



Weekly News

Friday 15th November 2024

Dear Parents,

Remembrance Day

The whole school came together on Monday morning at 11am and paid a heartfelt tribute to all those who gave their lives for our freedom. The sight of poppy petals floating down in silence coupled with the solemn response to the poem "For the Fallen", created a reflective and respectful atmosphere. Year 2's rendition of "In Flanders Fields" added an emotionally layer to proceedings. The children's participation and attentiveness showed a deep respect for the significance of the day. It's moment like these that not only bring a school community closer but also foster a sense of empathy, remembrance, and gratitude among the school community. A truly memorable and touching way to honour Remembrance Day.

Odd Socks Day

Odd Socks Day on Tuesday marked the start of a national Anti-Bullying Week in the UK. The school was filled with children and staff wearing odd socks to celebrate everyone's uniqueness. This year, the theme was "Choose Respect" and we had a lovely assembly listening to a story about respect and discussing how we can show respect to our friends and in class. Year 2 went on to discuss how it is possible to have a disagreement with someone, in a respectful manner and still remain friends. Good job Year 2!

Year One News

Year 1 has had another busy week! They began by reading *Goldilocks and The Three Bears*, and Mr. Bear asked the children to create a 'Wanted' poster to help find Goldilocks. The class used adjectives to describe her—Tabitha B called her cheeky and sneaky, while Oscar M said she was bad and brave. Later, in the week the children put their instruction-writing skills to work by following their own steps to make (and eat) porridge!

In Maths, the children have been introduced to the Part Whole Model. They sorted objects into two parts and used this knowledge to figure out how many were in each part and how to find the whole. Caitlyn M challenged herself to write an addition number sentence based on the model—well done!

In Science, the children explored their sense of smell with a "smelly hunt" around school. They discovered that the kitchen smelled delicious, but the toilets... not so much! They also brought in mystery smelly pots they'd created at home and used their noses to identify the scents. Alex described ginger as "hot and spicy"—well done for such a great observation!

In PE, the children have been focused on ball skills, including throwing, aiming, and catching. Special congratulations to Harry P, who threw the ball to a teammate on the bench to help win the game for his team. Finally, the children have started rehearsing their lines for the Christmas show. They're beginning to remember when to say their parts and deliver them with expression. Please continue to practise at home!



Year Two News

In English this week, the children have been focusing on crafting captivating story openers to grab the reader's attention, while also practising structuring their stories with a clear beginning, middle, and end. Grace shared a creative idea, starting her story with a character opener about a miniature green dragon with delicate wings! It was wonderful to see the children's imaginations shine as they brought their ideas to life on the page.

In Maths, we've been exploring fractions. Ethan demonstrated great skill in finding quarters of different amounts, demonstrating both a strong grasp of fractions and impressive attention to detail.

Our coding lesson was another highlight, with George excelling at debugging an algorithm, showing keen problem-solving skills.

In Mercury Class, the children were busy preparing for the festive season by making miniature Christmas trees. Sebastian displayed a fantastic growth mindset as he persevered through the tricky task of winding pipe cleaners, ultimately succeeding after a great deal of effort and determination.

We are so proud of all the students for their creativity, resilience, and hard work across all lessons this week!

Last call for LAMDA lessons – being next term!

A timetable will be drawn up shortly - so please do get in touch if you would like your child to participate in these lessons. More information below.

After 30 years of classroom teaching, I am delighted to be venturing into the peripatetic world of teaching Speech and Drama lessons, taking me back to my roots. I am very excited to be able to offer these lessons to St Christopher's Year 1 & 2 children starting this January. These lessons will be similar to how a visiting music teacher works – going from school to school to teach. Lessons will follow the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) syllabus. Like music lessons, children can embark on their LAMDA journey with the option to take exams that provide recognised and respected qualifications – they can even be converted into UCAS points to support an application to university in the future, should the children continue with their LAMDA journey! LAMDA lessons develop a child's confidence and creativity, and their physical and vocal awareness. Learning to stand and speak in front of an audience from a young age is an impressive skill; it will stay with them for life. It also benefits young pupils in an interview type situation. Conversation skills will be developed, diction improved and confidence to perform will increase through these weekly lessons. These bookable lessons will be taking place on Mondays during the school day, rotating to ensure that no child misses the same 30-minute school lesson each week. There are likely to be 10 lessons each term, set in our outdoor classroom, a perfect space for creativity and expression; children will be escorted to and from this location. Children will participate in small groups of three at a cost of £8.50 each. Booking arrangements will be made directly through me and not via the school. If you wish to know more or to sign up for a place, please contact me at figuresofspeechlessons@gmail.com Please note – Drama Club will continue to run. This club does not follow a syllabus but through games, exercises and improvisation helps to develop confidence, voice production and performance skills. Lizzie Russell BA/PGCE

Illness

I am sorry to be the bearer of bad news but just as we thought we were through the winter bug virus ... it has returned. I would just like to alert parents that we have had a few cases of the winter vomiting bug in school this week with the typical symptoms of a high temperature and vomiting. Please do not bring children into school who are displaying symptoms or are feeling unwell. We will, of course, be making sure the children are washing their hands on a regular basis.

