



# St Christopher's School

Weekly News  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018

## Dear Parents

Last Friday we were entered into a hall full of brightly coloured flags announcing our first House Assembly of the term. All the children enjoyed hearing a chapter written by their own House author as well as meeting the children and staff in their House. What a lovely start to the New Year!

On Tuesday Year 1 enjoyed a practical exploration of their brand new topic: Home is where the Heart is. Our Forest School Trainer Jay came in to work with the children outside to collaborate and plan together and make an effective shelter. Although the field was turned into a camping site with children using mallets to secure tent pegs into hard ground on a very cold and blustery day, the children seemed unaffected by the weather and just beamed as they sipped their hot chocolate inside their very own successful den creations.

It was lovely to see so many new faces at our Pre Nursery Evening on Wednesday and we look forward to welcoming our youngest adventurers into school next week. We also have an excellent curriculum talk next Wednesday for parents of Nursery and Pre-Reception children investigating how you can give your child a head start.

There will be practical activities as well as wine and nibbles so do sign up and come along to what promises to be a very enjoyable evening.

Our Year 2 children have been visiting new schools and tackling some 7+ tests with impressive confidence and spirit. They know that they are well-prepared for the types of challenges that arise. The children enjoyed the tests and then set off for their interviews ready to dazzle their next potential school. We have been so proud of all of our Year 2 children and wish them all every success.

The first Library Raffle of the year was run by Frederick Kearney and Esme Trewavas. The delightful book theme chosen by Mrs Serrano was 'Winter'.

This term we have introduced our 'Considerate Cat' awards. These delightful cats are already much sought after and the charming stories that I hear from the staff about such young children showing kindness and consideration for others is a joy to hear. We hope that you will benefit from the 'Considerate Cats' coming home to demonstrate the same spirit of thoughtfulness.

Congratulations to all the children in **Donaldson House** for winning first place in the first Housepoint count of the term. They have earned top place with a fabulous total of **286** housepoints. Bravo! **Annie Thackray, Headteacher**

This Weeks Merit Awards

Edison Ozdamar, Ara Chapman, Alistair Heneker, Sienna Simmonds, Henrietta Lyle, Nathan Hall, Baxter Merrington, Medina Oozeerally, Baylen Bhoma, Amelie Chellun, Elodie Barrett, Fraser Wilson and Dylan Collins.

Philosopher of the Week

Jack Burgess

Thought for the Week

Should you always tell the truth?

## Work of the Week

Dylan Francis in Mercury Year 2 produced this entertaining account of his Saturday. Then he edited his own work. Well done Dylan for such super independent work.

Jan 15<sup>th</sup>

Super start ✓

speech words ✓

On Saturday Morning I woke up and said "oh no!" I woke my sister up and said "come on wake up" but she didn't wake up, so I jumped on her. Finally she woke up she said to me "get your uniform on!" so I did and at nine o'clock I left to go to Fremers. When I got to Fremers I was a bit nervous, After I went into the class room, the teachers name was Mrs Smith, First I did maths that was easy, After the test I played with Rafferty. In the after noon I went swimming with him. After that he went to my house and played. We stayed up till eleven, then I went to bed and fell asleep straight away.

Great work Dylan 😊

## Nursery and Pre-Reception News

Welcome back to all our children and a huge welcome to our brand new Sparkles! The children have settled back into Nursery life very well. They were appalled to find that Goldilocks had been ransacking our Nursery! Peg names have gone missing, numbers disappeared from the wall, not to mention a broken chair, empty porridge pot and a very messy bed! The children have been making 'Wanted' posters to help us find her so we can ask her to say sorry and help fix baby bear's chair. The children have already been making a start on fixing the chair using the wood work bench. They are very proud of all the wood they have been sawing but it is hard work! Mrs Ansell has had help in the kitchen making lots of porridge. The children have been trying different flavours and recording which they prefer; Honey is very popular! A grocers shop has appeared outside and the children have been buying, selling and devliering fruits to all. This has helped with our counting skills as well as our good manners. Our cottage has been turned into 'I Spy Cottage' where a different sound of the week will focus. This week our letter sound is 's'. There are snakes in the sand, socks to sort, 's' mark making to do. We have also been trying to draw a 's' using the mneemonic 'slither down the snake'. Have a go at home.



**NOTICES** - Please label all items of clothing including hats and shoes. The new nursery coat is wonderful but can we request that your child's name be put in the neck area, rather than in the pocket, as you can imagine it takes quite a long time to match coat with child with a hidden name!

## Reception News



Reception children have ventured into the woods with 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. Some of the children have been thinking and writing different words to describe, big, middle sized and small. They made labels for the lovely bears they have painted. The children are learning to use the story to help learn sequencing which will be a useful skill for when they write their own stories. Once they learnt to sequence the story the children made some super story maps which they labelled with words and sentences. The children have remembered their phonic sounds over the holidays and they are writing some of those tricky words they have learnt too, well done children! Now that the children are getting so good with writing their letters and sounds we are introducing the children to cursive script ready for joined up writing. This is tricky but we will be practising in school. Your child may tell you that they need to start each letter from the line and a handy way to remember this is to say 'start on the line and you'll be fine'.

We have been using bears for our Maths too! The children are so good with counting and enjoy using 'Compare Bears' and our fingers to learn to addition now. We have found we can add two groups together or use a number line to lay out the bears to 'count on' from the first group. We are learning to record our addition using a 'number sentence'. Can your child remember the add (+) and equals (=) signs we need when we write the number sentence?

Have fun with this at home.

*The Foundation Stage Team*

## DIARY DATES

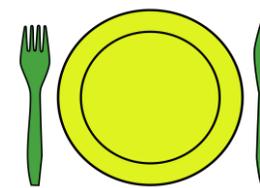
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – Pre-Nursery starts (to 22<sup>nd</sup> March).

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 7pm – Early Years Curriculum Meeting – all Nursery and Pre-Reception parents welcome to attend. Please ensure you have completed your return clip to help us with numbers.

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> 4.15pm – Class of 2017 Reunion Tea.

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> 9am – JUPITER Class Assembly – *All Jupiter parents welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served under the back porch from 8.30am.*

This week's Considerate Cats are Beatrix Barrett, Lily Knock, Artie Bhoma, Isaac Adison and Dylan Collins.



This week's Lunchtime Superstar is

**Kaila Kutwaroo**

for outstanding service as a lunchtime Monitor patiently sitting with a nursery child successfully encouraging her to eat!



Mathletics: Congratulations to Artie Bohma, Elodie Barrett and Eliza Bullock for gaining their Silver awards.

Well done also to Henry Morton and Nathan John for achieving Gold.

**Please be patient with us. When your child proudly brings in their certificate (only one of each colour please), We need to laminate and prepare it for the wonderful assembly presentation and this does not always happen immediately.**