



## St Christopher's School

### Weekly News

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2013

#### Dear Parents

*We have had potions bubbling, balloons popping, coca cola bottles rocketing, and volcanoes erupting! It is Science Week. The children have had the most enjoyable week learning about science watching each other conducting experiments and having hands on opportunities with magnets, pulleys and bubbles to name but a few.*

*This week we have also been thinking about the environment and our aim has been to become a little greener. Year 2 have been reading the electricity meter both before and after a normal day and again after a day of deliberate economy with lights being turned off and electrical devices used sparsely. We found to our delight that the meters showed a 25% saving of energy used. We have invited you to join in with our environment care and have sent home Family Pledges which may be returned after half term with information, photographs or anecdotes if you have enjoyed the challenges posed.*

*Thursday was all about recycled materials. In Houses the children had to make an outfit for their House Captain who duly modelled the wonderful results on the cat walk in the Hall. The results were amazing with outfits featuring earrings, platform shoes and even a Walkman. The costumes were too good to be separated and each team won 10 housepoints. Please see the website for photos. Recycling signs have been made and everyone has been reminded of our duty to deal with rubbish responsibly. Special thanks go to Mrs Kay for organising such a wonderful week.*

*Our Lunchtime Superstar this week is Arthur L. Arthur has been nominated for being such a polite, delightful diner who enjoys his food every day!*

*This week's Philosopher of the Week is a first for St Christopher's. Last week Amelie's twin sister Isobel received this honour and, in a very fiercely contested field, it is astonishing that the family have kept the award in the family with such an original life question. Well done to both girls.*

***Morpurgo** House is top of the leader board this week. The children in this house have dazzled and earned a magnificent **135** housepoints.*

*Annie Thackray, Headteacher*

#### **This week's Merit Awards**

Kaelan L, Amelie P, Sofia M, James S, Issy S, Nell E, Isobel P, Sophie P, Sevi K, Felix A, Cameron M, Poppy L, George G, Thomas P.

#### **Philosopher of the Week**

Amelie P

#### **Thought for the Week**

Is laughing important?

#### Event of the week



Venus Class stood well back as Megan demonstrated the rocket effect that happens when mints are added to a full bottle of coca cola



Budding scientists from Reception Class conducted their experiments wearing safety goggles



The four House Captains looked splendid after their cat walk experience modelling outfits made from recycled materials

### Foundation Stage News

Watch out Stephen Hawkins, Susan Greenfield and Brian Cox here come the next generation of scientists.

Mr. Freeze visited the Reception Classes on Monday and left a surprise hidden inside a block of ice, what was it? And more importantly how did the children think they would get the surprise out? They suggested they should melt the ice by putting warm water on it. Other children were not quite so patient and decided to break the ice to get it out. Finally they discovered the surprise which turned out to be a mysterious key.'

The role play area has been transformed into a science lab. The children have donned their goggles and set to experimenting with coloured water. Our visiting scientist Mrs Wenims taught the children how germs spread and they also watched transfixed as she mixed baking powder and vinegar to make bubbles that fizz.



In Nursery we have been learning about recycling, we have been making clothes and hats out of plastic, fabric, paper and card. We have used our home grown vegetables to make courgette and tomato quiches. At the Wormery some children held and others watched the wiggly squiggly worms wiggle and tickle through our fingers as they work through the grass, wood and food peelings to make compost. We have sorted out the rubbish into bins for plastic, paper and food recycling and used the interactive game on the computer to sort out even more recycling.

Other scientific explorations have included making large bubbles and creating our own 'Larva Lamps' using various amounts of oil, water, colours and glitter.

Our physics experiments included using pulleys to move a bucket across the playground and discovering how slow or fast cars move down slopes of various heights. Some children have explored how a sponge soaks up water and questioned why bubbles form when you squeeze a sponge under water. Other children have been fascinated to watch how the water goes into a pipette and then can be squirted out as they squeeze the bulb.

Science week has been magic, fun, wet, bubbly, questioning and thought provoking. Science is all around us every day. All those questions your children ask may not have easy answers but it is so much fun to find out!

The Foundation Team

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER – FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER – HALF TERM

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Year One trip to Windsor Castle

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Neptune Class Assembly (all parents welcome)

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Year 2 trip to Hampton Court

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November –

Parent/Teacher Appointments

Please return slips to your child's teacher.

**Please note that the following clubs will not take place:**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – No Art club**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> – No Gym, Recorders and Sewing**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – No Cooking and Board Games**

**PLEASE CHECK THE PTA DATES OF EVENTS ON THE NOTICE BOARD IN THE BACK PORCH AND MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARIES.**

### **POLITE NOTICE**

**Please remember not to park in Downs Avenue. This is a private road and the residents have issued this gentle reminder.**



**Poppies will be on sale at school after Half Term**