



## St Christopher's School

### Weekly News

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2014

#### Dear Parents

*Ciao a tutti! Which means 'hello everyone' in Italian.*

*This week is Italian Week and we have enjoyed focusing on this beautiful European country. Year 2 had prepared for the week with a homework which encouraged internet research to discover interesting facts about Italy and Year 1 prepared for their cooking initiative by designing their own pizza. In assemblies we have listened to music by Italian born composer Vivaldi.*

*The week started with the whole school assembled in the Hall for a superbly entertaining version of the old classic, Ready, Steady Cook! The Green Pepper team led by Chef Ansell and the Red Tomato team led by Chef Headdey set to work using a larder of 'Italian inspired' ingredients while the excited audience watched in amazement, firmly clutching their red and green score cards. We marvelled as electric whisks, small food processors and plenty of manual stirring and chopping took place, executed by teams involving a representative from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The judges' table comprised myself, Mrs Stubbs, and our Head Boy and Head Girl and we were thrilled to taste the savoury Pikelets and Parathas which were presented after the whole school had counted backwards from 60 prior to shouting "Stop cooking!" with relish. After feedback from the judges the children voted and the Green Peppers were adjudged to be the winners. We all had enormous fun and photos of this event appear on our website so do have a look.*

*Special thanks to Nursery parent Mrs Ispani who came in to cook homemade pizza with the Nursery children and to make Tiramisu with lucky Reception children. Do encourage the children to continue to develop these skills at home. I was thrilled to receive a letter from one parent who detailed how her child had made a Greek Salad for his family last week and he is not quite 4 years old!*

*This week the children were introduced to Gnocchi which made a debut appearance on the school menu. They particularly enjoyed Mrs Brown's Italian dessert Apple and Grana Padano Tartlets so if you are feeling brave do ask for the recipe.*

*This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Lenny S for eating up all his lunch with delightful enthusiasm every single day!*

*This term our hard working School Council expanded as representatives from Reception joined them. Rowan W from Neptune and Caiden C from Mars were voted onto the council by their peers and got straight to work with their first meeting last Friday.*

*Congratulations to **Ahlberg** House who have dazzled this week by accruing **366** housepoints.*

*Annie Thackray, Headteacher*

#### This Week's Merit Awards

Daisy G, Madison H, Lucas C, Felix A, Joaquin G, Raadhika W, Gracie N, Olivia M, Dominic Q, Claudia M and Sachin W.

