



A message from the Headmaster



The ancient Chinese curse of 'may you live in interesting times' seems to be coming true. The use of the word unprecedented, not to put too fine a point on it, has been well, unprecedented. I write this on what should have been the last day of the spring term when I ought to have been surrounded by 1300 pupils and students and up to 200 members of staff. We ought to have been operating as normal - attending Easter services and quietly supressing the joy of an early finish and the start of a two week break. Our year 11 pupils and students from the upper sixth would have been preparing to get stuck into exam practice and revision timetables in preparation for the summer. And now all that has changed. Unprecedented.

This newsletter could very easily, and quite justifiably, be filled with a whole series of thank you comments. **Thank you** to our pupils, particularly those in years 11 and 13, who managed the news of the school closure on 20th March with such maturity and dignity. **Thank you** also to parents for working with the teachers to ensure that teaching and learning has been able to continue and pupils have had the opportunity to make progress. **Thank you** to the teaching and support staff who have worked so hard to provide appropriate work, shared in often innovative ways which fully exploits current technology. The PE department, for example, have launched a great weekly challenge, we have opened an online art gallery and the science department have launched their own online club, in addition to the new QUEST award open to pupils from year 7. All examples of engaging ways for pupils to interact with each other over and above the offer of curriculum work and studies. Given all the limitations and restrictions placed on us all I am confident that we have responded well to a challenging situation.

With the prospect of the current lock-down arrangements continuing until at least the end of the month it does look as though online learning will need to continue for some weeks to come. Please bear with us as teachers set new assignments and return work and do please let me know when things are going well and also when we can make improvements in our provision.

The cloud of the coronavirus must not however hang over the whole of the spring term. We enjoyed months of great schooling before our early closure, as illustrated in the contents of this newsletter. Pupils from all

year groups came together to rehearse for the school musical, 'Oliver!' The production was almost at the point of final performance when we had to decide that 'the show must go on' but not just yet! We are hopeful that the production will be performed at the rescheduled date of early September.

Year 10 pupils enjoyed two weeks work experience in placements as far afield as South Africa and Texas. Most were a little closer to home and all provided students with a valuable insight into the demands and opportunities of the adult work place. Feedback from employers was characteristically positive and a clear majority of pupils returned to work even more determined to work hard and gain good qualifications.

Congratulations to our year 9 pupils who have completed the selection of their GCSE courses. Well done for listening carefully to the advice of teachers and for meeting deadlines. Congratulations also to year 8 for their successful completion of the Archbishop of York's Leadership Award. We look forward to presenting them with their certificates and badges when normal school service resumes.

Let me close by returning to Covid 19. If our Christian faith, as revealed in the Easter story, teaches us nothing else it teaches us that God's love will conquer evil and that we can look forward with confidence to hope over despair, love over hatred. This message has been central to the now weekly 'Faith at Home' bulletin published each Wednesday and edited by Mr Pountain. This document is complemented by our Prayer Bulletin which also appears weekly, and I commend both to you.

'Prayer in action is love, love in action is service'

Mother Teresa

Wishing you all a happy and healthy Easter, one like no other.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R D Jones
Headmaster


School News

Welcome to a new initiative at St. Christopher's!

In school we have launched two posters, clarifying behaviour expectations; and also the rewards and sanctions used in class rooms. We review our behaviour policies annually and make them available on the [school website](#), in line with national guidance.

Ofsted have consistently graded pupils' behaviour as 'Outstanding' at St. Christopher's. We appreciate the work of teaching staff and the support of parents in helping to build and reinforce such a strong reputation and a positive learning environment.

If you wish to discuss an area of the policies, please contact Mrs S Parkinson, Senior Assistant Headteacher through the contact section of the website.



