



Weekly News

Friday 11th October 2024

Dear Parents,



A huge thank you to all the families who supported us this week for our Harvest Festival. The children truly impressed us with their incredible singing, dancing, and poetry recitals. It was heartwarming to see the church filled with families, grandparents, and friends, all celebrating harvest together as a community.

A special thanks to the army of parents who helped on Thursday and Friday, ensuring the children walked safely to the church. A particularly big thank you to the parents who came along on Thursday as many of them did multiple journeys to and from the school to escort the children safely along the pavements. We are

also deeply grateful for your generous donations to the Epsom Foodbank, and thank you for your contributions at the church, we raised an amazing £317.30 for Save the Children Fund.

Year One News

In Literacy this week, the children have been immersed in the tale of Hansel and Gretel. They enjoyed making story maps to help retell the story, creating beautiful illustrations accompanied by sentences that focused on using capital letters and full stops. Later in the week, the children explored the different characters and wrote character descriptions using a range of adjectives.

In Maths, the focus has been on counting back from a given number. The children had lots of fun creating collage rockets and counting them down to blast off!

In Science, we continued our exploration of the senses, focusing this week on hearing. During a sound walk, the children listened for a variety of sounds, from birds tweeting to footsteps. They also experimented with the loud and soft tones of different musical instruments.

To celebrate Black History Month, we looked at the work of the author Malorie Blackman, specifically her story "We are going to find a monster!" Inspired by this, the children created their own monsters and used descriptive language to bring them to life. In Art, the children created stunning leaves, incorporating fine details and capturing the beauty of autumnal colours.

Year Two News



In literacy, the children have been busy re-writing their own versions of 'On My Way Home' by Jill Murphy. They explored a variety of synonyms for "said" and focused on using speech, exclamation, and question marks to bring their stories to life.

In Maths, the children have been working on column method for addition, with a particular focus on carrying over tens. The children have also revised telling the time and applied their knowledge to solve word problems.

Our visit to the Poppy Factory was an incredible experience. The children were proud representatives of St Christopher's, and the Poppy Factory staff were delighted to hear about the unique traditions our students observe. The children were excited to see the royal wreaths and took great pride in helping to make poppies that will be sold nationwide. They also enjoyed learning about the Royal British Legion and the history behind this important organisation. They even sang "In Flanders Fields". It is safe to say there wasn't a dry eye in the house!

A special well done to Jamie today for writing the most beautiful Autumn Poem, all by himself. You can read Jamie's poem further down in the newsletter.

Sickness Bug

I am sure most parents will now be aware that we have increasing numbers of children and staff becoming ill with the sickness bug currently making its way through St Christopher's. As a reminder, if your child shows any symptoms of illness or is feeling unwell, please do not send them to school. In cases of vomiting or diarrhoea, children must stay home for at least 48 hours after their last episode. Whilst we understand the pressures of balancing work, if children come back too soon this greatly increases the risk of spreading the virus. Your cooperation is vital in keeping our school community healthy. Thank you for your understanding.

Gate Safety

We kindly ask all parents to be mindful of gate safety when entering or leaving the school. Please ensure that gates are not wedged open to allow others to follow, as this compromises the school's security measures. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep the school safe.

Parents Evening

We will be holding our parents' evenings in the week before half term where parents are invited to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss how well your child has settled into the new academic year. We look forward to seeing you then.

This week's lunch time superstar is Kit, the kitchen team have noticed your remarkable manners when receiving your lunch. Well done Kit!

Top of the leader board this week is **Ahlberg** House with a superb total of **2022** House points. Congratulations to **Ahlberg** house.

Merit Awards:

Austin F, Adam Z, Chloe L, Heidi L, Daniel G, Luigi DSC, Harry P, Oscar M, Chloe B, Luca G, Arthur S-A, Sebastian C, James M and Charlie L.

Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

An Autumn Poem by Jamie in Year 2

Foxes and hedgehogs hunting for food under the moonlit night.

And bats snatch at flies beneath the night sky.

And the leaves start to change their colours.

It Is Autumn!

The leaves start to fall down.

The squirrels start to hide their nuts.

And the nights get colder.

It is Autumn time!

Halloween is coming so get ready to be frightened!

You can dress up. A scary thing.

And you can carve faces in pumpkins, so much fun.

And the time goes backwards.

Such a confusing thing.

**And the flowers close or die out, that is sad but it is just how the
world is.**

You can find conkers on the ground too.

It is great to see how wonderful Autumn can be.



Nursery and Pre-Reception News

We have had another fantastic fun filled week in Nursery. Our focus story of the week has been 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson. The children were very excited to get stuck into their learning activities as The Gruffalo is a favourite with our children. We have been busy practising counting in our calm room and using a die to find out how many purple prickles the Gruffalo needs. Using their fine motor skills we then cut out the correct number of purple prickles. The delicious smell of 'Gruffalo Crumble' wafted through the Nursery. The children peeled and chopped apples and pears to go into their crumble and enjoyed a slice at the snack table, how yummy! Thinking about the Gruffalo story, the children have been creating their own story maps, showing the order in which, the mouse meets different woodland animals. We talked about how stories have a beginning, middle and end. Throughout the week the children have been superstars at practising their Harvest festival poem and song. Learning all of the lyrics and actions. A huge well done to all of the Pre-Reception children, who were fabulous at walking to the church for the Harvest festival. They all sat and listened beautifully throughout and their hard work truly paid off when performing.



Reception News

Bring in the Harvest! Reception have been learning about all things 'Harvest'. They have worked very hard to learn all the songs and perform their poem expertly. Well done Reception, we are very proud of you.

In Maths we created a greengrocer's shop and priced up the fruit and vegetables. We looked at some of the coins and made sure we counted out the right money using 1p coins. After this we used the vegetables to measure and compare their sizes. We discovered that we had several carrots that were both big, medium and small.

In Literacy we continue to learn and retain new phonic sounds, practising their formation too. We use our sounds very well when writing, listening very carefully to each word and then breaking it down into sounds.

Art has inspired us to create some clay hedgehogs as well as the story 'Leaf Man'. Here we collected the leaves we wanted to use to create our own 'Leaf man / lady'. We even gave them names. Another busy, exciting and fun filled week in Reception!



Dates for the Diary

Please remember due to parents evening there is no Sing & Sign, yoga, orchestra, film, playdough or construction club next week. If your child is booked into B/C Owls sessions after their teacher led club , we will automatically book them in for session A unless you advise otherwise

Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th Parents Evenings

Friday 18th October -Children to come to school dressed in orange & black

Friday 18th—PTA Halloween Disco



*Nursery, Pre-Reception, and Reception 3.30pm -4.15pm
Year One and Year Two 4.30 pm - 5.15pm.*



Half Term – 21st October-1st November 2024

Please remember the office closes at 4pm. If you have a message for the Owls team please call their number 01372 846988. Thank you

