



## Weekly News

Friday 3rd November 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a blustery and soggy start to the term! We hope everyone has had a restful and enjoyable half term break as we enter our most sparkly and glitter adorned term of the academic year.

### **Black History Month**

We finished celebrating Black History Month on Monday with a joyful day full of African and Jamaican inspired dancing. There was sheer awe, wonder and delight from the children as they joined in the dancing with gusto. Everyone was tapping their feet to the music for the whole day. What a wonderful way to end Black History Month – a huge thank you to our stupendous PTA for organising this wonderful event.

### **Year One News**

This week Saturn and Jupiter had a fun filled Monday morning exploring in Forest School. In Literacy they have continued with the wonderful Naughty Bus! In this story the bus gets up to a lot of antics, including driving through baked beans! The children then wrote letters to the bus explaining the importance of keeping rules and why they are important. In Maths they have focussed on ordering numbers and objects. Our science lesson was learning about the properties of materials and in topic this week we have looked at geographical features with particular emphasis on London.



### **Year Two News**

In Literacy, Year 2 have explored a new story, “The Heart and the Bottle” by Oliver Jeffers. The children have been looking at character descriptions and emotions, considering how to develop and improve language within a sentence. In Maths, the children have revisited addition and subtraction strategies. Then worked on applying this knowledge to missing number problems and using mathematical language. The children greatly enjoyed African Dancing on Monday and were tapping their toes for the whole day.

In Science, the children conducted an experiment; using their knowledge of materials and their properties, they investigated which material would be best to wrap a parcel. They discovered that tracing paper was transparent so did not keep the present a secret, but sugar paper was opaque and easy to fold – a good alternative to wrapping paper! For this half term, inspired by their topic, Italy, Madame James has become Signora James and started teaching the children Italian!

### **PTA Events**

I was reminded this week that it is only 3 weeks until our Christmas Fair! With this in mind, we are launching our call for items for the fair next week. All your help and donations make a huge difference to our school and the experiences our children have at St Christopher’s, we truly appreciate all that you do to support us. Please see the last page of the newsletter of what donations are needed. We thank you for your support in making our Christmas Fair spectacular.

This weeks lunch time superstar is George T for impressing Mrs Taylor by trying all the different desserts. Well done George!

Top of the leader board this week is **Donaldson** House with a superb total of **860** House points. Congratulations to **Donaldson** house.

### **Merit Awards:**

Roberta PdM, Anthony X, Chris X, Muzhi D, Ethan R, Angelina Ö, Aaron E, Polly S, Thomas M, Jamie BR, Teddy S and Sam B

Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

## Work of the Week

In Science this week, Year 1 have been investigating the properties of materials.  
 Charlie L in Jupiter looked at a variety of objects in the classroom and then found properties for each object.

★ ✓ Wow Charlie!  
 You have found  
 a lot of objects  
 Everyday Materials and their  
 properties

L.O 1/11/23  
 To know the properties of  
 materials.

Name: charlie Date: 11/11/23



Touch some different objects to see what they feel like.  
 List the objects in the first column, then choose two words to describe each one.

Object	Word 1	Word 2
<small>pencil</small> Pencil	hard	smooth
door	hard	shiny
<small>dice</small> dice	dull	soft
Marble	<small>(hard)</small> (glass)	water proof
<small>elastic</small> elastic	stretchy	rubber
toy	fluffy	soft
car	<small>(hard)</small> metal	smooth
book	metal	shiny
fabric	fluffy	stretchy
bed	smooth	dull

## Nursery and Pre-Reception News

Welcome back to Nursery!

We hope you all had a wonderful half term, and we are so excited to be back for this jam-packed festive term! The children have come back well and settled in beautifully.

In Nursery this week our focus has been on Fireworks and Bonfire night. We have had lots of sparkly activities for the children to do. In Blue room we have been making blow painting bonfire pictures, which look awesome! In Green room the children have been practising recognising and writing their names and decorating them in glitter. In Yellow room we have made shape rocket fireworks, practising our colours and shape names. In the kitchen the children have been cooking up a storm making star biscuits linked with our focus story this week "Look Up!" by Nathan Bryon.