Learning at St Christopher's

"That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither - whatever they do prospers."
Psalm 1:3

	<p>BE READY</p> <p>Arrive at lessons on time, fully prepared to learn. Bring the required books and equipment with you. Manage your time, enjoy life, eat well and sleep well.</p>
	<p>BE RESPECTFUL</p> <p>Listen to your teacher and to the views of others in your class. Encourage, support, be kind and help your classmates. Welcome visitors and look after school property.</p>
	<p>BE RESILIENT</p> <p>Accept feedback and act on advice. Do not be afraid to fail; as you strive to succeed. Remember that hard work will always eventually result in progress.</p>
	<p>BE REFLECTIVE</p> <p>Seek advice from your teacher and your peers. Know your strengths and what you need to do in order to improve. Consider the ways in which your subjects relate to one another.</p>

Ad Gloriam Dei - To the Glory of God

Behaviour for Learning at St Christopher's

"That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither - whatever they do prospers."
Psalm 1:3

	OUTSTANDING Determined to succeed	GOOD Meeting expectations	AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT On track	CAUSE FOR CONCERN Disruptive
BE READY	Always prepared Essential and optional Homework extended Knowledge	On time All equipment Homework completed	Late to lesson Missing equipment Incomplete/late homework	Repeatedly late Repeatedly missing equipment Repeatedly poor/no homework
BE RESPECTFUL	Highly engaged Excellent contributions Always focused	Listening well Responding well Paying attention	Passive learning Calling out Lack of focus	Defiance Disrupting learning Using inappropriate language
BE RESILIENT	Taking on feedback Learning from failure Exceptional effort	Acting on feedback Not fearing failure Working hard	Accepting feedback Fearing failure Not working to ability/ Incomplete class work	Ignoring feedback Giving up Serious deterioration in effort
BE REFLECTIVE	Actively seeking advice Knowing how to improve	Seeking advice Striving to improve	Not responding to advice Reluctant to improve	Refusal to accept support Refusal to improve

Rewards and Sanctions

Your teacher may use any of these rewards or sanctions, as appropriate and will log them on your Syntry record.

	OUTSTANDING Determined to succeed	GOOD Meeting expectations	AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT On track	CAUSE FOR CONCERN Disruptive
BE READY	Excellent credit (2) Satisfactory credit (3) Praised home Department certificate Reward treat Credit badge	Verbal praise Good credit (1)	CSE card Verbal warning Cool off time Change of seat Break/turn detention Contact parents	Department isolation Department detention School detention Department monitoring card Referral to MOD/NOV/ SMT



Plastic Free

The School is having an in-house push on the 'Ban of single use plastic'. This is across the school and should be encouraged by parents and staff.

If all pupils brought reusable bottles, then this would decrease our refuse costs, as well as improve the environment.

Please help us to help the planet!



Ski Trip 2020

On Saturday the 15th February, the St Christopher's 2020 school ski trip set off outbound to the Aosta Valley, Italy, amidst storm Dennis. A group total of 92, across two coaches, made it the biggest ski trip in the history of the school.

The coaches made good time down to the white cliffs of Dover, only to be met by gale force 9 winds and a 4 hour delay. Eventually we boarded and had a tamer crossing than anticipated, although still not for anyone with a weak stomach.

Twenty four hours later, a little later than anticipated, we eventually arrived in resort at 5:00pm on the Sunday. After checking into the Hotel and an evening meal, it was straight back out to ski hire in preparation for an early start.

Monday morning the first wake up call came at 06:15 and a second 15 mins later, just enough time to make a 7:00 breakfast. ETD 8:30 to get on the piste for an 09:45 start.. Four hours of ski lessons and lunch on the mountain to enjoy some of the finest Italian cuisine Monday to Saturday..

Early mornings were followed by late nights with no rest in-between. Evenings were packed with a hectic apres ski programme, from shopping and exploring the beautiful town of Aosta, to Disco, Ten Pin Bowling and an Italian pizza restaurant dining experience.

After a memorable presentation on the Friday evening and a final day skiing on the Saturday, an exhausted group of pupils boarded the coach for the inbound journey.. a much calmer, quieter and relaxed atmosphere than on the outbound journey, with some asleep before the Mont Blanc tunnel..

Overall a successful trip and an amazing experience for all.... In the words of Mr Gary Cocker...

“an opportunity for a lot of pupils that may never get a chance to see the mountains in all their glory again. I have loved skiing round and meeting up with them on the slopes it just makes me smile to see them loving it... I truly believe that the kids do benefit.”

For some, a once in a life time experience and for others the start of something special and many more ski trips to come. A love of skiing for life and memories to be made.



School News (continued)



Year 9 Options Evening

Thank you to all the parents and pupils who attended last night's Option Evening for Year 9

It was fantastic to see so many of you and we are really looking forward to next year!



