

St Christopher's School

Weekly News Friday 11th February 2022

Dear Parents

Last Friday we were delighted to experience Saturn's Assembly all about The Jade Emperor's Great Race which determined the order of the Chinese Zodiac. The children in Saturn gave a colourful and energetic account of the Great Race and caused enormous joy as we understood this wonderful tradition. The children also sang and danced and lit up Friday morning for us all. Well done to all the children and special thanks to Mrs Leyland for this excellent production and also to Mrs Roberts for her help.

We have been exceptionally fortunate this week to welcome two new members of staff on Wednesday. Miss Grace H made a splendid guest Headteacher and Miss Faith H was an outstanding Deputy Head too. The following newsletter is written by our special acting Headteacher Miss Grace H:

My special day began by saying good morning to everyone when they came in to school. Then I was given some Headteacher stickers to give out to people who are doing good work. In the Assembly we read the story 'There is no Dragon in this story' and we sang 'Who built the Ark?' The children all sang loud and clear. Next it was time for birthdays and we had a lot of 5 birthdays. The children in the school added all the 5 birthdays and the 7 birthday up together and it made 27. Edward the Music Captain had a birthday and he played the piano while everyone sang. When I told the children about the special lunch I had chosen they were all really excited and happy. At lunch time I sat on a special table with Raf and we had food delivered to us. There were flowers on the table and we had glasses to drink from. When we had pudding we had lots of jelly and ice cream. After lunch I went round all the classrooms and had a look to see who deserved a sticker. At the end of the day I stood by the door and said goodbye to everyone and the children said good afternoon Miss Hall. I loved my day.

On Thursday we took the theme of the week's focus on Children's Mental Health and all dressed to express and indeed to impress! We enjoyed the colourful array of outfits chosen by the children and staff and also thank you all for your support with the choice of comforter uploaded on Seesaw as well as your generous contributions raising £139.29 for this important charity.

We all enjoyed our Mental Health focus this week and reminded each other how good it is to talk. Thank you to the PTA who organised a cake competition to close the week with a focus on love and kindness. Winners of lucky hearts placed underneath a few cakes won fabulous book prizes with stories all about looking after ourselves and each other. Some Valentine love for all. Thank you PTA.

Congratulations to this week's Lunchtime Superstar Logan H for demonstrating to the kitchen staff that their lunches are amazing by requesting seconds. Well done Logan!

Congratulations to Ahlberg House for winning this week's Housepoint challenge with a splendid total of 822 Housepoints. Well done Ahlberg House

Don't forget to get practising for our Great Poetry Recital focus straight after half term. On behalf of the Staff can I wish you all a very happy and healthy half term.

Annie Thackray Headteacher

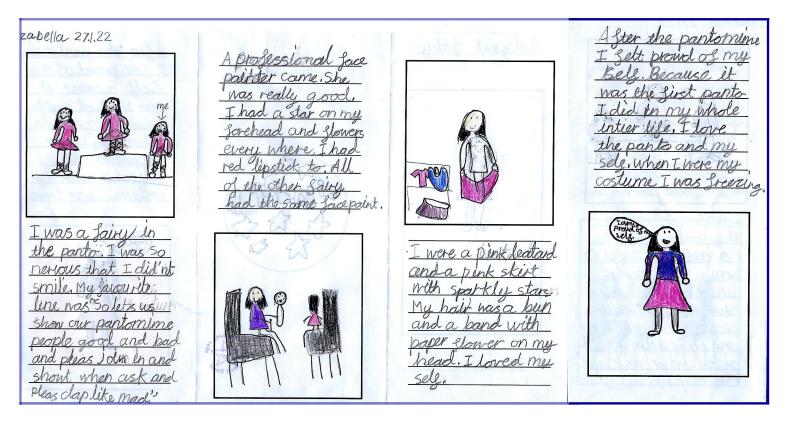
Philosophers of the Week
Jemima H, Ilyas A and Joseph O

Thought for the week

Does having everything make you happy?

Work of the week

This week's work is by Year 2. In January the whole of Year 2 performed a pantomime and Izabella from Venus Class was cast as Fairy Florrie. Izabella created a beautiful panto leaflet all about her experience in Cinderella.



Nursery and Pre-Reception News



We have had a wonderful week in Nursery with our exciting story focus; 'Little Red Riding Hood'. Before Red Riding Hood could start her journey she needed to fill her baskets with treats for Grandma. We talked about the healthy snacks she might need in her basket to make Grandma feel better; we decided on fruits and vegetables. We used our scissor skills to cut out a range of fruits and vegetables to put in the basket. Red Riding Hood needed some



help to get to Grandma's house, we created a map for her to follow to ensure that she avoids the Big Bad Wolf! The children were fabulous at drawing the characters from the story and making a safe path through the forest. In the kitchen we have been busy baking scones for Grandma, we worked together to weigh and mix the ingredients. We were super bakers and we even learnt how to make our own butter! It took lots of hard work as we had to shake the jar for a long time but our butter



tasted delicious. In the Blue Room we have been drawing family portraits; we used the hot glue gun to create a photo frame to put up in Grandma's cottage to make her feel happy. Dress to Express day on Thursday was great fun; there was an array of colour and wonderful outfits in the Nursery as everyone wore the clothes that made them feel happy. We ended our week with a day of love, the children made cards for their friends, teachers and families and enjoyed a day of kindness.



Reception News



Wow, it is hard to believe the end of this half term marks half the year in Reception! It was lovely to meet with the parents to show the fantastic progress the children have made recently. We couldn't be prouder of what they have achieved so far and are excited to see what they achieve next! This week we shared the story 'The Great Goat Chase' by Tony Bonning. It inspired some superb sentence writing as we thought of different ideas to get the goats out of the



field. The farmer tried to get the sheepdog, horse and even a cow to chase the goats out of the field where they were busy munching the turnips, but in the end it was a tiny Bee who chased the goats out of the field! Inspired by this we had our own Goat Chase programming the Bee-Bots around a farm mat. We had to follow instructions involving positional language to correctly programme the Bee-Bot to the correct location on the map. In maths we have been learning about estimating. We know that 'an estimate is a sensible guess' and we have enjoyed a daily estimating challenge guessing the quantity of different objects inside a jar. Making our estimations has encouraged us to record our guesses on a class chart meaning we have to write our numbers very



clearly and practice our counting as we count and compare quantities to decide if it might be more or less and explore what larger numbers might look like! We always enjoy our art lessons with Mrs Degg and this week we added golden paint to spiral trees in the style of Gustav Klimt's "Tree of Life". We cannot wait to share our final masterpieces with you.



Don't forget to learn your poem by heart for our grand Poetry Recital week after half term





Wednesday 23rd February Safer Internet Surfing Evening 7pm

Friday 25th February PTA Quiz Night



Thank you to our wonderful PTA who organised the competition for 'Headteacher for the Day' at their annual ball. Grace and Faith made a wonderful Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher and we all enjoyed the day.



For more news and photos follow us on Twitter @StChrisEpsom





Thank you PTA for the delicious Valentine's Cake Competition

