



## St Christopher's School

### Weekly News

Friday 6th November 2020

Dear Parents

At the end of half term we all received the news that we had all hoped not to hear; that the 'R' rate had accelerated to the point where a new National Lockdown had become necessary which will last for 4 weeks. Our thoughts are with you all as families trying to navigate the new government restrictions during these impossible times. I know that this will have an impact on work, families and friends in the St Christopher's community and I send you all our best wishes and strength during this challenging period. The good news is that here at school the children are sheltered from the worries with a continued emphasis on normality and unrestricted contact within our year group bubbles. The children were delighted to see each other again after half term and love the security of the exciting and active daily timetable.

On Tuesday we were delighted to welcome Mr Rudi Elliott Lockhart the new CEO of the Independent Schools Association to visit St Christopher's after school hours. He was full of praise for the way the school has maintained the positive and creative atmosphere during these difficult times and we heard about the latest thoughts and plans for the future from the very man involved in representing the ISA independent sector at government meetings.

The school has been a feast of firework colour and if you need cheering up do remember to visit our Twitter page @StChrisEpsom where we share regular and beautiful updates with you. We also featured the return of our Forest School with Jay Bristow, our qualified provider, who provided a morning of excitement and wonder for Nursery followed by Reception children outside in the autumnal sunshine. The children investigated insects and their habitat and made some beautiful 'accommodations' for these tiny creatures by collecting and investigating natural materials.

Thank you to all the children who entered our local MP Chris Grayling's House Of Commons Christmas Card Competition. We had some very impressive entries. First place went to Isabel J in Year 1 who included a rainbow in her Christmas themed design which reminded us of the celebrations in recognition of our amazing NHS workers this year. Congratulations Isabel!

Recognising service is the theme once again next week as we prepare for the traditional Remembrance Day event at 11am on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month. Poppies are once again on sale in school and you can support this national initiative by sending in money in your child's St Christopher's purse from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November as detailed on page 4.

Congratulations to Benjamin C for being this week's Lunchtime Superstar, for being very polite with exceedingly good manners. Well done Benjamin.

Congratulations to **Ahlberg** House for winning the first of the new half term's Housepoint challenge with a splendid total of **1415** Housepoints. Well done **Ahlberg** House.

Mrs Annie Thackray Headteacher

Philosopher of the Week

Gabriella L-T

Thought for the Week

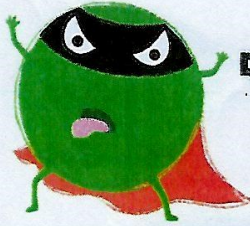
How important is the truth?

Merit Awards

Rosie T, Harrison G, Ella D, Lily W, Nikhil K, Edward P d M,  
Daniel B P, Austin B, Isabelle W, Sooha P  
Thomas B and Maryam O

Evie W in Mars Class has created an amazing Wanted Poster to trap 'Evil Pea' from the book 'Supertato'. Excellent sounding out and spelling of key words used in her brilliant reception writing. Well done Evie!

LO To describe a character



# WANTED

✓ AL

(I)

→ ELG

Fantastic  
sounding  
out  
Evie.  
Amazing



☺ Name: eevl Pee

Colour: Green

Wearing: retcap  
mask

Crimes: he sturk

korok to the

convoy belt

(conveyor)

What a  
naughty pea!



W (ELG) Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are

## Nursery and Pre-Reception News



We have had a wonderful first week back in Nursery. The children were full of smiles and energy as they ran up the path on Monday morning ready to see their friends and teachers. Our half term challenge in Nursery was to be able to put on our shoes, coats and do up our zips independently! The children have been super stars showing us how amazing they are at these skills and have all earned well-deserved certificates. This week we have been thinking about 'Fireworks'; we have been talking about the different sounds that



fireworks make and the shapes and colours we can see in the sky. The children have been running their own firework shop in our role-play area this week; they have been making sparklers and rockets and selling them to their friends using the tills and a range of different coins. We have been using our scissor skills to create firework pictures; the children were amazing at cutting out a range of shapes and naming them. The children's mark making skills have been wonderful this week. They have been creating fireworks outside on the ground with chalks and have been using coloured pens and pencils to create large firework pictures as a group. The preparation has started for our wonderful Pre-Reception assembly and the children have been busy learning songs, actions and dances! It

would not be an assembly without amazing costumes made by the children and all will soon be revealed! We can confirm that the children have used many fine motor skills to create fabulous headdresses! We were very lucky to have Forest School with Jay this week; the children were super at listening carefully and collecting many natural resources. He was very impressed with their knowledge of insects and the natural material houses they built to protect their insects from birds. What a fabulous first week back.



## Reception News



We are all super excited to have returned to school this week. This excitement has been fuelled by lots and lots of exciting activities. We have been learning about a superhero called 'Supertato' and his arch enemy 'Evil Pea'! We all designed a wanted poster for Evil Pea as he had escaped again! Watch out as there could be 'Evil Peas' in your freezer too! In maths we have created a fruit and

vegetable shop. We wrote labels for the produce and created money amounts for them.

Some of our vegetables were very cheap at 5p or 10p but the red cabbage had a price of £10! We have looked at coins and their values and are now trying to combine the amounts e.g. 2p+2p = 4p. Try to encourage your children to use real money to buy small objects from a shop and receive



the change. Can they identify the coins they have used and the coins in the change? What coin has the most or least value? We were lucky this week to have Forest Schools with Jay. He taught us to look closely at the changes around us in autumn as well as telling us what the animals are doing at this time of year! We then collected lots of sticks and leaves to make shelters for them. The session ended in delicious hot chocolate – yummy! What a super start to the new half term!



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### Poppy Collection

If your children would like to purchase a poppy

Please attach their blue purse to the outside of their bag with a £1 coin or larger donation  
from Monday 9th November



**Spotty Box Awards for success outside school :  
Congratulation to**

**Daniella B for her Grade 3 Gymnastics certificate**

**Ella D for amazing achievements in go karting**

**Bailey T for achieving 5 gold stars in her piano lesson**



**Mathletics:**

**Congratulations to Daniella B, Annabel N, Eloise B-S, Olivia C, Autumn W and Isabel J for their silver certificates.**

For more news and photos follow us on Twitter @StChrisEpsom



and on our Instagram page - stchrisepsom

