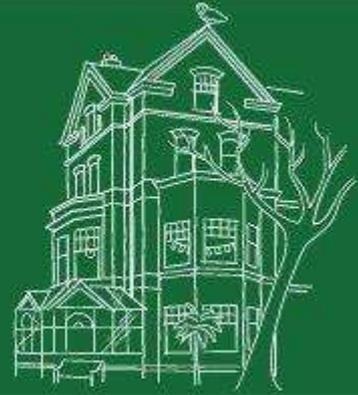


# Newsletter



Dear parent,

At the end of the first full week of the autumn term, I feel we have started to adapt to being back in school, and it has been joyful! Although tired, the girls have loved being back at school. They have taught me some very important things. Although they were away from school for much of last year, they have not forgotten that one should try to get to the cake sale first for the best cookies! I have learnt that it is easy to make friends at St Christopher's, and I have discovered that we often have the visit of a cute and friendly black cat, though I have yet to meet this little creature. I am looking forward to meeting more girls in small groups over the next few weeks.

## **Becca the Dog**

Talking about pets, I should like to reassure you that we are currently looking into alternative ways of welcoming Becca in our community. Although we cannot have visitors on site, we would love for the pupils to see Becca again; she may well be the first virtual dog visitor! We are committed to this project, and will be back with some news very soon.

## **Blue sky thinking**

On Monday this week, we launched Blue Sky Thinking – a collection of opportunities to reflect on our proud achievements over the last few years, and to start imagining the school's plans. From the enthusiasm staff and parents have shared with me, the future will be innovative and outward-looking! The Senior Leadership Team and I spent some time discussing our ways of working and our hopes for the school. I am also meeting with every single member of staff. These meetings have been invigorating, and I am excited to be working with all staff to create our route map for the next few years.

I was thrilled that so many parents from Reception to Year 3 could join me this week to hear about our immediate plans and to share their views and questions. I look forward to seeing more parents at the next webinar I will be hosting:

Years 4, 5 and 6: Tuesday 15 September, 10am

Please use the link below to book your place if you haven't already

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk/code?code=xsbdn>

## **Assemblies**

As we move through the academic year in current times, we may film various events in order to share these with parents, for example class assemblies. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that these videos are strictly for your viewing only and are the intellectual property of the school. They should not be shared on social media or any other online platform. Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

## **Jeans for Genes Day**

We are looking forward to next Friday, 18 September, when we will be supporting Jeans for Genes Day. Girls are invited to wear jeans or an item of denim on this day. They should wear their school shirt and school shoes as normal.

We usually ask that the girls bring a minimum donation of a pound on this day. This year, we invite you to donate online using the link below:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/st-christophers-jeans-for-genes-day>

Though this specific day is an opportunity to build awareness of and support for people with genetic disorders, our conversations about what makes each of us unique span beyond this one day. Next week is a launching point for your daughter to explore more about others' life experiences, share what makes her unique and celebrate a global community of people who are all different.

Thank you once again for helping your daughter settle back into her new school routine. It is never easy to adapt to change, particularly after such a long time away from school, though I am amazed at how easy it seems for the girls to 'get back into it'!

I wish you a delightful and sunny weekend.

As ever,



Sandrine Paillasse