



Newsletter

No 7 – 6th December 2024



Succeed ~ Happy ~ Independent ~ Nurtured ~ Excited
with perseverance ~ with respect & honesty ~ and courageous ~ with compassion~ with teamwork



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's starting to feel beautifully festive around school - the trees are up; the carols are being sung and the nativity is nearly ready to perform! The children in Foundation and KS1 enjoyed their theatre trip to Oxford and KS2 had a great time at the panto in Chipping Norton... oh yes they did! This week we have talked about the importance of thinking about others at this time of year. We lit the candles on the advent wreath and said some prayers linked to peace, hope, love and joy.

A huge thank you to SCPA and all the volunteers for working so hard at the disco today and fete tomorrow; I am overwhelmed with how generous you all are. Happy Friday!

Mrs Veeder, Executive Headteacher

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Absent from School?

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please don't forget to let us know. Absences are recorded in our registers with the appropriate reason code, i.e illness, medical appointment etc. Where no reason is given the absence is recorded as "unauthorised" and may be investigated by the Educational Welfare Officer.

Please remember that requests for absence should be authorised. See website for Absence Policy for further details.

PLEASE NOTIFY US ABOUT THE ABSENCE BY TELEPHONING SCHOOL ON 01367 860318 AND SELECTING OPTION 1 OR 4 TO LEAVE A MESSAGE. PLEASE DO NOT DOJO OR EMAIL.

QUICK REMINDERS

- ★ Wednesday 11th December 9am – Cherry & Maple Nativity
- ★ Thursday 12th December – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day – see attached.
- ★ Monday 16th December – 9am Guitar Assembly to parents – everyone welcome!
- ★ Thursday 19th December – Children can come to school in their Christmas jumpers again if they wish as we have our Christmas Lunch on this day. If you didn't order a lunch please remember to bring your packed lunch into school. We hope to get all the children in the hall in one sitting so we can enjoy the festivities together!
- ★ Thursday 19th December – Carol Service at St John the Baptist Church, Burford. Please arrive at 5.15pm for a 5.30pm start
- ★ Friday 20th December – last day of term 3.15pm finish. After School Provision until 4.30pm.



Happy with Respect & Honesty



"To be the best we can be for ourselves and others"

This is illustrated by the parable the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-27





Time to **SHINE** at St Christopher's




"To Be the Best we can be for ourselves and others"

The awards last week went to:


 Madeline for always being happy to learn.


 Adeline for being the best she can be in all areas of her learning.

 Mason for always being the best.


 Amelia for her excellent recall of the water cycle.

 Monty for 'Being the Best' across all subjects.


 Daisy for being a kind and lovely member of the class and working so hard on her DT project.

 Nancy for always being independent in tasks and always being the best she can be at Breakfast Club.


The awards this week went to:


 Albi for fantastic independent writing

 Isaac for working with enthusiasm during our nativity rehearsals.

 Lola for always completing her work to the highest possible standard.

 Ralph for always trying his hardest and consistently working well.

 Leah for working well in her additional work with Mrs Woolaston.

 To be advised next week – keep SHINING Hazel Class!

SHINE STARS – each week children and staff can award individuals for showing our vision. The names are written on a star and displayed in the entrance hall on our vision display.

Our "SHINE STARS" are:

Rufus, William, Leah, Summer

For

Helping others and being compassionate and kind and being a good friend.



House Points



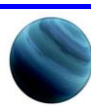
JUPITER

96
213
487



MERCURY

195
212
310



NEPTUNE

237
128
472






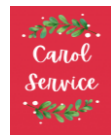



SATURN

309
121
295



Diary Dates

9 th December	10 th December	11 th December	12 th December	13 th December
3.15pm Nature Club (to replace the session cancelled on the 25 th November)	3.15pm Young Voices Club	9am Nativity Cherry Maple Ginkgo  3.15pm Hartist Art Club		3.15pm Broken Boards Skateboarding Club
16 th December	17 th December	18 th December	19 th December	20 th December
9am Guitar Assembly to parents 	3.15pm Young Voices Club	Christmas Service at St Matthew's Church Langford (staff and children) 	 (pre booked only)  5.30pm Whole School At St John the Baptist Church, Burford	Last day of term 3.15pm After School Provision 4.30pm
6 th January	7 th January	8 th January	9 th January	10 th January
 Inset Day .. school closed to pupils	Back to School Term 2			

We're taking part in



Save the Children

Christmas Jumper Day

THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2024

The whole school will be taking part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day with everyone getting the chance to wear their favourite festive knits for the day with their normal school uniform. You won't need to splash out on new jumpers simply decorate an old one to create your own masterpiece!

If you would like to make a donation, no cash please, please click the link below :

<https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/cjd240019352>



REVERSE

ADVENT CALENDAR

Thank you for the donations we have received this week. You can still donate up to and including **Friday 13th December** if you wish. There will be boxes in each classroom for your child to leave items. All items must have a best before date and contain a full list of ingredients. Unfortunately, fresh or homemade items cannot be accepted.

We hope this range of foods will help many families at this time. Thank you for your continued support and kindness.

BURFORD PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS BOCCIA FESTIVAL

It was an absolute pleasure to take the children to the Boccia tournament recently. Two of our players were new to the game and two more experienced. All the children played brilliantly, and the team were joint runners up overall! Very well done everyone! ✧ *Mrs Greenslade & Miss Thomas*



"It was really fun because we worked with children from other schools" William

'I hadn't played Boccia before and when I got there, I was surprised. It was great, I really enjoyed myself'. Lexi

"I enjoyed going to the Boccia tournament. I think I played really well this year'. Tom

'I have played Boccia before and this year it was really fun! We came joint runners up which is amazing!' Gracie

FORCES CLUB

Forces Club were delighted to be invited by RAF Brize Norton for a visit and tour of the Voyager and Hangar with other schools from the partnership this week. This was a great opportunity to meet other service children.

