



## ST. CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL

### Weekly News

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2013

Dear Parents

Thank you very much for your sensible support and care during the recent unusually treacherous conditions. We were delighted with your response to the school day alterations and special thanks must go to you all for using the website to provide up to date information together with thanks to the Class Reps who acted promptly conveying information. We are now optimistic that the worst of the weather is behind us and accordingly may I please request that everyone remembers to enter and exit the school using the safe gate situated in Chartwell Place.

On Friday, just before snow stopped play, we were all able to enjoy the wonderful class assembly prepared and beautifully acted by Mercury Class. We were enchanted by their narration of the hilarious tale of King Canute and were all impressed by the delivery of the lines by these talented actors. Well done Mercury and thank you very much to Mrs Garrod for producing such an entertaining assembly.

As I journey around the school classrooms are transforming from day to day. In Year 1 the beautiful hand made animals and foliage from their Rainforest topic are increasingly creeping across the ceiling and walls and the wonderful airplane in Mars class and ambulance in Neptune are gradually being filled with equipment as the children make and create the most wonderful areas to extend their learning journeys.

Outside the snow has obligingly remained in a powdery, crunchy form, ideal for snow men building activities and once the myriad of waterproof trousers, coats, boots and hats have been hastily assembled we have enjoyed seeing excited pupils rushing outside to make the most of this snowy opportunity before the big melt occurs.

Our Lunchtime Superstar this week is Joaquin for always being a polite, cheerful boy during lunchtimes. Joaquin's polite manners shine out every day and these make the catering team's job a joy. Well done Joaquin!

Well done to all the children in **Ahlberg House**. Your House came first this week with a splendid total of 213 housepoints. Mrs Annie Thackray, Headteacher

#### This week's Merit Awards

Isla M, Finnlay H, Dominic Q, Sofia M, Jodie K, Jessica B, Dany M.

