



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 22nd January 2016

*Dear Parents*

*The cold weather has not provided the snowy fun that we hoped for but has been just frosty enough to interfere with the beautiful new Nursery bike area. Hopefully by the time you read this it will be finished. In the meantime the Nursery children have had fun on the big playground whilst the other children have been hard at work and they have enjoyed investigating the frosty leaves and twigs.*

*We are all very excited about the Environment Days next week. We have a guest from the local Council coming to talk to the children about recycling on Monday and we will be enjoying the animated tale of The Lorax on Tuesday. All classes have their own studies booked and they will join back together to share their learning by the end of the week. Year 2 will be monitoring our electricity usage by reading the meters on Monday followed by a normal day of electricity use, and then reading them again on Tuesday followed by a day of exceptional saving from lights to Interactive Whiteboards to equipment in the kitchen and to be electricity friendly we are going to have a cold lunch. It will be very interesting to compare the readings that they make. This term we are having an initiative on smartness. We have laminated 'Smart St Christopher's Bears' to be handed out to children who are in correct school uniform with their socks pulled up and their top buttons done up. It is amazing the difference that this initiative has made already and it acts as a wonderfully positive incentive for children getting changed from PE to organise themselves efficiently. Each time a bear is awarded the child notifies their teacher and a record is kept. At the end of term the top ten recipients will get an actual soft toy St Christopher's Bear and these were shown in assembly last week to a very excited audience.*

*This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Baylen B for being so thoughtful and considerate and telling the Team how many children are still due to arrive for lunch. Well done Baylen, what a kind boy.*

*Congratulations to **Donaldson House** for rising to the top of the Housepoint Board with a wonderful **264** housepoints. Well done **Donaldson House**.*

*Annie Thackray, Headteacher*

This week's Merit Awards

Harriet G, Issy S, Andy D, Lottie R, Imogen W, Eliza B, George T, Sophie M, Milo H, Vihaan S, Jago G and Zahra K

Philosopher of the Week

Alexander H

Thought for the Week

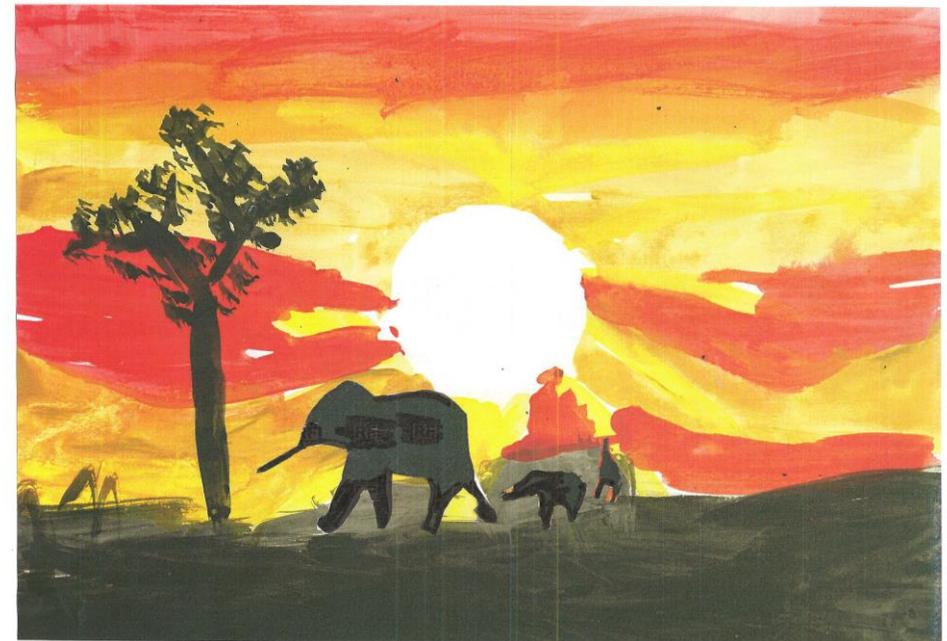
Why isn't everyone honest?

Work of the Week

This week, the Work of the Week is by Aayushi K in Year 2. Venus Class have been working on their African Topic creating stunning sunsets over the African Savannah.

As you can see from Aayushi's sunset, the beautiful colours bring a sense of Africa.

Well done Aayushi!



Aayushi

### Foundation Stage News



In Reception on Monday we used our magnificent phonic skills to write all about the fun we had in the snow over the weekend! On Tuesday we learned to recognise and make teen numbers, using a tower of ten 'Unifix' cubes and 'Numicon' and then adding the remaining number.

On Wednesday, as part of our *Big Blue Sea* topic we learned about the four main zones that make up the ocean – the top zone being the lightest and the bottom being the darkest, where only a few creatures can survive. We painted using water colours to demonstrate the four layers of the ocean, and added sea creatures and labels to each. Seth was very proud of his 'Unifix' tower.

On Tuesday and Thursday as part of our 'Plan Do Review' challenge we used a cardboard roll and had to turn it into an exciting sea creature for our display board!

On Friday we talked about the range of emotions we feel, and linked it to the story 'Three by the Sea' by Mini Grey. We looked at picture cards displaying different emotions and discussed what we do when we might feel this way. We shared ideas about who to go to when you need help. What a busy week!

How exciting! Have you seen the workmen making our lovely road area? The children have waited patiently and are looking forward to using the new play surface; I hope they remember the Nursery Highway Code. The children were still able to go outside. They wrapped up warmly and used the 'big playground' for lots of fun, games, exercise and fresh air.

In Nursery this week we have been enjoying the adventures of 'Mr Gumpy's Motor Car' by John Burningham. The children noticed the story was like 'The Duck in the Truck' because the car got stuck in the mud and everyone was needed to help push the car out. We decided that if we went on a trip with Mr Gumpy we would take sandwiches. The children had great fun working on their fine motor coordination to spread the butter and jam or marmite on the bread. They decided these were the best sandwiches they had ever made. A great and enjoyable idea to save Mum and Dad the work at home too!

The literacy activity was for the children to retell the story, right sequence, in their own words. The maths activities been rolling the dice to see how many animals can fit in a which car can contain the most animals.

In the art room we made our own 'mud' from drinking chocolate powder, the children and toy cars did not get but they did make a lot of muck! Lots of children have cars out of boxes and 'bottle lid' wheels, making sure to how many wheels they should put on so their cars don't get

Has your Pre-Reception child been telling you all the words know starting with the sounds 's' and 'a'? Next week our focus sound is 't' and our story is the fable by Aesop 'The North Wind and the Sun'. **The Foundation Team**



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### DIARY DATES

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January**

### **ENVIRONMENT DAYS - HOUSE CHALLENGE**

Please see letter for details

**Children will need to wear their House T-shirt on 26<sup>th</sup> January**  
(£3.00 from the Office)

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 9am: VENUS Class Assembly

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

**PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE - Please complete and return by Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January**

### PTA EVENTS

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January : Quiz Night

£12.50 per person to include fish & chip supper

Please get together your team to enjoy this event, it is always great fun. Booking forms available from the office or on the website.

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February: Family Photography Day

Please see letter for information & booking form.

### **Would you be interested in advertising in our Music Festival Programme?**

We are inviting sponsors for the programme for this year's festival on 10<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 A5 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.



**Mathletics: Congratulations go to Eddie H for gaining his Bronze Award.**