an imaginative and engaging start!

Our topic lessons this week centred around listening to Paddington stories and exploring what it might feel like to be a refugee arriving in a new country without speaking the language. The children thoughtfully discussed what essentials they would pack if they were in Paddington's shoes. Sunny offered a brilliant suggestion, advising that a torch would be essential for walking in the dark.

We are incredibly proud of the dedication and resilience the children have demonstrated throughout the week. In addition, to their academic work they have been working hard to learn songs and dance moves for the upcoming Nativity performance. We can't wait for you to see them shine on the stage next week!

“Elfridges” News

We are delighted to announce that the winning team for bringing in the most gifts for “Elfridges” was ... **AHLBERG HOUSE**. A huge well done and a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to our little Christmas Shop.

Staffing News

As many of you know, Mrs Pryor will be leaving St Christopher’s after many wonderful years at our little school. Mrs Pryor is moving on to a new school for family reasons, and we wish her all the best in this next chapter of her journey. She will be greatly missed!

We are however, over the moon to announce that we have successfully recruited Amy Greenwood, who will be joining us after Easter. (more information about Miss Greenwood can be found below). We are excited to welcome her to the St Christopher’s family!

In the meantime, for the Spring Term, we are delighted to share that Mrs Barker will be teaching PE for 2 days, and Miss Rendall will be teaching PE for 1 day each week. Many of you will know Mrs Barker of course and will already know that she is a qualified and experienced PE teacher and runs a very successful Martial Arts School in the local area. We are very lucky to have her join the team!

We are also saddened to announce that Mr Bennett will be leaving St Christopher’s at Christmas after 11 years at the school. Mr Bennett is starting a new adventure in pastures new away from the education sector. We will miss him terribly of course but wish him all the very best.

New PE Teacher Announcement

We are thrilled to announce that Amy Greenwood will be joining St Christopher’s as Head of PE from April 2024. Miss Greenwood has said:

“I am excited to be joining St Christopher’s after Easter! Before coming to St Christopher’s, I have spent the past six years teaching at an all-girls Prep School in Notting Hill. During this time, I had the pleasure of teaching pupils aged 4-11, with a special focus on the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 physical education. I also worked extensively with Key Stage 2 pupils, developing competitive netball and swimming.



Growing up, I was passionate about sport and took part in as many activities in possible, including netball, swimming, trampolining, and horse riding. This passion has driven my belief that every child should have the opportunity to be active and enjoy PE from a young age. I aim to make PE lessons both fun and inclusive, helping children develop a positive, life-long relationships with physical activity.

I am thrilled to be joining the St Christopher’s community and I look forward to meeting you all soon.

Parking

We kindly ask all parents to be mindful when parking near the school. This week, we have received several complaints about vehicles being parked across driveways, on road corners, or mounted onto pavements and roadside verges. These actions can create hazards and inconvenience for our neighbours and pedestrians.

I am aware that photos of cars that are parked inappropriately, have been sent to the Parking Enforcement Department at Surrey Council.

Your cooperation in ensuring the safety and accessibility of our school community is greatly appreciated.

Best wishes,

Mrs Grehan

Nursery and Pre-Reception News

It has started to feel very festive throughout our Nursery at St Christopher's. This week our focus story has been, Dear Santa. In our main room, the children have been busy preparing their Christmas wish lists, using images of toys to help them and even having a go at writing out the names of each gift. Giving a helping hand to Santa, the children have been busy with wrapping the presents at our workshop. Using scissors to cut the paper to size and using their fine motor skills to tear and stick on the cellotaph. The children were very pleased to be helping Santa this week, especially with trimming his beard! The warming smell of pastry has been wafting through the air as the children have been making their own cheese twist 'winter scarves'. Rolling out the pastry, spreading tomato puree, sprinkling cheese, and finally enjoying them at the snack table. In the hopes we may see some snow soon, the children have been making snowballs in the garden. Scrunching and squeezing newspaper into snowball shapes, the children were then using their gross motor skills to see how far they could throw them along the number line. Counting each number that the snowball had gone past. Using giant tongs in the garden to see if they could balance their snowballs on top of wobbly cardboard rolls. The children decided that moving them slowly was best, as it was a super tricky activity. Trying to keep toasty and warm in the colder weather, the children have been making hot drinks and cakes in our mud kitchen café. With the nativity show approaching all the children have been practicing so hard with their dances and songs and we can't wait for you to watch next week!



Reception News

As the excitement of Christmas builds, and with the much-anticipated school production just around the corner, we're still hard at work in Reception! In our phonics lessons, we have become more confident in using and applying our letter sounds, upped the challenge to explore digraphs – sounds made up of two letters. So far, we've tackled ch, sh, and th. Learning the 'ch' sound was a great starting point for our Christmas preparations. We had so much fun creating Christmas chains with each link decorated with a different ch word. Look closely, and you'll spot words like "chip," "chop," and "chin" on our colourful links around the classroom.

Next, we focused on the sh sound and what better way to explore this than with a shoe shop! The children enjoyed measuring each other's feet, trying on all sorts of shoes, and even writing labels for all the shoes in our shop. It was a fantastic hands-on way to practise our writing while having fun!

Finally, we explored the th sound by making thumbprint monsters! The children loved creating unique little monsters, all while reinforcing their new sound and how can we forget the volcanic eruption we created when we revised the v sound?! In Maths, we have continued our work on the concepts of more and less, combining these ideas when exploring different numbers. The children are becoming more confident in comparing numbers and understanding how quantities relate to each other.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 2nd December

Christmas Post Box Opens



Tuesday 3rd to Thursday 5th

Whole School Christmas Production @9am

Retiring collection for The Children's Trust

Tea and coffee will be available under the porch from 8.30

Wednesday 4th December

7-9 pm PTA Wreath Making Social

Friday 6th

Open Morning Getting ready for Reception

For current Pre-Reception Parents

Friday 6th

11.30 am-12.30 pm Year 2 Carol singing at the Asley Centre

Parents welcome to attend

In support of Epsom Medical Fund



Please note clubs have now finished

with the exception of Drama which has a make up class on Monday 2nd December

