



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL

Weekly News

Friday 18th January 2013

Dear Parents

A very chilly week has descended upon us and the children, who are all wishing hard for snow, may well have their wishes fulfilled before the week is through. Please remember that their safety is paramount. Please ensure that fleeces and waterproofs are in school every day together with warm boots and gloves in the event of snow.

In Merit Assembly this week I was able to give Natasha her certificate for being a Runner Up in the House of Commons Christmas card competition organised by our local MP Chris Grayling. Natasha's work featured on the back of the MP's official Christmas cards and she was delighted to see her design in print. Congratulations to all the competition entrants who were also rewarded with a certificate this week to recognise their effort.

We were thrilled to welcome our very own Flight Attendant from a leading airline who came in full uniform to talk to Reception and Nursery children who are studying transport as their topic this term. A range of uniform artefacts and literature were brought in and the children were enchanted to be enrolled as Cabin Crew for the morning, indicating the nearest emergency exit areas and ensuring that the passengers were all acquainted with the procedures during flight. We all enjoyed her illuminating talk and we thank her for kindly giving up her time.

Our Lunchtime Superstar this week is Fergus, for being a delightful diner! Mrs Stubbs reports that Fergus always enjoys his meals and is quick to say so and always ready with his warm thanks to the catering team. Well done Fergus!

*Congratulations to **Dahl** House for winning the first housepoint total this year. The results were close but **Dahl** won with a splendid 150points.*

Mrs Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This week's Merit Awards

Caterina, Ellie, Lola, Rafael, Jake V, Megan H, Ellina, Louie, Jake F, Sophie.