Year 10 Skills Day

Year 10 had a fantastic 'Study Skills Day'. They were able to explore a variety of sessions from learning to mind-map through to active approaches to revision.

Pupils were also able to spend time thinking about their mental health by focusing on ways in which to reduce stress. These approaches will help them deal with the pressures of GCSE study on our return to school.

The feedback from the pupils was that they found the day very useful and many would like more time to explore their approach to study.

Hopefully these skills are helping them during this challenging time.



Old Uniforms

Don't forget to donate your pre-loved uniform to the school, so the next students can enjoy them and you can collect the next size up.

We also need Sixth Form uniform donations.

Remember: Reduce, reuse and recycle!

Library News

CHARM Event

Proud to announce our St Christopher's CE High School Eco Captain has been awarded the CHARM Young Voice Award at February's event.

This was in recognition of speaking out for those who don't always have a voice and the environment.



Duke of Edinburgh Award



This March our Gold The Duke of Edinburgh's Award students had a successful training day on Pendle Hill in spite of a yellow weather warning for wind!

The St Christopher's DofE Team very rarely cancel walks due to weather conditions, preferring to modify activities as necessary and use it as an excellent training opportunity.

The School Jazz Band and Cantores



Really great concert from the Jazz Band and Cantores in February at St. Bartholomew's in Great Harwood.

Well done to all!

World Book Day

The school's World Book Day celebrations took place on Friday 6 March. Pupils from Years 7 and 8 were invited to come dressed as a book character. Some members of staff got in on the act as well!



Anyone wearing a costume brought in a £1 and proceeds went to Book Aid International, a charity which aims to improve literacy in developing countries. This year we raised over £80.

Pupils also had the opportunity to enter the 'Design a Bookmark Competition.' First prize of a book, stationery and sweet hamper was won by Eva James, Year 8. Second prize and third prize comprised of books and were awarded to Year 7 pupils Betty Ivanova and Riley Mayor respectively. All other participants received a small prize and Synergy credits. Well done to the prize winners and all those who took part!

Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader is a reading scheme where a pupil reads a book at their reading level, then takes an online quiz and gets immediate feedback.



Students respond to regular feedback and are motivated to make progress with their reading skills. We now have 10 classes following the programme. The following pupils achieved the most words read in their class! Each pupil received Synergy credits, a certificate and a small prize.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Xander Haslam	Nathan Johns	Joshua Donohue
Harry Emberton	Madeline Hindle	Amy Mitchell
James Brewer	Harriet Wylie	Owen Wilkin

The class word count winner for the Spring term was again 8XL, congratulations to them! All pupils who contributed to 8XL's word count received Synergy credits.

Sixth Form News

Rolls-Royce and Higher Level Apprenticeship Opportunities



In February Mr Paul Stinchon (Digital Systems Lead for Fan Blade UK) and Mr Matthew Beecroft (NDT Degree Apprentice) from Rolls-Royce plc visited the Sixth Form Centre to give a short presentation on Degree Apprenticeships, and in particular the Rolls Royce NDT (Non Destructive Test) BEng (Hons) Degree Apprenticeship.

They then took the time to help our Upper Sixth students, who were interested, apply for the role.

Student Led Open Evening



Thank you to everyone who attended our Student Led Open Evening and a very special thanks to the students themselves!

It was a fantastic night and the students had a great time welcoming so many people to the Sixth Form and letting them into what life is like here!



Special Mention

Well done recent Performing Arts student Rebecca Ashton.

Little appearance on Cold Feet during the latest season! Fantastic!

All the best for East 15!!

