

7th January 2022



Dear Parents

May I start by wishing you all a very happy and peaceful New Year. We are all excited to be back and determined to manage the ongoing pandemic safely but without denting our ambitions and provision for our eager pupils. As a safety precaution we have moved both Grandparents' Days from February to May and these we hope will take place for Grandparents in Ahlberg and Dahl on Tuesday 10th May and for Grandparents in Donaldson and Kemp on Wednesday 11th May 2022.

We are increasingly excited about our Air Ambulance Day, incorporating Zog and the Flying Doctors, with a real live visit from Doctor Matt who will be presenting an assembly and working with the children as well as judging competitions. We are keen to raise as much money as possible for our exciting day. Accordingly, we will be presenting a Fancy Dress opportunity with lovely prizes available. The theme of the Fancy Dress is '**Connected to the Medical Profession**'. This gives lots of choice to our families including dressing up as people who work within the medical profession or indeed objects supporting this field, as well as providing an all-round endorsement to this incredibly important service never more needed than during the national pandemic. The date of our special day is Tuesday 18th January, so we are giving some advanced warning.

In Year 2 we are busy already preparing for a fabulous pantomime, 'Cinderella' which will be rehearsed and staged ready for an exciting performance to the school on 25th January and the Year 2 parents on 26th January. This classic pantomime has all the hallmarks of tradition including two 'Ugly Sisters' and many reasons to cheer and boo. Year 2 have earned this special treat as they could not have worked any harder for their 7+ assessments last term enjoying well-deserved success across the board.

Last term we said goodbye to Mrs Dye and Miss Pullen from Nursery and this term we extend a warm welcome to their replacements, Mrs Zuzana Kova and Mrs Lucy Vince who are delighted to be taking up their new role in such a creative and friendly environment.

Our Staff INSET on Wednesday was all about 'The Art of Brilliance' which is very appropriate for the team that work at St Christopher's and the excellent presenter provided us with just the right level of inspiration and delight to enable us to shine brightly this term. We were all reminded to look after ourselves and I am mindful that this is an important message for you parents too. Many of you have had interruptions to your Festive Break caused by positive tests or isolation issues and we are very mindful of the stress that this can place on families. Remember that we are always here to help so do keep in touch and let us know if you are experiencing difficulties.

Special thanks to Mrs Thum and her Librarians Nyah, Eloise, Mia, Austin, Ilyas and Charles for running the Library Raffle this morning with the exciting theme of books about the Rain Forest and the Jungle

Let the joys of the new term begin!

Annie Thackray

Headteacher