



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 14th January 2022

Dear Parents

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the New Year! The children have all returned refreshed and enthusiastic for the exciting new challenges and opportunities on offer this term.

Year 2 are knee deep in all things to do with pantomime! In December we took the children to the Playhouse to see a live performance of a pantomime and they have watched extracts of other theatrical performances. Now it is their turn and the whole year group have been cast as parts from the classic tale of Cinderella complete with two Ugly Sisters, a charming Buttons and an Offstage Inspector! The top floor of the school is full of cheering and booing and Year 2 are certainly making us very proud. This is a whistle stop production with performances on 25th and 26th January and we need to be ready to delight!

In Year 1 the theme is 'Up, Up and Away!' This week the children have been looking at poetry connected with transport including a review of Robert Louis Stevenson's 'From a Railway Carriage' which is one of my favourite poems. They have very much enjoyed being poetry detectives identifying connectives and rhyming words.

In Reception it is all about 'The Farm!' The classrooms look colourful and delightful complete with a real hay bale and the children are enjoying the role play activities as well as all the farmyard activities cleverly introduced into their writing and maths work.

In Nursery we were enchanted to find that the topic is 'I wonder what is in the Woods?' What a splendid way to investigate some traditional tales in an innovative way. This week it is a trip into the woods to Goldilocks' Cottage to think about the three bears. There were bear activities everywhere as well as plenty of porridge oats, in the kitchen, in the art room and even in the garden!

We also found time to get together for our first House Assembly of the year and the children enjoyed colourful flag waving followed by a story from their own House Author as they introduced themselves to other friends in their House and discussed ways to win the coveted House Shield at the end of the year.

Talking of House Authors, we are delighted to be able to focus on one of the newest books written by Julia DONALDSON next week as her book 'Zog and the Flying Doctors' provides the theme for many of the activities on our Air Ambulance Charity Day. I can't wait to see all the costumes connected with the medical profession as well as hear the tales from Dr Matt who is coming specially to see us in his orange flying suit. I felt like Mr Poppy from 'Nativity' last week in the middle of the mounting excitement in the Hall as the thrill of Dr Matt's visit became palpable. Some calming down was required after the assembly when we needed to calmly reassure/disappoint some pupils, that we are not, as was assumed by some, going for a ride in his helicopter!

Congratulations to this week's Lunchtime Superstar Victoria M in Venus class for her wonderful approach at the start of the term for trying lots of new types of food. Well done Victoria!

The Housepoint competition begins with a new term and the first winners this week are Ahlberg House for topping the Board with an impressive 174 Housepoints.

