



# St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014

Dear Parents

*On Friday I was in Leicester at a Headteachers' Conference sharing best and current practice with other Heads and feeling very lucky indeed to be working in such a happy and supportive school. I was sad to miss the Nursery Assembly but delighted to have enjoyed the rehearsal the day before. I was so proud of these tiny children singing and dancing with confidence and evident joy. Well done to all the children for showing us your listening ears and looking eyes and for shining so brightly in your assembly. Thank you very much to Miss Kate Rendall and our wonderful Nursery Team for organising and leading such a super assembly.*

*On Friday, on behalf of the school, Mrs Gordon went to meet Julia Donaldson and had a selection of her lovely books signed and dedicated to all the children in **Donaldson House**. Special thanks to Savannah G in Saturn and her kind family who donated two inscribed copies of *The Flying Bath* for our lucky children to enjoy.*

*Our beautiful new stage, kindly purchased on your behalf by the PTA arrived on Monday and we are all very excited to see it up and functioning. Thank you all for your generosity and support of PTA events during the last year. We are delighted to have this in time for our Christmas productions which will all take place in the Hall this year so that you can enjoy the new stage as we celebrate Christmas with our usual nativity fun.*

*We are particularly proud of Patrick M who won the competition to produce a Christmas card design for our local MP. In addition to Patrick's design being used for cards for the Prime Minister and members of the cabinet, Patrick will receive his winning trophy at the House of Commons where he and his family will receive a tour of the Houses of Parliament. Well done Patrick!*

*Congratulations to Joaquin G for playing Kumbya on the piano in assembly on Wednesday. The children loved to hear a familiar tune and joined in with it as he played giving a loud clap as he collected his certificate.*

*This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Max G for always enjoying his lunch and being a joy to serve. Bravo Max!*

*Well done to all the children in **Dahl House**. A super total of **1286** housepoints has taken your House right to the top of the Board.*

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week's Merit Awards

Rocco S, Finn H, Felix A, James S, William W, Sara D, Zachary C, Rory B, Elliot M.

Philosopher of the Week

Rowan N

Thought for the Week

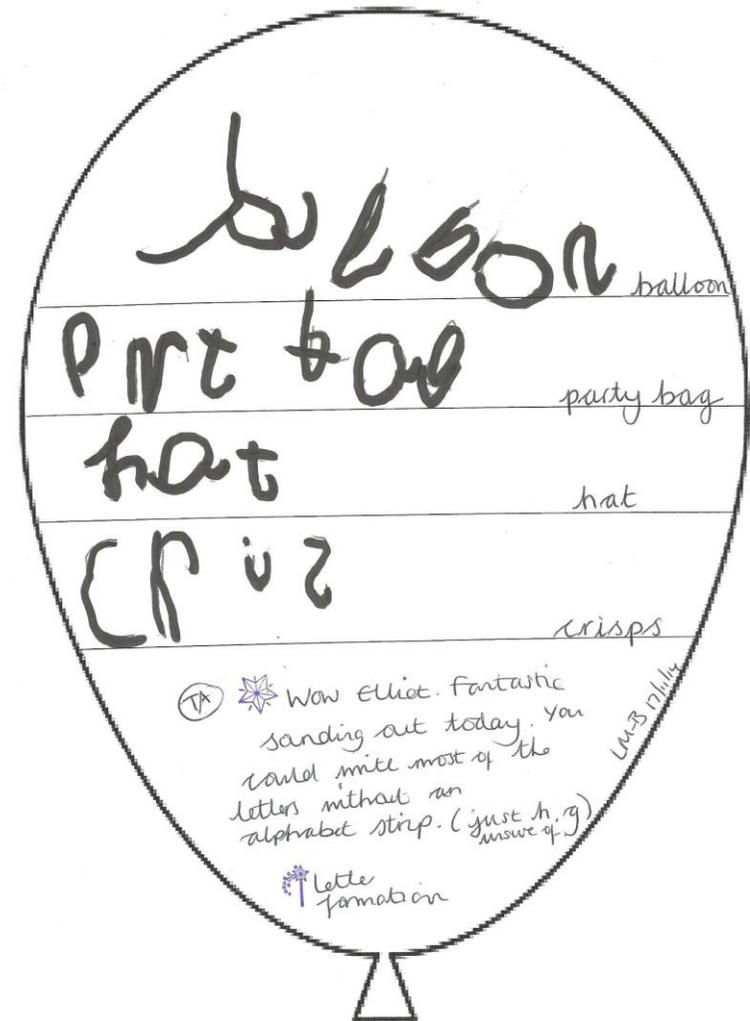
Should you ever risk your life?

