

19th August 2023

Dear Parents

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you and your child to St. Christopher's for the 2023/24 Academic year. The staff have been in school over the past few weeks, preparing the school and classrooms for the new term. Everyone is looking forward to starting on Monday, 21st August.

2022/23 was a genuinely positive year with a full uninterrupted calendar of learning experiences and opportunities to reconnect with the school community. This year we will build on this and find many more ways for parents to be involved in the school and their child's education.

It is pleasing to report that we will start the year with over 600 children, and the Prep school continues to grow as we now have a Year 8 class.

We welcome many new members of staff who have settled quickly into Penang and are enthusiastic about meeting the children and becoming part of the SCIPS family. You can learn about all the staff by reading their profiles on the school website.

<b>Megan Loughlin</b>	Y5 Teacher	<b>Lawrence Chaplin</b>	PE Teacher
<b>Charlotte Wright</b>	Y6 Teacher	<b>Fenella Foskett</b>	PE Teacher
<b>Theo Hurford</b>	Y7/8 Math Teacher	<b>Katherine Evans</b>	Head of Languages / German
<b>Matthew Thomas</b>	Y6 Teacher	<b>James Shearsmith</b>	Y3 Teacher
<b>Jennifer Smith</b>	Y2 Teacher	<b>Esther Wong Tiantian</b>	Mandarin Teacher
<b>Simren</b>	Y6 Assistant	<b>Kaitheri</b>	Y4 Assistant
<b>Tharanie</b>	Y7/8 Sci Technician	<b>Jordan Brown</b>	Y4 Teacher

### School improvements

Over the summer break, work has been carried out around the school. These improvements will positively impact the children's learning and improve the school's look and feel.

So when you next walk around the school, you will notice the following;

- **Front of School** - Staff car parking has been moved back to allow more space for the children to play. In addition, trees have been planted, which over time, will provide much-needed shade and soften the entrance to the school.
- **Reception Outdoor Learning Area** - In the circular block, new artificial grass has been laid, and a new concrete area has been created to enable messy play.
- **Turtle Pond** - The old turtle pond has been converted into a sand pit and water play area.
- **Early Years Toilets** - The EY toilets have been renovated.



# ST CHRISTOPHER'S INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

- **PE and Languages Offices** - A new Languages office has been created, and the PE office has undergone a makeover.
- **New Furniture** - All classroom furniture will be replaced over the coming year. Over the summer, all Prep and Junior classrooms had their furniture replaced, giving them a fresh, clean and modern feel.

## Home / School Agreement

Next week you will receive the home/school agreement. This 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.

## Parent Contact Information

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

## School Website, School App and Social Media

Along with direct communication with the class teacher, our main line of communication through which we send out all essential notices and specific information for the different year groups is our school app - **AUDIRI** (Formerly SKOOLBAG). Please make sure you download and sign up for the classes you want to know about. If you have any questions or problems, please contact the school office.

## Annual Academic and School Events Calendar

The term dates, public holidays, and when the school is closed are available on the website. [Click Here](#)

## Welcome Parents Information Evening

On Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> August, you are welcome to come and meet your child's new class teacher. All year groups will run two identical sessions, one starting at 5.00 pm and another at 5.30 pm. This will allow parents with children in different year groups to attend more than one presentation. In their presentation, teachers will introduce themselves and explain the curriculum for the coming year and key events in which your child will be involved. Please also use this time to ask any questions you may not be sure about.

See you all on Monday!!!

Regards

Martin Towse  
Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Towse'.