



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 26th February 2016

Dear Parents

What an amazing week. There has been something special in the calendar every day.

On Monday the whole school enjoyed Africa Day. Each class were treated to an African drum session and our professional drummer was most impressed by all the children, especially Nursery who showed real skill and rhythm.

On Tuesday Year 2 enjoyed their book quiz with specific questions on 'Daisy and the Trouble with Life.' We were delighted to see our young book worms so engrossed with their literacy quiz and picking children to represent the school for the forthcoming Great Read Competition will be very hard to do.

On Wednesday Mr Robinson the headmaster of City of London Freemen's school presented a delightful interactive assembly all about sign language. The children followed him superbly and the whole hall fell silent whilst using this important skill to communicate.

On Wednesday afternoon Year 1 set off in the sunshine to walk to the church. Reverend Nick enjoyed giving the children a tour that included sight of the 500 year old font. Another highlight was an opportunity for Benji to speak from the pulpit and everyone admired the beautiful stained glass window.

The whole week has been dominated by poetry with some wonderful, lyrical contributions lighting up the school day in every single year group. A very hard fought contest saw a crop of Highly Commended children impressing the whole school on Wednesday and 24 finalists performing on Thursday on stage in front of the school and judges: Governors Mrs Caroline Smart and Mrs Helen Crossley. They had a near impossible task to place three children from each stage listed below in a superb and closely contested competition. Well done to all our performers.

Earning their Bronze Stars this week with some super-fast performances were Ned S, George F and Aayushi K. Bravo children!

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is James W for thanking Mrs Stubbs with such polite enthusiasm.

Congratulations to all the children in Donaldson House. Donaldson House won the housepoint challenge this week with a superb total of 920 Housepoints

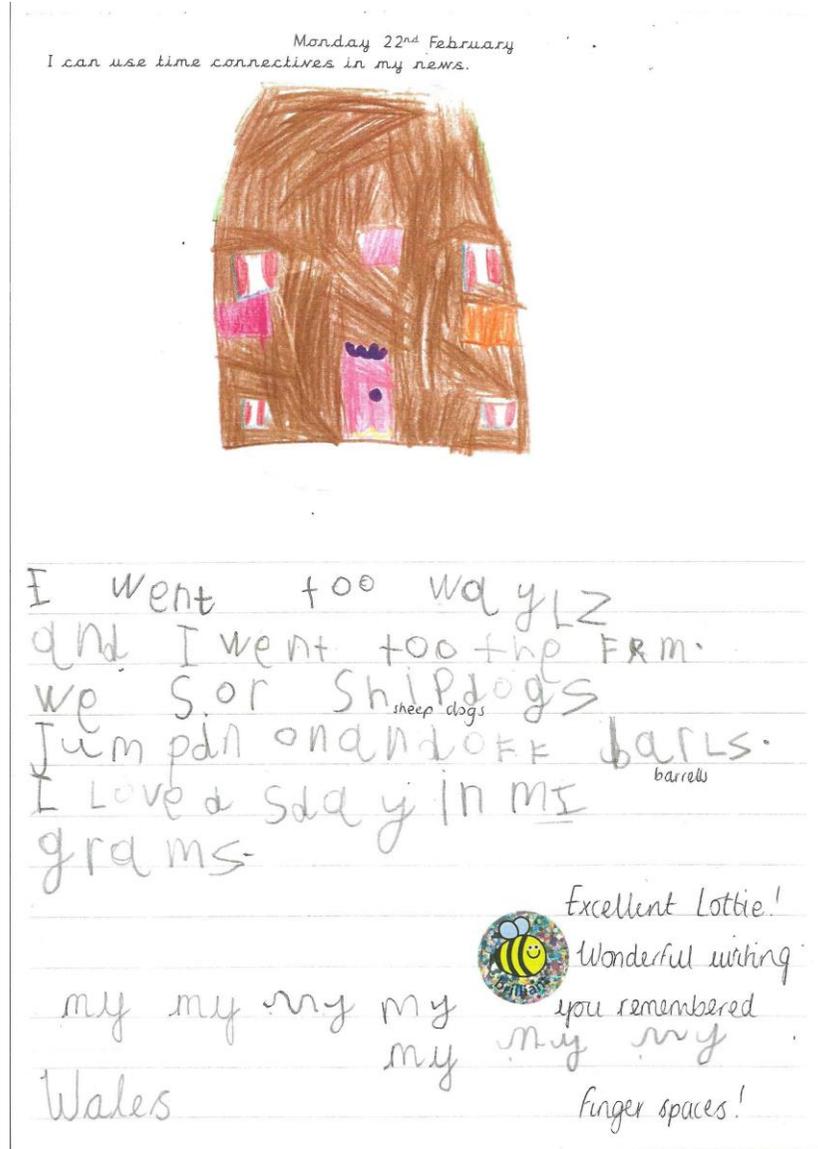
Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This week's Poetry Recital Stars