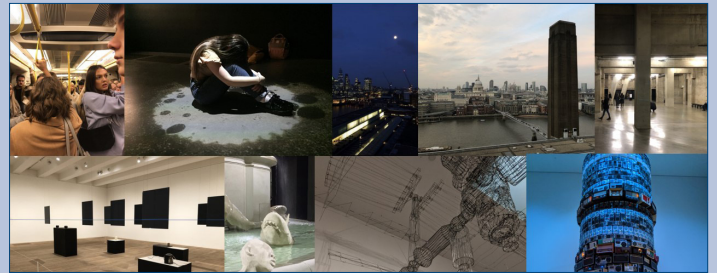
Q and A with Graham Jones



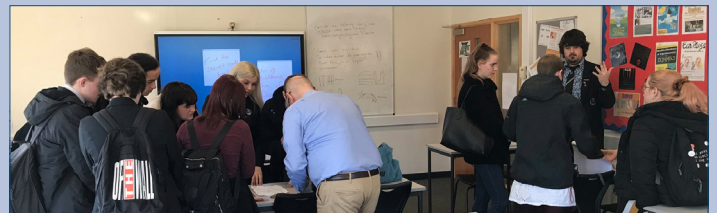
In March ex-MP Graham Jones visited the AS and A2 Politics Students to impart his knowledge and answer any questions they had about his time as an MP.

It was a great opportunity for them to learn more about what it takes to get on in politics and exactly what is involved on a day-to-day basis.

Trips and Visits



A few photos from the A-Level Art students study trip to Tate Modern in February and now all set for their upcoming projects!



Our History and Classics students were code breaking to get out of the 'Classics Escape Room' with Stockport Grammar School. What a great day at the Classics For All North Student Conference, thanks for having us!



Economics students had a trip to The University of Manchester to the Explore Economics enrichment event and the Institute for Fiscal Studies Lecture in March.

Catering News

New look for the Catering Team

The Catering Team are having a bit of a makeover with a new brand and logo, which will be run out over the coming months.

They will be now none as the 'The Dinner Bell' and all promotion items will be updated to match the new style. You can see a few examples opposite.

We are all excited and hope the pupils like it too!



Food Specials for the Coming Term

Below are the new weekly specials for the coming term, these are bound to put a smile on your children's face and get the old noggin working for the rest of the day!

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
<p>Meat Free Monday Carrot and Coriander Soup (v) Quorn Dippers with Sweet and Sour Sauce (v) Vegetable Stir Fry (v) Homemade Pizza (v)</p> <p>Trad Tuesday Leek and Potato Soup (v) Roast Turkey Dinner Piri-Piri Chicken Kebabs Veggie Sausage Toad in the Hole (v)</p> <p>World Wednesday Vegetable Soup (v) Fruity Chicken Curry with Rice Mac Cheese Bake (v) Lean Lamb Doner Kebab</p> <p>Thursday's Pie Day Butternut and Sweet Potato Soup (v) Lamb Hot Pot with Dumplings Fish Pie Hot Pot Noodles (v) Pulled Pork on a Brioche Bun</p> <p>Friday Faves Mixed Vegetable Soup (v) Katharine's Home Made Sausage Rolls Fish Finger Butty French Bread Pizzas (v) 100% Beef Burger on a Bun</p>	<p>Meat Free Monday Leek and Potato Soup (v) Veggie All Day Breakfast (v) Homemade Pizza (v) Homemade Curried Potato Pasties (v)</p> <p>Trad Tuesday Red Pepper and Tomato Soup (v) Stewed Beef in Gravy with a Yorkshire Pud. Hot Cod Dog Piri-Piri Chicken Kebabs Vegetable Lasagne (v)</p> <p>World Wednesday Vegetable Soup (v) Chicken and Broccoli Stir Fry with Rice Quorn Chilli with ½ Rice and ½ Nachos (v) Lean Lamb Doner Kebab</p> <p>Thursday's Pie Day Butternut and Sweet Potato Soup (v) Plate Meat Pie Tuna and Broccoli Pasta Bake Rice Stuffed Pepper (v) Pulled Pork on a Brioche Bun</p> <p>Friday Faves Mixed Vegetable Soup (v) Katharine's Home Made Sausage Rolls Battered Fish with chips French Bread Pizza 100% Beef Burger on a Bun</p>	<p>Meat Free Monday Vegetable Soup (v) Vegetable Curry (v) Beany Nachos (v) Homemade Pizza (v)</p> <p>Trad Tuesday Carrot and Lentil Soup (v) Toad in the Hole Breaded Fish Fillet Cheese and Bean Slice (v) Piri-Piri Chicken Kebabs</p> <p>World Wednesday Vegetable Soup (v) Cajun Dirty Rice Bowl Hot Pot Noodles (v) Lean Lamb Doner Kebab</p> <p>Thursday's Pie Day Butternut and Sweet Potato Soup (v) Chicken Pie Salmon Fish Cakes Crunchy Veg Crumble (v) Pulled Pork on a Brioche Bun</p> <p>Friday Faves Mixed Vegetable Soup (v) Katharine's Home Made Sausage Rolls Fish and Chips French Bread Pizzas (v) 100% Beef Burger on a Bun</p>

Don't forget to remind your children to ask about allergen advice when choosing their lunch!
 Prices and meal deal combos displayed at counters. All your regular favourites still available everyday. All items subject to availability

Worship News

By Mr. Pountain – Head of RE and Director of Spirituality

We have so much to be thankful to God for this term, even though it has been much shorter than expected.