The children had a fantastic time and came up with some great questions. It was brilliant to see the children in Cherry Class so excited and to see them SHINE bright on their first trip!

Ms Nelson, Forces Club Co-ordinator



Governors

The start of any new school year marks a memorable transition for children, parents and teachers. I suspect it impacts on the residents of Langford too! There are the new Cherries, beginning school life and the Hazels thinking about their transition to secondary school in a few months. When I look at the photographs of the Y6 children's adventures at Pioneers a few weeks ago, I'm reminded of how quickly the time goes from Reception to Y6 and how the children grow and become increasingly independent. The Pioneer experience is certainly impactful for parents, children and staff too for that matter. For some children (even for some parents), it was their first experience of a significant time away from their family. Not only that, they tested themselves through activities that stretched their courage, independence, capacity to work together and support each other and appreciate their difference. As I still hear stories about the week, there was a lot of fun through it. So, if you wonder what it's like, the photos tell only some of the story, of a lasting impact, that shows St Christopher's school is more than about SATS, behavioural and academic data, or Governors' reports! It's concerned with adding value for the children as people.

As Governors we are occasionally invited to hear complaints from parents in a formal setting. I hope the felt experience for parents of these formal hearings is not daunting, but when we are asked to respond to a complaint there is a formal process.

There are some observations I want to share with you which I hope will be helpful. The first is to direct you to the policy document to guide you through the process <https://www.st-christophers.oxon.sch.uk/policies/>. The most significant observation I offer is that complaints are best resolved through dialogue with the school, Mrs Veeder and Ms Brown. Of course, our emotions surface quickly when we are concerned about the education and welfare of our children. It can be tempting to forget the staff at the school also have our children's well-being and learning at the heart of all they do. As I enter my third year as a Governor, the love and care the staff have had struck me deeply, not least accounting for the complex and differing needs of the children, with limited resources and accounting for the expectations of the ODST and DfE. So, I share this because, if you do have a complaint, the most helpful way forward is through being open to continuing dialogue. I know from direct experience the school staff are open to listen, understand and resolve matters of concern. That doesn't mean, however, that issues can always be resolved quickly!

Tony Worgan, School Governor



will be starting next term for year 2 upwards Thursdays after school. Beginners are very welcome! Please see clubs page on how to sign up. Hope to see you there!

Ms Brown, Cherry Class Chess Champion ☺

Clubs

We are delighted to be able to introduce a few clubs next term. Please see dates and details below. We request a voluntary contribution to help cover resources and staff costs and this can be done via SCOPAY which can be done when you register.

	Club	Led by	Time	Year Group	Numbers	Cost	Dates
Mon	Nature Club	Mrs Hobbs	3.15pm-4.15pm	All	Max 16	£15.00	13 th , 20 th , 27 th Jan 3 rd & 10 th Feb
Tues	Young Voices Club	Mrs Viner	3.15pm-4.15pm	Years 4, 5, 6	Continues for pupils already signed up		7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th Jan 4 th & 11 th Feb
Weds	Hartist Art Club	Hartist Design	3.15pm-4.15pm Min 10 Max 20	Year 1 to Year 6	Separate flyer with details and booking info to follow when available		
Thurs	Chess Club Beginners Welcome!	Ms Brown	3.15pm-4.15pm	Year 2 upwards	Max 16 Min 8	£12.00	9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th Jan
Fri	Skateboarding Club	Broken Boards	3.15pm-4.15pm	Details and booking info to follow once received			

Please note:

- A club may not go ahead if there is not enough children registered/attending.
- Once your child registers, we do expect that they will attend each session.
- There is the same high level of expectation with regard to behaviour and the schools behaviour policy will be followed.
- For ease of banking & administration, payments are due at the start of the course via SCOPAY
- Payment and commitment is for the whole course to cover staff/coach costs & resources.
- For children attending an afterschool club please note the finish time for the club their child is attending as indicated above. At this time the club leader will bring the children to the main entrance and see them out of the main door to parents/carers who are waiting. Please note that the bell should not be rung prior to this time as staff cannot allow Parents/Carers to wait unaccompanied inside the school building.
- Please collect your child promptly as staff may need to go home!



Just a quick reminder that the staff car park is not to be used for picking up children before 4.30pm as it is very busy with children walking through the car park after finishing clubs. After this time you are permitted to park if you are picking up from After School Provision but please be aware of the work vehicles.



Once again the St Christopher's Elves will be getting ready for their delivery duties! Our school post box will be located by the school office for your child to post their Christmas cards to friends and staff in the school. Last post will be Thursday 19th December 2024. Please ensure the recipient's NAME AND CLASS is on the envelope, otherwise we will be unable to deliver the cards safely.

Remember this is a great way for your child to practice their handwriting without them even knowing it!

CYBER PROTECT



The Digital Dilemma

Keeping Your
Kids Safe Online

December 4th, 11th, 18th



FREE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Thames Valley Police

Hints and tips to secure your family
online, covering:

Gaming



Social Media



Email

BOOK YOUR SPACE:

Eventbrite: Police - South East Cyber

DON'T LET IT BE **GAME OVER**
LEVEL UP YOUR ONLINE SECURITY