



## St Christopher's School

### Weekly News

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015

#### Dear Parents

We have all enjoyed a lovely week dominated by thoughtful behaviour and acts of kindness to each other. I have also been told by parents of some super behaviour at home demonstrating exceptional awareness of others. Well done children! Kindness Kangaroos this week have been awarded to Freya R, Kieren A, Daisy M, Max G and Annabel H and I hope that their parents and relatives have enjoyed hearing about their child's act of kindness.

As part of their topic: From Castles to Caravans, Year 1 enjoyed a tour of Epsom on Wednesday as they walked around the local area looking at the range and description of houses including detached and semi-detached houses and solitary and chalet bungalows. The children looked out for features such as cellars, driveways and chimneys and they used their collected data in the form of tally charts and graphs.

Year 1 also shone in the Mathletics awards this week: Bronze Certificates for super mathematicians were awarded to Arthur L, Sachin W, Freya B and Oscar R together with our maths stars in Year 2, Rowan N, Luke S and Mathilda K. Sachin shone very brightly this week as he also earned his Silver Certificate alongside Matthew S, Jacob F and Cameron M.

We were very proud of our School Council this week who were entered into a competition run by the Houses of Parliament's Education Service. The Speaker's School Council Awards were open to children aged between 4 and 19 and Mrs Russell was very pleased with our School Council as she helped them submit work on their latest project 'Making Governor's Human'. The Council prepared and asked questions to our Chair of Governors Mrs Caroline Smart and you can hear extracts of the entertaining interview on the Pupil's area of our school website.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Sophia M for always returning to the hatch to ask for seconds with a big smile. Bravo Sophia!

Congratulations to **Dahl** House. You have stolen the lead this week by earning a wonderful total of **398** housepoints. Well done.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

#### This Week's Merit Awards

Miles R, Rowan N, Luke S, Yan T, Patrick M, Aayushi K, Sophie B, Zahra K, Caia H, Alexander M, Annabel H and Lauren M.

#### Philosopher of the Week

Finn H

#### Thought for the Week

Can competitions always judge who is best?

### Work of the Week

The work of the week this week is by Venus Class.



#### My Dragon

In literacy this week, the children in Year 2 were introduced to the genre of Myths and Legends.

First of all they held this wonderful dragon egg and were asked... Could a baby dragon really be inside? How long has it been in there? Will it ever come out? Have you ever seen a dragon? What do you think it would look like, smell like, feel like and how might it move?



Here is Rowan carefully holding the dragon egg.



The dragon egg - is it real?

Charlie wrote a wonderful description of the dragon he imagined would come out of the egg. He used all his senses, adjectives and even alliteration. He worked independently tackling some tricky spelling all by himself. Well done Charlie!

My dragon is enormous, long and dark green and he can breathe water. My dragon has a prickly head and big horns. He lives in a dark damp dangerous cave near a river. My dragon is always attacking. If you hear him you will hear a atrocious rorr. If you touch him he has ruff, bumpy, slimy skin and you would have to clean your hands. My dragon smells like a pile of rotten flesh. He is a lazy dragon.

By Charlie S (Year 2, Venus)

### Foundation Stage News

In the Reception classes the children have been sorting mathematical words describing size, using 'The Three Bears' as a stimulus. There were lots of words like tiny and gigantic but it was harder to think of 'middle sized' words. They also explored things that are 'heavier' and 'lighter' using balance scales and cubes. Tommy found a heavy stone that weighed the same as 60 cubes! They thought about things that would be heavier than themselves, Robyn decided a house would be heavier than her!

In the woods this week were 'Three Little Pigs', the children drew and labelled some excellent pictures of the route the pigs would take. They used adjectives such as 'wiggly' to describe the river,' and 'sweet' to describe the flowers and labelled them.

The children made pig finger puppets that were used to sequence and retell the story. They also made pictures and masks. The pink playdough was very useful for making plenty of pink pigs.

The children worked to make houses using bricks (and construction kits), sticks and straw. The challenge was to remember to make sure there was a door for the pigs to get in!



In Nursery we have also been talking about different sizes, sorting out the big and small porridge bowls and bears' beds. We had fun counting how many bears were jumping on Daddy's bed and we are learning to find the numeral to match the number of bears. We decided it was NOT a good thing to eat someone else's porridge and that we should say 'sorry' if we break someone's things. We thought Goldilocks should

write a letter saying 'sorry' to the bears. Some of the children had a go at writing their own letters. Nursery children love to *write* practising all the marks and shapes they can with their developing pencil control and understanding. Every effort is encouraged even if the writing is not quite conventional! - Δ φκγβρμλ.1ν could mean 'sorry bears'!

We thought it would be a good idea to try to make baby bear a new chair at the woodwork bench. So the children have been busy sawing and hammering with great enthusiasm and developing skills.

We all enjoy snack time in Nursery. The children sit at the table and are trying to remember their table manners. Each child can have one biscuit and a choice of fruit with a drink of milk or water, in this way we can monitor what the children eat and deal sensitively with allergies. Please do not send a snack or fruit to school with your child. Thick coats with little hanging loops are very tricky for small children so please thread a loop of ribbon through your child's coat loop to avoid coats from being hung on the floor!

Next week- more fun with a bear on the moon and the book 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. **The Foundation Team**



### DIARY DATES

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm in the Hall

Information Evening for Nursery and Pre-Nursery Parents: The Curriculum and Your Child

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 9am: JUPITER Class Assembly -

*Parents are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be available in the Porch from 8.30am.*



**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

**PTA Family Photography Day**

Please return request slips to the PTA box in the porch. There is still plenty of availability so please come and support this event.

### Would you be interested in sponsoring our Music Festival Programme?

We are looking for a sponsor or sponsors for the programme for this year's festival on 12<sup>th</sup> March.

The programmes are given out to the large audience of parents from the local area as well as the participating children 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 the school office.

### Nursery Places for Siblings

If you are considering a Nursery place at St Christopher's for your younger child in 2015/16 or 2016/17 and have not already registered, please let the office know immediately.

We are already experiencing high demand for places and would encourage you to register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Please contact the office for a reg