Strong Assembly Programme

This term's worship programme began in January by systematically working through our new foundation scripture: Psalm 1:1-3. Week by week we learnt how to NOT walk in step with the wicked, or stand in the way that sinners take, or sit in the company of mockers. How to delight in the law of the Lord and meditate on it day and night. We learnt how to be like trees planted by streams of water, yielding our fruit in season, so that our leaves do not wither and whatever we do prospers. The second half term then focused on big (ultimate) questions, all of which came from consultation with our pupils. Questions like: "Why in the world should we believe in a fairy tale Bible full of contradiction?" "How could any thinking person ever choose God over science in 2020?" And the really big one: "How could a loving God allow suffering?" These questions, and more, kept our team of volunteer Chaplains, to whom we are very grateful, on their toes as they delivered consistently high-quality assemblies this term, as always. Due to this all being abruptly cut short, it is likely that we shall continue with these themes upon our restart. There is still much to say.

Connect and Christian Union

Both our Friday lunchtime CU and our Thursday after-school Connect group have supported the assembly worship themes this term, powerfully reinforcing the key messages delivered in the morning worship, and, crucially, providing pupils with an opportunity to ask further questions themselves.

In normal circumstances, all this would have culminated in our 'Crème egg quest' on the final Wednesday lunchtime of term where pupils would have come along to the RE Department to exchange their 'big question' for a Crème egg, and the opportunity to have it answered by one of our Chaplaincy team. We shall look to recreate this scenario at the first opportunity.

Growing Faith and 'Faith at Home'

We have made rapid and significant progress so far this year with a number of projects under the banner of this national C. of E. initiative. Please look out for a number of new initiatives set to launch later this year (Autumn) including a new St. Christopher's-branded 'discovering Christianity' course and a midweek service of ecumenical Christian worship to be held on our site in school. We are very excited to see what God is going to do through this emphasis. Please watch this space!

We are constantly looking to improve our communications with home and church to best serve our pupils spiritually, and we are actively working to do this. Our current situation has presented us with an unexpected opportunity to strengthen these links as we have launched our 'Faith at home' bulletin in an attempt to keep the spiritual temperature as hot as possible for all connected to our school's wider family. Please look out for the weekly bulletin coming home on Wednesdays via Synergy over the coming weeks.

Rescheduled Archbishop of York Service and Presentation

We were extremely disappointed not to be able to host Jamie Jones-Buchanan, Leeds Rhinos rugby league superstar, committed Christian and first-rate communicator, to present the young leaders' awards to our year 8s as planned on Wednesday 26th February. This was due to

our corona virus related one day closure. As we stand, our intention is to reschedule this prestigious event for our calendared spirituality week, 7th-10th July. We shall ensure that all year 8 parents are kept fully informed as soon as we have confirmed arrangements.

New Tuesday Lunchtime Service of Holy Eucharist

The first Tuesday of the term in January saw us host a memorial Communion service for Megan Lee in our newly reordered main school Chapel. We have subsequently held a well-attended voluntary lunchtime Eucharist service for staff and pupils, presided over by one of our chaplains, every Tuesday lunchtime this term.

As we continue to keep the Eucharist central to all we do at St. Christopher's, we have had opportunity for year 9 to gather together around the Lord's table to help them with their GCSE options process. Our programme of a Eucharist for every form has continued strongly for the 10 weeks of this term too.

On into the future: Planning for permanence in bail-out times

One of our favourite scriptures as a school community is Jeremiah 29:11 about God's good plans to give us a hope and a future. It is our Foundation Scripture for our annual Year 11 Spirituality Day, and it is engraved onto the glass by the front doors of our 6th Form building. But it is to the earlier part of the same chapter that I want to turn to close this short article. God speaks to the exiles in Babylon through the prophet Jeremiah and says:

"Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease."