#### Philosopher of the Week

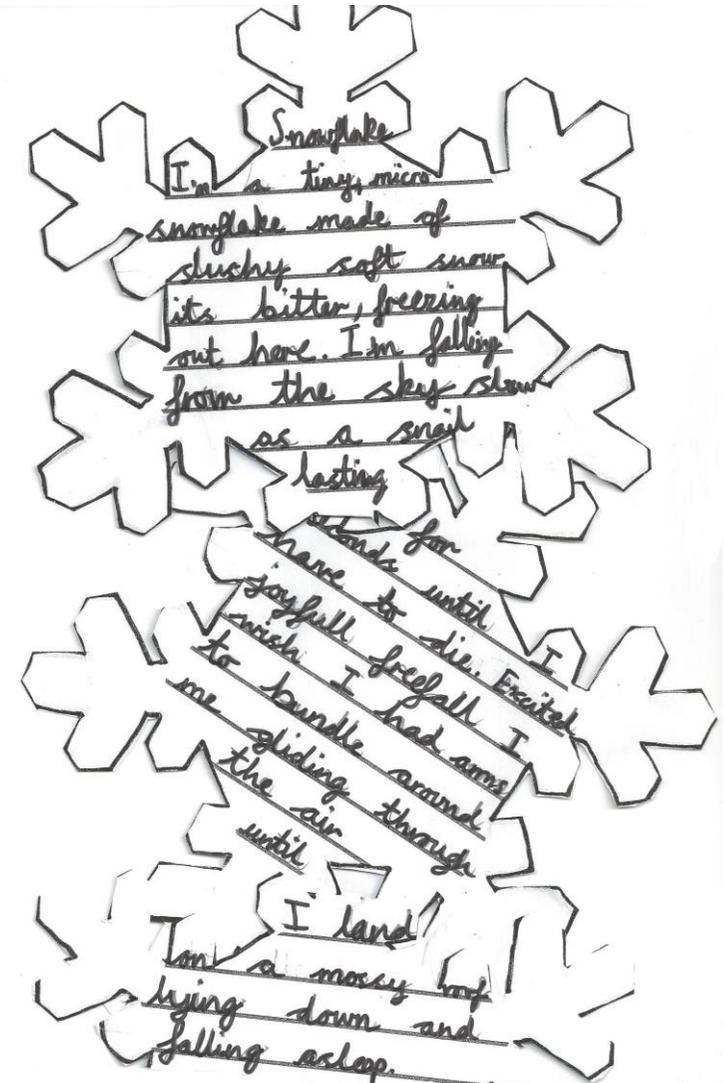
Seren C

#### Thought for the Week

Should people steal other people's ideas?

### Work of the Week – Venus Class

In Year 2, we read and discussed lots of poems about winter. The children then brainstormed words and phrases and worked to improve their original ideas, rather than settling for the first word that came into their heads. They considered similes and metaphors and how it might feel if they were a snowflake. Their task was to combine their favourite lines and make them into a poem. Here is Fergus L's independent work.



## Foundation Stage News

In Nursery we have set sail in a pea green boat in search of the 'Land where the Bong Trees grow'. Can you guess? We have been finding out about the rhyming poem 'The Owl and the Pussycat'. The children have helped to make a boat out in the garden and have enjoyed counting money in exchange for a five pound note.

As we learn Nursery Rhymes we are also 'performing' as each child chooses a rhyme to sing to their friends. Some children feel a little shy at first but learning to be confident in their Nursery groups is part of our preparation for school life. The children love joining in with 'playdoh gym' too, this is a fun way to develop arm muscles, coordination and fine motor skills ready for writing.

We have been looking very closely at all the different animals that we can see in the picture 'Work' by Ford Madox Brown and in the art room we are learning to paint and collage our own animals.

The 'Gruffalo' is still the focus in our 'Role Play' and many children have enjoyed writing to the different animals inviting them for tea.

Italian cooking week has been a great success. We want to say a very special 'Thank You' to Mrs Ispani for showing us how to make pizza. The children loved sharing it, some children were quite sad there was not enough for third helpings!



*Come to tea with our fox!*



*Our nursery pizza chefs*

The Reception children have worked on rhymes with an arachnid theme, including little Miss Muffet and Incy Wincy Spider. They have learnt lots about spiders and their writing this week shows some fascinating spider facts. Unfortunately the spiders have escaped! Thanks to some clever children the classrooms have been covered with spiders and webs made by threading paper plates and making spiders. In Maths the children have been learning how to double numbers by adding legs onto their spiders.

Mrs Ispani's second visit to the kitchen was to teach the children how to make a children's Tiramisu delicious!

**The Foundation Team**



## **NEXT WEEK IS CHINESE FOOD WEEK**

### DIARY DATES

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 9am: NEPTUNE Class Assembly -  
*Parents are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be available in the Porch from 8.30am.*

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February - PTA Family Photography Day – please return request slips to the PTA box in the porch

### **FOOTBALL CLUB CANCELLED ON 28<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

*The last session will be on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April. Apologies for any inconvenience.*

### Nursery Places for Siblings

If you are considering a Nursery place at St Christopher's for your younger child in 2014/15 and have not already registered, please let the office know immediately. We are also already experiencing high demand for places in 2015/2016 and would encourage you to register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Please contact the office for a registration form.



### **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 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