The children have learnt how to be safe around fireworks and that if we have a fire the people that would help us are firefighters.

We look forward to learning all about Remembrance Day next week. If you are venturing out this weekend to a firework display, we hope you have a lovely time!



## Reception News

**BANG! WHIZZ! POP! FIZZ! WHOOSH!**

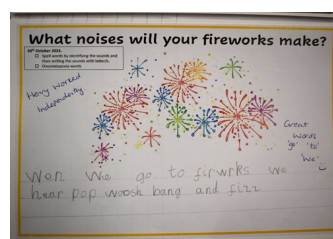
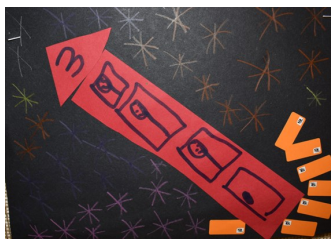
All things 'Fireworks' have been happening in Reception this week. We started by looking at the story of Bonfire Night and discovered the history behind the celebration. We looked at where the Houses of Parliament are in London and talked about how Guy Fawkes hid the gunpowder and was captured by the Kings' guards.

We followed this theme on by looking at how fireworks explode in the sky, noting the colours, shapes and sounds they make. Then using our phonics, we wrote the sounds they made. Some of us were able to write in full sentences too. Top Job Reception.

In maths we have been counting forwards and backwards from 20 and putting the numbers in the correct order on a number line. We have worked hard to form the numbers correctly too.

Lots of 'firework' art has been undertaken and lots of glitter has been used too! We are a very sparkly year group! We also spoke about fire safety too. We all know not to go near fire or fireworks as they are hot and can burn us.

The best part of our week was on Friday when we made sparklers that we could eat! Yes, breadsticks were dipped in chocolate then we put some sprinkles on top! Yummy, they were delicious. Happy bonfire night Reception!



**The Foundation Team**

## Dates for the Diary

### Tuesday 7th November– Sharing Our Learning

*All parents welcome at 8.30am-8.55am. Please enter via the back gate and depart through the front door.*



### Wednesday 8th November - Year 2 singing at the Garden of Remembrance



*Year 2 parents are welcome to attend the event at Bourne Hall, please arrive by 11am.*



### Monday 13th November - Odd Socks Day

*As part of Anti-bullying week and to celebrate uniqueness .*



**Mathletics:** Congratulations to Ryan P and Anna M for your Bronze Certificates.

Congratulations to Estrella W, Amelia H, Lucy S, Sam B, Thomas M, Caleb W, Benjamin W, Thomas B, Rory L, Chloe B, Ivan C, Luca G, James M, Ethan W, Juliana RM for your Gold Certificates.



### Spotty Box: Awards for success outside school:

**Michaela S** for outstanding effort at Esher Tennis Academy Camp

**Benjamin W** scored 5 tries at the Chipstead Rugby Festival playing for Mini John Fisher Team.

**Edward F** earned star of the week for outstanding effort and skills and Sutton and Epsom RFC. Made his promise and was invested into the Beaver Scout Colony.

**Florence P** for excellence in art awarded by Mrs Degg for her creativity and skills

**Amelia H** completed the Big Wild Walk for nature's recovery

**James M** earned star of the day for amazing listening and working super hard at Star-Tastic Camps. Earned Stage 2 swimming certificate



**Our busy PTA elves are working flat out, but we need your help!**

*The countdown has officially begun to the St Christopher's Christmas Fair and we are kindly asking for luxury bottle donations, toys, books, games, or unwanted gifts (in good/excellent condition).*

There will be plastic crates under the porch at drop off & pick up from Monday 6th November, where all donations will be greatly received!!



# Christmas Craft Fair

Sat 25th Nov  
2 - 5pm