Jeremiah 29:5-6.

When everything inside the children of Israel was telling them to run for the hills: "By the rivers of Babylon, how we wept when we remembered Zion. How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" God was saying "settle down into long-term projects." Marrying, having children, planting gardens etc. All of those things require long-term planning.

In this spirit, we are looking forward to our 2nd annual innovative 'Spirituality week,' week commencing Tuesday 7th July, when we shall attempt to saturate all aspects of school life with the Gospel message, using as many high-quality contributors as possible. Behind the scenes, we are continuing to plan all kinds of exciting long-term projects, some of which have been alluded to in this article under the sub-heading: "Growing Faith and 'Faith at home.'" Please continue to pray for us, using Miss Davies' prayer bulletin as well as generally. As ever, our partnership with parents remains central to it all.

If you have any comments or questions at all about any aspect of our worship, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

c.pountain@st-christophers.org

PE News



Year 7 Cross Country

Congratulations to Jess, Maya and Charlotte for being part of the Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Cross Country team.

The team won the County Championships to be crowned the best team in Lancashire. They will now go on to represent the District in the National Finals. Fantastic achievement girls, we are incredibly proud of you all!



Year 9 Boys Football Team

Congratulations to the Year 9 Boys Football team who have made it through to the Semi-Finals of the Lancashire Cup after beating Lytham St Anne's 2-0.

Goals from Finley Stubbs and Josh Holding ensured the victory. The boys have won the Lancashire Cup for the past two years and hopefully they will go on and reach their 3rd final in 3 years. Keep going lads!



Girls' Sportshall Athletics Team

The team represented Hyndburn in the County finals sports hall athletics competition held at Blackpool.

The girls' represented the district well with some outstanding individual performances and finished 8th overall. Well done girls for being district champions!



Not forgetting...

Not forgetting the Year 7 girls team, well done to all of you reaching the quarter finals of the Lancashire Cup

Well done to the Year 7 girls football team for reaching the finals day at St Bedes. They won their quarter final tie and now they will compete with 3 other schools to be crowned County champions. Good luck next month girls!



Badminton Finals

Well done to our girls' badminton team...into the finals of the Red Rose Badminton Competition!

They qualified by beating teams in the Hyndburn and Ribble Valley district and now they now go on to face the best teams in Lancashire.



Table Tennis Success

Fantastic effort in February...four of our boys became Hyndburn and Ribble Valley under 13 table tennis champion.

They beat all the schools in the Hyndburn and Ribble Valley to be the district champions. Super talented!

STEM and Eco News

More to Science than they think!



When a midwife turns up with a Police Inspector and retired chemical scientist, students are rightly flummoxed for the reason to visit year 9. A critical year in school, when decisions are made which may determine future careers. But for all our students we can safely say, science will feature heavily. As a core subject all our students will study two GCSEs in science, made up of all the three sciences in equal proportions; Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Their final grades will be an average of scores across the three subjects.

Some of our students already have an idea that science may be key to their future, so should consider opted to take Triple Science. They will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics as distinct GCSEs and receive a separate grade for each one. This path is helpful if they are considering studying A levels, post 16. In an attempt to get our year 9 students to think about careers, we asked our guests to talk about how science has influenced their own careers and that of people who assist their present or former career.

Mr Rodney Hailwood retired from the chemical industry, working on disinfectants, soaps, perfumery and rising to trouble shooting management, but actually started in nursing: science applied to every day needs.

Mrs Sarah Johnson lecturer and a midwife and a nurse, specialising in Infant Feeding and Physical Activity: social science to life.

Mr Andrew Moore Police Inspector, presently working with the College of Policing spent time working with the mounted police, helicopters, specialising in riot squads and public disorder: science in action.

A big thank you to all three for taking the time to visit, all our pupils benefitted hugely from their experiences.

Bikeability



For the second year running we have delivered Bikeability to our Year 8 pupils.

Underpinned by the National Standard for cycle training; a government-recognised set of principles, Bikeability is an improved, updated and more relevant version of the old cycling proficiency scheme, delivered by professional instructors from Go Velo.