#### Philosopher of the Week

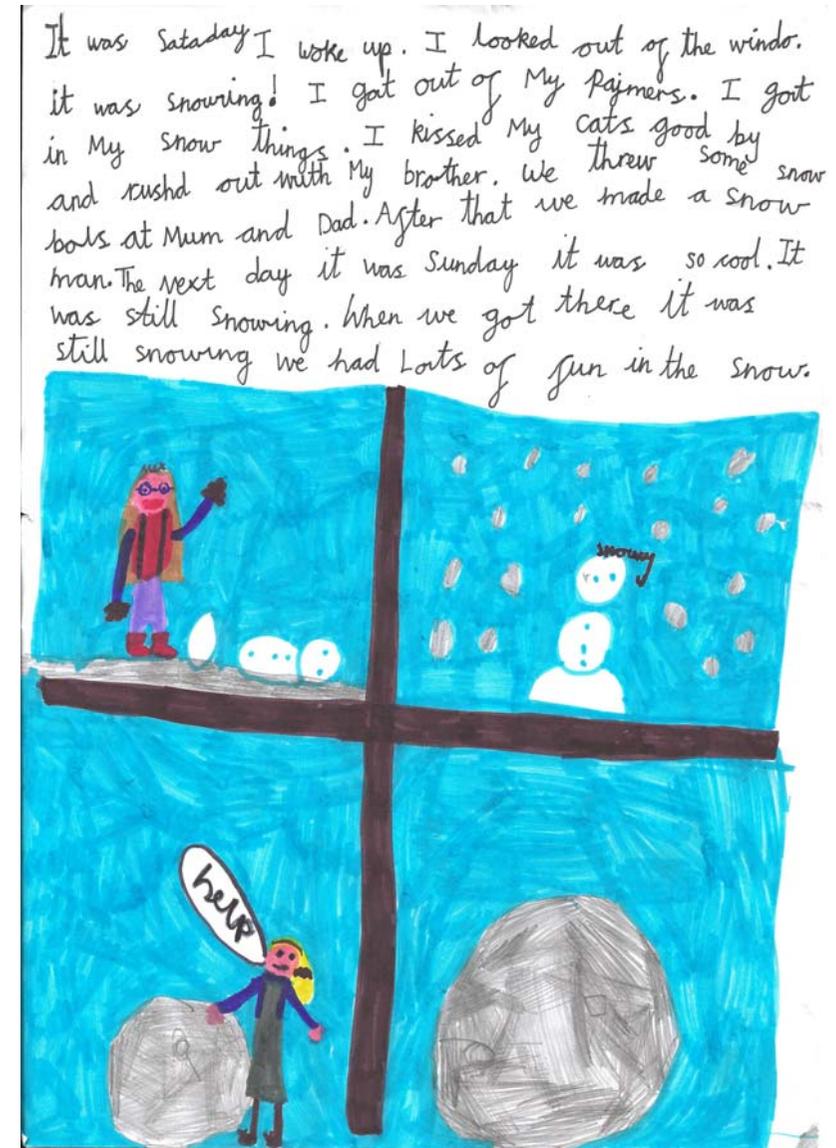
Nara A

#### Thought for the week

Should you think before you wish for something?

### Work of the Week

Saturn class were asked to write about their fun in the snow. Alex S wrote this delightful piece all by herself and even used an exclamation mark! Well done Alex for this well written account and what a super, detailed illustration.



### **Foundation Stage News**

Brrr... What a cold week, but we have been keeping warm and busy. This week we have been thinking about two wheeled methods of transport, learning about bicycles and motorbikes. We found out that motor bikes have mud guards, petrol makes the engine work and that helmets are hard to keep the driver's head safe. The children asked thoughtful questions about motorbikes such as; "How do you put the lights on?" "Why does petrol make the bike go?" and "Why doesn't the bike fall over". We have looked at lots of different types of bicycle. We brought a bicycle into school so that we could study it closely. The children have labelled the parts of a bike and made observational drawings.

Some of the children have enjoyed making their own books this week, drawing pictures and asking the grown ups to scribe their stories. The children have shown very lively imaginations and a good understanding about how stories are structured. Some children worked on their stories together.



In the construction area the children have been experimenting with making cogs and wheels work. In the kitchen we have enjoyed making wheels, making pastry, rolling it flat, then rolling it up and slicing it before cooking the wheels and eating them. In the art room we have been making and drawing more flowers inspired by the artist O'Keeffe. The children have shown great skill when working with computers and programmable toys they have had lots of fun

learning how to program our 'B bots'. Next week we are learning about cars and trucks. We will be reading the book 'The Duck in the Truck'.

We do our very best to make sure your children stay warm and dry when they are at Nursery. Please can you check your child has named, winter and wet weather clothes in their bags and that they have not picked up another child's hat or rain trousers by mistake.

The Reception children have been looking at different types of boats this week. We have read 'Who Sank the Boat?' by Pamela Allan about some animals who managed to sink a boat, but whose fault was it? We wrote our own speech bubbles for the story and turned it into a book. We have been looking at floating and sinking and made predictions before testing our theories in the water. Did you know that an apple will float?

Mars class have created an airplane in their role play area and are having fun being passengers and crew, they acted out a disaster mid flight on Tuesday where many passengers needed medical attention and Mrs London said it was the quietest her class had ever been!

Neptune are designing and making an ambulance in their role play area and are enjoying playing doctors. Next week Reception are looking at trains.

**The Foundation Team**

### **DIARY DATES**

Thursday 31st January at 1.30pm: School Council (Pupils)

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 4.15pm: Class of 2012 Reunion Tea

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 9am: NEPTUNE Class Assembly

### **PTA EVENTS**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm – QUIZ NIGHT!**

**Please see letter for full details**

**SAVE THE DATE: PTA Summer Ball – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

### **LIBRARY BOOKS**

Please ensure that all library books are returned to school every week during your child's library session.

### **VIOLIN LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS**

We have 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 14<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

### **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.