Annie Thackray Headteacher

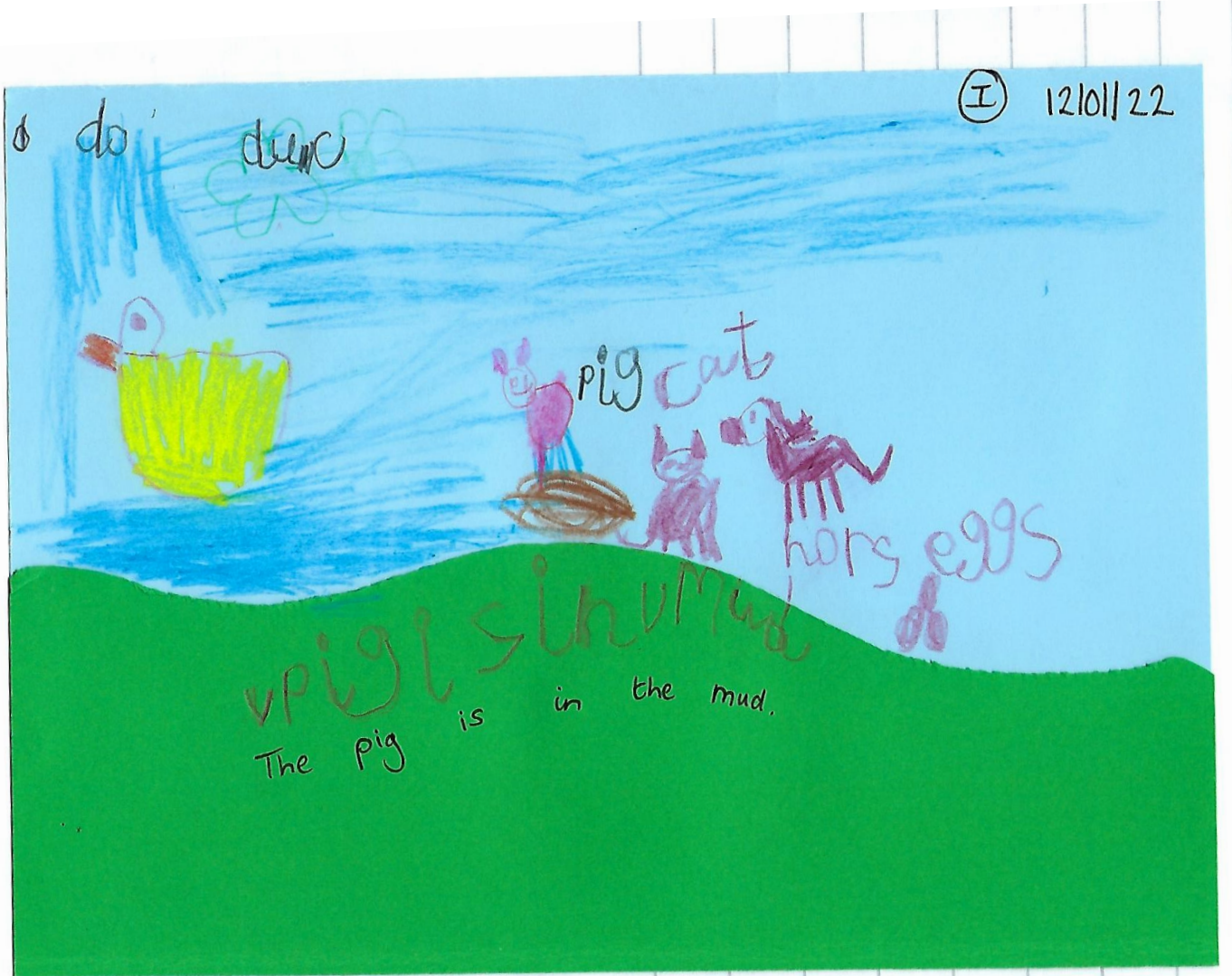
Merit Awards

Daisy G D, Oliver P, Benjamin W, Angelina Ö, Elena G

Edward P d M, Elena W, Zachary R, Izabella M, Monty H, Olivia H and Fazan C.

Work of the week

This week Reception Children were thinking about the story 'Farmer Duck'. Congratulations to Michaela from Neptune Class for this wonderful drawing complete with labelling and an independent sentence all by herself!



Nursery and Pre-Reception News



We have had a fabulous first week back in Nursery. Our topic for this term is 'I wonder what is in the Woods'. The children have been creating a beautiful wood for our indoor role play area. We have been looking closely at different shaped leaves and have used a ranges of mark



making tools to create our own leaf to put on display in our role play area. Our focus story this week has been 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'; we have been learning about the different characters and how they might have been feeling throughout the story and have been busy sorting a range of objects by size. In the garden the children have been making beds for the bears using different construction resources. The children have been using their scissor skills to cut out a range of chairs and were super stars at ordering them from smallest to largest. In the kitchen this week we have been making some delicious porridge, our focus number has been 1. We have measured and added the



ingredients independently; we needed 1 cup of oats, 1 cup of milk and 1 spoon of honey. The children enjoyed their porridge on the snack table and ate it quickly before Goldilocks could come along to eat it! What a super exciting week in Nursery I wonder which characters we might find in the woods next week....



Reception News



This week in Reception we have started spring term off with a baa, a moo and a cluck! Yes, Reception have been exploring our new topic 'On the Farm!' The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring our 'new' classrooms which are all farm themed (of course). We have a farm shop selling fresh produce as well as a



farm yard complete with animals, welly boots and a bale of hay! In literacy this week we have been focussing on the story 'Farmer Duck' and looking at how unfair the farmer was. We all decided that the animals needed to share the work. The children then showed us lots of the 'caring and sharing' they were doing in Reception. What super stars! After that the children wrote about the duck and what the other characters in the story could be saying to make her feel better. We were very impressed with their letter formation and phonic spelling. Top Job! In maths we have worked hard on developing our new skill of



subtraction. We have used the song '5 Little Ducks' to demonstrate to the children 'taking away' with great success and enjoyment too. Some of us could even write the correct number sentence too! The children have enjoyed looking at and digging up all the different vegetables which have had key words written on them. The children liked reading the words before 'planting' them! Another great start to a new term from Reception – keep it up. You are fantastic!



18th January

Please remember to dress up in costumes relating to the medical profession.



Mathletics:

Congratulations to Aidan G for his Bronze award.

Congratulations to Barnaby B for his silver award.

Spotty Box Awards for success outside school :

Annabelle L – Level 2 Learn to Swim Certificate

Olivia H – Tennis All Stars Level Red

Barnaby B – Level 3 Learn to Swim Certificate

Arya K – STANley 6 Award for swimming

Olivia C – 25 metres swim award

Annabel N – Level 1 Water Skills Award

Mia G – Student of the Week at Stage Coach

Luca K – Student of the Week at Stage Coach

Sukie R – UK gymnastics medal

Jemima H – Student of the Week for Stage Coach



For more news and photos follow us on Twitter @StChrisEpsom



and on our Instagram page - stchrisepsom



We are very grateful for all the work achieved by the PTA including our Air Ambulance Day which they are making extra special again this year.



ST CHRISTOPHER'S PTA

NEXT PTA MEETING

TUESDAY 18th JANUARY

Arrive from 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start

Venue: School Hall

If you are interested in finding out what being part of the PTA involves or how you could support please come along!

It's a fantastic opportunity to meet parents and be part of the amazing St Christopher's school community.

This is **YOUR** PTA and **ALL** help is greatly appreciated!

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.
Please contact Fiona Langley via your year rep if you have any queries.

Best Wishes
The PTA