



## Weekly News

Friday 13th September 2024

Dear Parents,

### **Excellent News**

We are delighted to announce that St Christopher's has been named a finalist for the prestigious ISA Award for Excellence and Innovation in Early Years! This award celebrates schools that foster a love of learning through creative and engaging approaches, encouraging children to become confident, curious, and resilient individuals. At St Christopher's, we aim to nurture independent, highly engaged, and motivated learners by being a centre of excellence for early childhood and focusing on the priorities of children, curriculum, and community. We're thrilled to receive this recognition!



### **Parent Information Evenings**

It was wonderful to see so many Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 parents at our parent information evenings this week. These events are always a fantastic opportunity to meet our teachers, connect with other parents, and engaged with members of our PTA. Please keep an eye out for the presentations, which will be emailed to parents shortly. Thank you for your continued support!

### **Do Share I'll Listen (DSL)**

One of my most important roles at school is that of a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSL). On Wednesday, we talked to the children with St Christopher's very own child friendly interpretations; "Do Share I'll Listen" because it is mandatory that children know who the DSL is. Mrs Fisher is our Deputy DSL (DDSL) and we talked to the children about being able to come and see us at any time to talk about any worries that they may have.

### **Year One News**

The children in Year 1 have had an exciting week exploring Traditional tales. They created masks of various characters using different materials and showcased some wonderful writing, imagining what each character might say in a speech bubble. In maths, the children have been fully engaged with numbers and counting, using a variety of objects both inside the classroom and outdoors to enhance their learning experience. In science, the focus was on learning about external parts of the body. The children enjoyed drawing and cutting out their own feet and comparing the sizes. This led to an interesting inquiry: "Does the oldest child have the biggest feet?" In Geography, the children learned about the countries of the United Kingdom, along with their capital cities and flags enhancing their understanding of the world around them. Well done, Year 1!

## **Year Two News**

This week in Year 2, we have picked up the pace, and the children are settling into their routines with ease. They are now independently selecting their own reading books and organising their belongings efficiently, which is wonderful to see. In Literacy, the children have explored the Lauren Child version of Goldilocks. The children considered which adjectives best describe the character and used the word "Because" to justify their choices. They were also introduced to the concept of the "bare bones" of a story to help them gain a clear overview of the plot.

In Maths, Year 2 focused on partitioning numbers and reinforcing the use of base 10. Using practical apparatus, the children explored how two-digit numbers can be made up of tens and ones, learning how to transfer amounts and combine them effectively. In science, the children examined the properties of well-known materials and introduced new vocabulary such as opaque, translucent, and rigid, which the children enjoyed discussing and applying. In topic, the children have been learning to use compass points and directional vocabulary to navigate between different landmarks in Lond, further enhancing their geographical skills.

What a busy week!

## **Individual School Photos**

Individual School Photos will be taken in school on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September; parents may choose whether they would like their child to wear summer or winter uniform when having their photograph taken.

## **Uniform**

Please could we ask that all uniform is clearly marked and labelled with children's names, including socks please! As the weather is variable at the moment, with temperatures dropping significantly this week; parents are reminded that during this first half term, you have a choice of wearing either summer or winter uniform. Children should have their fleeces and waterproof coats with them every day; however, if the weather is particularly cold, they can wear Navy winter coats.

## **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

We are excited to announce that our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning will be held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September, immediately after drop-off in the hall. We warmly invite parents to join us for coffee and cake in support of this wonderful cause. Cake donations are very welcome (please avoid anything containing nuts and sesame) and can be brought to the hall that morning. Members of the PTA will be there to host, and class teachers will pop by throughout the morning to greet and chat with parents. We look forward to seeing you there!

This weeks lunch time superstar is Tabitha for trying a yummy dessert for the very first time. Well done!