Philosopher of the Week

Jessica

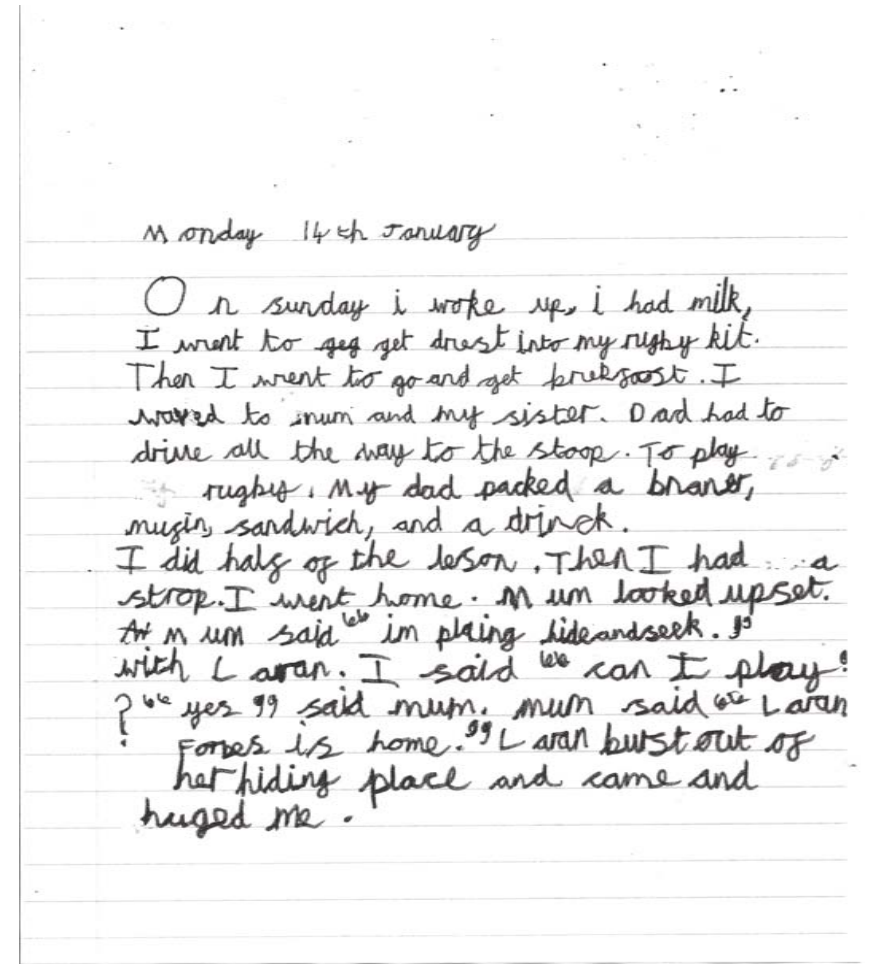
Thought for the week

Should you always be yourself?

Work of the Week

Our work of the week this week is by Forbes in Venus Class. Forbes independently wrote about his weekend, trying very hard with his spellings and handwriting. We were particularly impressed by his use of speech marks and commas.

What a splendid piece of writing, well done Forbes!



Foundation Stage News

In Nursery we have had great fun this week learning about planes and flying. We have been finding out about pilots, propellers, runways, passengers and lots more. Our role play in the cottage outside is all about air travel and the cottage is being transformed into an airport. The children are learning to write and buy tickets, enjoy a meal at the airport café and do some shopping before checking their departure written on the departure board by the children. The team then report to the runway for take off.

There are opportunities to learn about all sorts of transport around the Nursery. In the Red Room role play the children have enjoyed setting up a railway station. There has been some careful driving around the roads and buildings in the construction area. Boxes are being transformed into buses with painting and sticking in the art room. Well done to all the children, they have been working very hard writing their names this week.

The highlight of the week has been a visitor to Nursery and the Reception Classes a *real* member of a leading airline's cabin crew. She told us all about the jobs she does on each flight. The children learn so much from direct experiences and the opportunity to ask questions.



Reception have been looking at the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. They have acted out the story and then used small world equipment, toys and props, to recreate the story and they have also made Bear Hunt maps.

They have been thinking about what they pass on the way to school and making their own maps. The 'Bebot' programmable bug has been turned into a bear who has been directed to travel on his own hunt around the children's maps. They have been making sandwiches or toast to take on their 'Bear Hunt' and practised their spreading skills, so please continue to practise at home. The children are working at the difficult skill of estimating. Can you practise picking up a handful of objects, estimating how many and then counting. Make it a game so that the whole family can play and discover who has the most objects.

Now the weather is colder the children wear their jogging trousers over shorts or skirts at playtime. They will occasionally wear them home but they do need their full school uniform and PE kit in school every day. Thank You.
The Foundation Team

DIARY DATES

Thursday 24th January at 7.30pm: Reading Information Evening for Upper Nursery
Parents

Friday 25th January at 9am: JUPITER Class Assembly

PTA EVENTS

Friday 8th February – Quiz Night - details to follow

SAVE THE DATE: PTA Summer Ball – Saturday 18th May

LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR

We are in URGENT need of a co-ordinator to look after the library and organise the termly rota of parent helpers. Please consider whether you could fulfil this vital role and contact Mrs Thackray for further details.

VIOLIN LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS

We have a space in the beginners' class on Tuesdays from 3.20 – 3.50pm. If you are interested in your child joining this class, please contact Miss Harper via the school.

Would you be interested in sponsoring our Music Festival Programme?

Our Year 2 Music Festival last year was once again very successful and the programmes were given out to the large audience of parents from the local area as well as the participating children. We are looking for a sponsor or sponsors for the programme for this year's festival on 14th March. The cost will be £50 for a half page and £100 for a full page colour advertisement in a prominent place in our glossy programme. If you would like to publicise your business or you know of a local business who would be interested in this opportunity, please contact
Mrs Thackray

Videos to DVD

We have a limited number of videos which we would like converted to DVD. If anyone has access to a machine and could volunteer to complete a gradual changeover, we would be grateful. Please let the office or Mrs Thackray know.
All expenses will be covered by the school.