## Work of the Week

The work of the week this week is by Elliot M from Mars. This clever Reception boy has written a list all by himself. Reception classes are planning a surprise birthday party for Mrs Self. They are writing down lists of information as they plan the party. Elliot has written his list to help him plan what he will need to buy and make for the party and he sounded out all the letters in each word. What a super star!

Can I use sounds I know to write a list?

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November



## Foundation Stage News

The celebrations in the Reception classes continue, and this week they had to keep a lovely secret. Writing was the theme of the week as the children wrote their party plans and special lists preparing a surprise Birthday Party for Mrs Self.

The children have explored some interesting art skills this week by mixing primary colours and making the colour lighter by adding white. They have also been using pencils to try out shading and pattern.



In maths the children have been learning all the different number stories for the numbers 5 and 10. First they used the maths cubes (multilink) to split the number 5 or 10 into two groups. Then they wrote the number sentence on their board ie  $2+3=5$ . The teachers are very impressed with all the maths language that the children know, like plus, add and equals. The children are great at explaining what they are doing, how clever! Some children showed how they can make a number sentence to make ten using three numbers  $5+3+2=10$ .

The Nursery children would like to thank Mrs Gordon who came to tell the story of Chanukah (the Jewish festival of lights). We had great fun making and cooking Latkes (a special type of potato cake) in the Nursery kitchen the children also enjoyed doing the washing up afterwards.

Our topic this week has been to start thinking all about our families. We love the books about the Large Family by Jill Murphy.

Learning to take turns is very hard but great fun when we practice with the silly game 'Tummyache'. We have also learnt lots of maths skills using a dice and counting with our healthy food game. Games are great to play at home too! Taking turns and learning that not everyone can win!

The children have been using their listening ears in phonics. It is great fun playing the game 'Isn't it funny how the bear likes honey', the children have to hide their eyes and listen to identify where the honey (bells) have been hidden. They are also listening out for the first sounds they can hear at the beginning of their own and their friends' names.

Please can parents remember to return any spare clothes their child has borrowed from nursery, we are running out of jogger bottoms! We are very active in Nursery and we love to stick and paint but we do not like to get paint in our hair. Please can children with long hair have it tied back in school, thank you.

**The Foundation Team**



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### Last week of clubs

**All clubs except Violin and Ballet finish on 28<sup>th</sup> November.**

**Last violin: Stage 2: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

**Stage 1: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

**Ballet finishes Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**Information about our Spring Term clubs will be available shortly.**

### **CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES**

**Please see recent letter about ticket details**

This year's Christmas performances will take place on the following dates:

- Foundation Stage – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am – Parents of children in Neptune, Earth, Sky and Stars invited.
- Foundation Stage – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am – Parents of children in Mars, Sun, Moon and Stars invited.
- Key Stage One – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am – Parents of children in Venus and Jupiter invited.
- Key Stage One – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am – Parents of children in Mercury and Saturn invited.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 11am: Year 2 Carol singing in the Ashley Centre

### **COMING SOON – Saturday morning music fun at St Christopher's**

From January in the school hall a Music Academy for children will live Saturday mornings and inspire musicians of the future. 3 – 5 year olds will be offered classes from 11 until 11.30am and 6 – 11 year olds will enjoy classes from 9.30 to 11.30am.



To book your child's place visit the website [www.hititacademy.co.uk](http://www.hititacademy.co.uk)