- Foundation Stage: 1st Zoe M
- 2nd Isaac F
- 3rd Dylan F
- Key Stage 1: 1st Arthur L
- 2nd Sophie B
- 3rd Lexi M

Work of the Week

This week it is the turn of Mars Reception Class to provide our Work of the Week. Lottie wrote about her wonderful visit to Waylz (a fabulous phonetic Wales). Just look at all this independent handwriting. Well done clever Lottie.



Foundation Stage News

We have enjoyed listening to some wonderful poems this week. Performing in front of an audience can be quite daunting. We are so proud of how the children recited with confidence, emphasis and humour using some very effective props.

Rhymes, rhyming stories and poems have been the topic for this week in Nursery. Children have made Incy Wincy Spiders in the kitchen and explored sound and rhythm with instruments to match the rhymes in the outdoor classroom. There have been many spiders up and down the drain pipe and colourful flowers drawn for 'Mary Mary' in the garden. I think there may have been more than 5 currant buns made with playdough in the art room but they all had red cherries (beads) on the top. It has been fun to try the bubbly textured paint in beautiful greens and blues to make the water for the 5 little ducks too!



We had a 'letter' from *Epsom Toy Factory* explaining it has to close, so we decided to make our own factory in the role play area. Please can you send in any boxes you think will help us with packing the toys ready for dispatch.

Many thanks to you all for ensuring your child has wet weather gear. Please can you put a spare change of clothes in a plastic bag so we can use the bag to send home wet clothes easily.

On Wednesday Mrs Degg came to work with the children to make little people out of corks inspired by the work of Joanne Tinker our feature artist this term. They used excellent fine motor skills to paint with care and twist wire to make arms.

The Reception children have been 'under the sea' collecting different facts about the creatures ready to make their own books. The children know these information books are called 'non-fiction'. They also know we can get information from computers, videos, non-fiction books, pictures and even by playing with plastic reproduction creatures. The children have designed the front covers for their books and have been busy writing facts, putting in photographs and labelling the pictures. They will be able to make a fascinating non-fiction library with their finished work, how grown up!

In Maths they have been learning about doubling and halving quantities using a wide variety of resources, even the spots on a crab. With this practical understanding the children can then write the number sentence for example: $8+8=16$.

The Foundation Team



DIARY DATES

Tuesday 1st March: DONALDSON DAY

Please can your child come to school dressed as a character from a book by Julia Donaldson

Wednesday 2nd March

PTA 2nd Hand Uniform Sales at 11.45am and 2.45pm in the Outdoor Classroom

Thursday 3rd March 9.15 - 11am

OPEN MORNING FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Friday 4th March at 9am: NEPTUNE Class Assembly

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

FRIDAY 4th MARCH - MOTHERS' DAY CELEBRATIONS

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2: 2.45-3.15pm

Please see recent letter for details

Nursery & Pre-Reception: 11.40am, 1.10pm or 2.40pm

Please see recent email for details

Please reply by Monday 29th February



SHOWCASE MORNING ON SATURDAY 5TH MARCH 10.30am - 12.30pm

For those new to this exciting annual event may we please highlight that it involves all our current parents who will be invited by their child to attend on this morning to celebrate their child's work.