Uniform Reminder

Just a gentle reminder to parents that if children wear earrings to school, they must be studs and not hoops or dangly earrings for health and safety reasons. Thank you for your understanding with this matter.

PTA Christmas Fair 2024 Saturday 23rd November 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Just a reminder that the PTA's amazing Christmas Fair is only a week away.

The fair would not be a success without parents or grandparents volunteering to look after a stall. No previous experience required!

Book your 30-minute slot at: <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/1011657160069/true#/invitation>

Thank you once again to everyone for all your support in making this Christmas Fair a success, it is hugely appreciated.

This weeks lunch time superstar is Irina for for brilliantly trying new foods and impressively eating them all up! Well done !

Top of the leader board this week is **Ahlberg** House with a superb total of **2822** House points. Congratulations to **Ahlberg** house.

Merit Awards:

Remy K, Ivan C, Polly S, Caitlyn M, Ethan W, Florence P, Rowan BR, Nola T, Ralph C, Nola T, Julius S and Hattie B

Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

Work of the Week

This week Year 1 have been retelling the story of Goldilocks and the three bears. Goldilocks enjoyed the porridge so much that she asked Year 1 write her a set of instructions so that she can make some more. Henry used his beautiful handwriting to write a set of instructions that included 'bossy' (imperative). He thought carefully about his time words at the beginning of his sentences too. Well done!

11.11.24

L.O To use adjectives in sentences

Goldilocks is cheeky.

Goldilocks is wearing a green dress
and she looks buffoon.

She broke ~~baibee~~ her green chair.

She ate ~~baibee~~ her sweet porridge.

Goldilocks slept in ~~baibee~~ her small
bed.



Well done!

Your next step is:

conjunction 'and'

Nursery and Pre-Reception News

Nursery have had a wonderful week; our focus this week was on why we wear poppies. The Nursery was filled with wonderful poppy artwork that the children had worked hard on at home over the weekend. Nursery and Pre-Reception were stars during our Remembrance Assembly. They showed incredible respect as they participated in the whole school two-minute silence making the teachers very proud. The children had fun exploring different ways to create their own poppies. With the help of poppy pictures for reference the children created poppies from cupcake cases, red glitter, black paint, and green pipe cleaners. They also enjoyed using loose objects in red, black, and green to create poppies in frames, and had the opportunity to take a photo with the iPad of their work. In the Kitchen this week the children have been working together to weigh and mix ingredients to make their own poppy biscuits which they enjoyed on the snack table. In our creative room the children have been busy making their Christmas tree decorations ahead of our annual tree dressing assembly. With the help of a grown up, the children watched as their decoration was put together using the glue-gun. They learnt all about how the glue is very hot and why it's important for grownups to help with this job, our calm room has been filled with Christmas music and dancing as the children prepare for our Christmas show. The children were very excited to wear their odd socks on Tuesday as part of our anti-bullying day. Nursery and Pre-Reception discussed how they could be kind. We decided that sharing, using kind manners and good listening were very important.



Reception News

In Reception the week started thinking about Poppy day. We painted pictures of Poppies and thought about the meaning behind them. We all took part in the 2-minute silence and remembered.

Tuesday was very odd! We all wore odd socks to school and we talked about the meaning behind it. Following this we read the story 'The Smeds & The Smoos' by Julia Donaldson. Here we discussed and celebrated our differences. We completed some writing about the story too. We are super writers!

In Maths we looked at number 0-20 and then calculated 1 more. We used a tens frame to help us. Our teachers think we are 'Marvellous Mathematicians'.

We continue with our phonics and will soon be looking at 'double' sounds. Lots of reading and blending practise every day and we even wrote some very tricky cvc words on our own! We are very good at writing!

As you can see Reception are Marvellous Mathematicians, Rockets at Reading, Winning Writers, Amazing Artists and Fabulous Friends! Top job Reception.



The Foundation Team

Dates for the Diary

Reminder - No drama club on Monday 18th November

Make up class on 2nd December

Tuesday 19th November - Sharing our learning

Please accompany your child to their classroom after drop off. Departure will be at 8.55am via the front door

Saturday 23rd November - PTA Christmas Fair 2pm-5pm

Come and explore at 'Elfridges store', Santas Grotto and good luck in the amazing Christmas Fair Raffle!



Mathletics: Congratulations to Sebastian C for your Silver Certificate

Congratulations to Izzy H, Mateo B, Reva M for your Gold Certificates



Spotty Box: Awards for success outside school:

Heidi L - Star-Tastic Gymnastics Copper 3 certificate

Austin F - Academy Sport 5m swim certificate

Adam Z - Absolute Martial Arts yellow grade

Faith H - Star-Tastic Gymnastics Silver 2 & working towards level 3 certificates