Merit Awards:

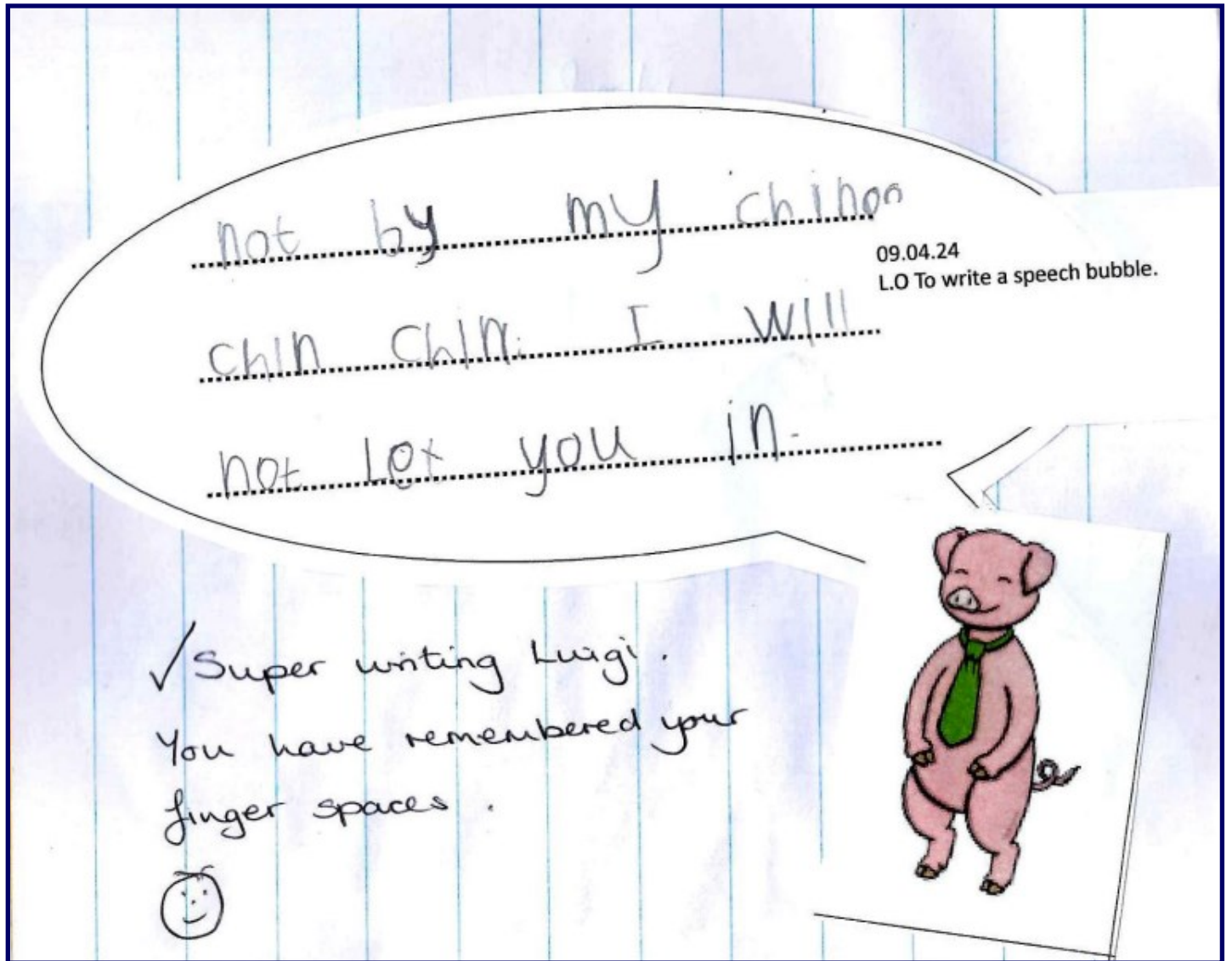
Leonardo D, Laksh P, Miran F, Sylvie A, Lucy S, Faith H, Tabitha B, Mateo B, Sunny Z, Thomas B, Nola T,  
Andrew L

