

22nd August 2025

Dear Parents

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you and your child to St. Christopher's for the 2025/26 academic year. A new school year always brings fresh opportunities for growth, discovery, and achievement, and our staff have been working hard this week to prepare a welcoming school environment.

We are delighted to begin the year with a vibrant and full school community, with classes from Nursery through to Year 8, and an enrolment of over 630 children. The school continues to flourish, and we look forward to another year of inspiring learning experiences, memorable events, and strong partnerships between home and school.

As I begin my twelfth year as Principal, I remain deeply committed to St. Christopher's purpose, improvement, and growth. It is an honour to lead such a dedicated staff team and to work with our supportive parent community in shaping a rich and rewarding education for your children.

I look forward to sharing another year of learning, celebration, and achievement with you all.

Parent Contact Information

As we start the new academic year, please ensure the school has your uptodate contact details. This is vital so that we can contact you should the need arise.

Home / School Agreement

You will receive the home/school agreement next week. This agreement is a set of statements explaining the school's aims and values and the commitment made by both you and the school when your child is enrolled.

The reasons for the Home/School Agreement are;

- 1. It underpins the school's ethos and stated beliefs
- 2. It is a clear starting point for new and current parents and the school staff
- 3. It provides a starting point for exploring difficulties.



New Staff

We are delighted to welcome new colleagues who have quickly settled into Penang and are eager to meet the children and join the SCIPS family. Their experience and enthusiasm will be a great addition to our community. You can learn more about all our staff by visiting the <u>school website</u>.

Alana Ali	Y2 Teacher	Gregory Anthony	Prep Science Teacher
Matthew Booth	Y4 Teacher	Haziel Simon	Y3 Teaching Assistant
Adam Jones	Head of EY and Infants	Yashwini Kumaresan	Y6 Teaching Assistant

Campus Improvements Over the Break

During the summer, a number of upgrades and improvements were completed to ensure the learning environment remains safe, engaging, and welcoming for the children. These included:

- Patching and repairing the astro turf fields in the Early Years and on the back field
- Renovation and safety checks of the wooden play structures
- Fresh painting throughout the school
- Renovation of several classrooms and workrooms, including the Computing Room, which can now be used with laptops and iPads
- Creation of new walkways providing access to the soon-to-be-opened Forest School
- Construction of a new parent car park (awaiting final approval before use)

I am delighted with these enhancements and look forward to the children enjoying the benefits of the improved facilities.

Car Parking

Over the summer break, work was completed on our new school car park. Unfortunately, we are still awaiting final approval from the MBPP to enable access from Jalan Nunn before it can officially open.

This should be granted within the next few weeks. In the meantime, parents may continue to use the Moral Uplifting car park, and access to the school will be available by walking through the new car park area. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we finalise this important addition to our facilities.





Pick Up Times

2:25 pm – Early Years 2:40 pm – Infants 2:50 pm – Years 3 & 4 3:00 pm – Years 5–8

School Website, School App and Social Media

In addition to direct communication with your child's class teacher, our **primary channel for all essential notices and year group updates** is the school app, <u>AUDIRI</u>. Please ensure you have downloaded the app and signed up for the classes relevant to your child. Current parents will be automatically moved to their new classes. If you need any assistance, the school office will be happy to help.

Annual Academic and School Events Calendar

The annual calendar, term dates, public holidays, and school closure information are available on the website. Please note that the government announced an additional Public Holiday on Monday, 15th September, meaning the school will be closed on this day. <u>Click Here</u>

Parent Handbook and Policies

You can find all the key information about the school on our website.

Meet the Teacher

This year, instead of holding a formal Parent Curriculum Evening, we are offering a more informal 'Meet the Teacher' opportunity. You will receive an email from your child's class teacher containing key information for the year ahead. If you would like to meet the teachers in person, ask questions, or simply have a chat, they will be available from Tuesday to Friday next week, between 7:40 and 8:00 a.m.

See you all on Monday!!!

Regards

Martin Towse