Following year 7 geography lessons pupils put their six figure grid reference skills to the test planning safe cycling routes. Groups rode to Baxenden and Great Harwood taking in the sights of the tranquil, yet muddy Leeds Liverpool canal on some routes.

All in all, we've had some very muddy, yet happy children, what a better way to recognise children's mental health week, by enjoying the great outdoors.

Conservation Workshop

Former St Christopher's Sixth Form student Bethanie Shread (who is now studying at University of Central Lancashire Burnley) came into school to run a Conservation Workshop with the pupils.

It was loads of fun with five different tasks which really made the pupils think differently about conservation and how they can help protect wildlife and the wider world!



St Christopher's Welcomes Back Former Student



On Friday 13 March St Christopher's welcomed back former student Matt Mason to help reinforce the school's mission on banning single-use plastics and protecting the environment as a whole. Matt who after leaving the school studied at St Mary's College, then decided he wanted a life of adventure rather than going on to university. Which led him into the Marines.

While in the Marines he witnessed first-hand the sheer scale of plastic pollution in the oceans and on shorelines across the globe. This prompted him to do something about the problem and raise awareness about it, so he joined the Ocean Revival 2020 Team (www.oceanrevival2020.com) to embark on another adventure. This summer he will be rowing the Atlantic Ocean, from New York to London, with three other ex-servicemen to highlight the issue. The 3,700 mile journey is known as the most dangerous possible, but it's not his first time at attempting something like this.

He joined us in our main assembly to convey his message and made pupils really think about their actions when using and purchasing single use plastic. After the assembly he took the

time to hold a short presentation along with a Q and A session for pupils from the school and Sixth Form, with some interesting and relevant questions from pupils and staff.

Matt said,

"It was great to come back to the school and see how much the building has changed since I left, yet the ethos and values remain the same. The Pupils have been fantastic and really took the message onboard about how important it is to start to change our habits before it gets too late!"

We are all looking forward to watching his progress on social media and the website, and hope to welcome him back after this epic journey with an update on how the school has risen to the challenge.

British Science Week

During British Science Week pupils had been making glue sponges in Science for testing, with the hope that our initial plastic outlay will be offset once we don't need glue sticks.

They also undertook a competition to create doorstops out of plastic bottles to help up-cycle and save the environment. All these will be available at the upcoming North West Eco Conference 2020.

You can see some of the finished glue sponges and plastic doorstops opposite. They all looked great!

Sustainable science is the future!



Friends of St Christopher's (FoSC) News

Meet the Team

Every newsletter we'll be introducing to you a current member of the FoSC Team. This newsletter we have...

Name: Rachel Shovleton
Role: My role is Chair of FoSC



How long have you been a member of the FoSC Team?
I've been a member for about five years

What's been the most memorable thing during your time with the FoSC?

The two most memorable things - baking 100 cakes for staff as a thank you from FoSC - reading carols by candlelight at Christmas.

Anything else you'd like to add?

I'd like to add FoSC is not just there to raise money but also as a support for staff, students and their parents, relatives and friends.

Covid-19 FoSC Official statement

During this time, FoSC would like to offer support to anyone who's a friend of St Christopher's. Maybe a student, past or present, parent or grandparent, a teacher or staff member.

Perhaps you are finding new ways to just BE!

Are you wanting some challenges to distract your minds?

Are you wanting to have some family time doing something together?

We need new ideas for our events, things for us all to look forward to and welcome any you may have. Please message us via the means below.

Let us help you help us!

"We pray you stay safe, with open hearts and hope."
Romans 8:24-25

Join the Team

To become a member of the FoSC just contact us on Facebook (@FoSCOfficial), by email (fosc@st-christophers.org) or just come join us for a meeting, we welcome anyone especially with new ideas!



Events and Activities



Our last big event was the Christmas Markets and looking forward to getting together again in the not to distant future.

We thank you again for your generous support.

Recent Success and Spending


We support the school minibus monthly and are about to install a new water dispenser in the 6th form, to support our ban on single use plastic.




New football and netball team kits along with other sports will be purchased by PE.

Textiles have ordered new sewing machines, ready for our return.

None of this would be possible without the tireless work of FoSC and the parents support.



 **Queens Road West**
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 4AY

 **01254 232 992**
 **01254 355 215**
 **admin@st-christophers.org**
 **www.st-christophers.org**