Best wishes

Mrs Grehan

## Work of the Week


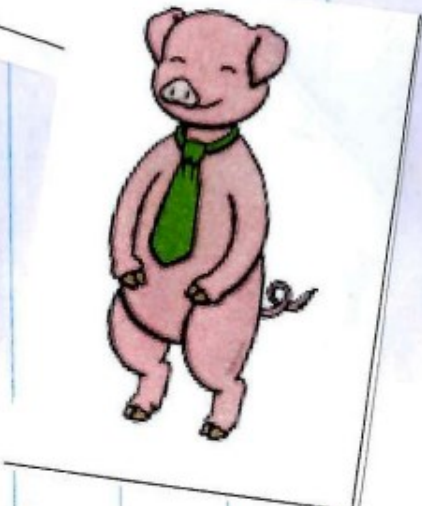
Year 1 have been looking at the characters in traditional tales. Luigi has written an excellent speech bubble for one of the Three Little Pigs. Well done Luigi.



not by my chin  
chin chin. I will  
not let you in.

09.04.24  
L.O To write a speech bubble.

✓ Super writing Luigi.  
You have remembered your  
finger spaces.



## Nursery and Pre-Reception News

Welcome Nursery and Pre- Reception!

We hope you all had a wonderful summer break, and we are so excited to be back. We have a jam-packed Autumn Term ahead. We want to say a huge welcome to those children who have joined us this term. They have all been fantastic! They are settling in well and are getting use to the new routines and expectations of our Nursery here at St Christopher's, helping our friends, tidying up and good manners have shone through! This past week and a half have all been about focusing on settling and getting to know each other. The children have been able to freely explore the Nursery, play and get to know one other as well as the adults in the setting. Our activities have included lots of colouring, painting, water play, yoga, and playdoh to help those fine motor skills develop! We have had the opportunity to pick some apples from our apple tree, and we have made delicious apple crumbles in our Kitchen. We shared photos of our families in group time and noticed how we are all different! We are looking forward to getting into the new term and all the learning we are going to be doing. This terms topic will be "I wonder what's special" .....



## Reception News

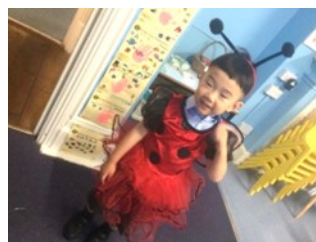
We are thrilled to welcome the children back after the summer break, see their wonderful big smiles and all looking so smart in their new uniforms.

We have been playing games to get settled into our new classes, welcoming children who are new to St Christopher's, having assemblies with Mrs Grehan, finding our way to new areas, meeting new adults, including a brand new French teacher Mdme Poole, and learning some new classroom rules. It's a lot to take in!

The children have all had a try at writing their names, saying some phonic sounds and remembering some numbers too. They have even done their first piece of writing in a special 'Ready to Write' book. We are very impressed with what they have remembered from Nursery.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed dressing up and playing in our home corners. They've drawn super pictures of where they live too. We have also been decorating hats with collage, using all different types of construction, dressing teddies in different clothes and finger-painting rainbows. We have also explored our new outside area under the porch and watched a terrific thunderstorm.

It really has been action-packed!



**The Foundation Team**

## Dates for the Diary

Monday 16th September - Clubs start this week (except for tennis)

Monday 23rd September - Pre-Reception Parents Information Evening 7pm

Wednesday 25th September - PTA second hand uniform sale 2.30pm– 4pm

Friday 27th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning 8.30am



**Mathletics:** Congratulations to Martha VA, Polly S, Georgina GD, Tristan T, Izzy H, JT C, Henry W, Chloe B, Daniel G, Rory L, Charlie L, Mateo B for receiving your Bronze certificate.



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

Sam B - Mini Sheers Festival winner & JDFS Star of the Week

Thomas B, Vihann P, Ryan P, Kian Y - Wining their first match playing for the Banstead Hawks

Georgina GD - Sea Badger Award - The Heart of Gold Award

Estrella W - Stage 4 swimming certificate

Tristan T - Summer reading challenge certificate

Faith H - Star-Tastic certificate for Level 2 bar and beam & working towards Silver Two

Faith H - Completing Stabilisers off course

Florence P - Water skills Level 3 certificate

Max P - 10 meters swimming certificate

