



## Weekly News

Friday 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents,

### **Award Winning Art at St Christopher's**

We are thrilled to announce that St Christopher's won three prestigious awards at the National ISA Art Award Ceremony last week!

- **First Place:** Darcy (sister of Quinn and Ford) took the spot in the Key Stage 1 2D Individual Art category. Her stunning sketch of St Christopher's School, created entirely from memory, wowed the judges. Inspired by the work of Stephen Wiltshire, Darcy's piece was brought to life using watercolour and pen. (Just by way of explanation, this competition started last year, so it sometimes works out that the child has left St Christopher's by the time we get to the National Awards competition as it has to go through a regional process first).
- **Second Place:** Our Nursery received second place in the 3D Group Art category with their beautiful lantern, "Shades of the Rainbow", a vibrant and creative display.
- **Highly Commended:** Year 2 earned a Highly Commended award in the Textiles Group category for their felt masterpiece, "Felt like Mondrian".



We are incredibly proud of all our talented children, whose hard work and creativity continue to inspire us. A special thank you to the wonderful Mrs Degg for her guidance and dedication, leading St Christopher's to national recognition once again!

### **Christmas Tree Decorating Tradition**

Christmas has well and truly arrived at St Christopher's! The school is glowing with sparkly lights, bringing festive cheer to every corner. One of the highlights of our holiday season is our much-loved Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly – a tradition that can only be described as pure joy.

This cherished event holds a special place in our hearts. Every child in the school creates their own unique decoration and takes part in adorning our beautiful tree. Watching the tree come to life with the creativity and spirit of each child is a magical moment, and it perfectly captures the essence of Christmas at St Christopher's!

### **Year One News**

Year One is buzzing with excitement as rehearsals for our Christmas Nativity are in full swing! The children are doing a fantastic job with their lines and acting skills on stage, and we can't wait for you to see their hard work come to life.

In Literacy this week, the children have been enchanted by the story of The Magic Porridge Pot. The children enjoyed rewriting the story, adding vivid adjectives to bring their narratives to life. Cora impressed us with her description of "the pretty girl running into the scary woods where she saw an old lady." To further immerse themselves in the tale, the children used their creative skills to craft stick characters and brought the story to life through drama.

In Maths, the focus has been on mastering number bonds – an essential foundation for mental arithmetic. The children have sung songs and used practical tools such as part-whole models and ten frames to deepen their understanding. A special well done to Luigi and Tristan, who have already mastered their number bonds to 10 and 20.

In Science, Year One have been exploring seasonal changes, using the outdoor environment to spot signs of Autumn (even if it feels more like Winter!). The children created beautiful season wheels to illustrate the unique features of each season. Sophia's wheel was particularly impressive, showcasing neat and accurate depictions of trees through the seasons.

### **Year Two News**

Year Two have been building on the themes of Odd Socks Day last week and exploring why bullying happens. The children acted out scenarios and engaged in thoughtful discussions on how to respond if they encounter bullying.

In literacy, the whole school has been busy writing stories, inspired by David McKee's Mr Benn. Each child created their own adventure for Mr Benn, choosing a costume from the dressing-up shop and crafting a story that included an exciting dilemma. There's been a strong emphasis on personal feedback to improve their writing. Highlights included Ivan's skilful use of tricky punctuation, such as speech and exclamation marks, and Ryan's brilliant time connectives to open his sentences.

In Maths, this week's focus was fractions, with challenging tasks on finding thirds of shapes and amounts, as well as solving worded problems. A special mention goes to Zhibo for impressively converting fractions at this stage!

In Science, our learning continues! This week, we explored the differences between man-made and natural materials, sparking some great discussions.

In Art, the children had a creative week completing their batik projects with Mrs Degg and putting the finishing touches on their festive decorations. Well done, Year Two!

### **Sharing Our Learning**

It was truly fantastic to see so many parents join us for our Sharing Our Learning event this week. The atmosphere was filled with pride and excitement as our children eagerly showcased their learning. Thank you for taking the time to celebrate the children's efforts; there was a wonderful buzz in the air!

### **Cold Weather Uniform**

The cold weather really has arrived with a blast this week. We would encourage all children to wear navy winter coats over their uniform and to have hats, gloves, and scarves for the playground. Also, children can wear their tracksuit joggers over the top of their uniform at playtime and lunchtime. Could we ask that all items are named.

### **Staffing News**

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Bhavna Bhargava to St Christopher's. Mrs Bhargava will be joining our amazing admin team in the front office. I know you will make her feel very welcome when you meet her.

### **PTA Christmas Fair**

I would warmly welcome all our families to join us for the Christmas Fair tomorrow from 2pm until 5pm. It promises to be wonderful afternoon filled with festive fun, holiday cheer and Christmas magic! We can't wait to see you there!

This weeks lunch time superstar is Beatrice for showing the catering team such wonderful manners and lovely compliments regarding the lunches. Well done Beatrice !

Best wishes,

Mrs Grehan

*"St Christopher's – the best possible start through excellence, empathy and endeavour."*

## Work of the Week

Year 2 have been writing stories with a clear dilemma. This is Estrella's alternative version of a Mr Benn story

LO: To write an alternative version of the

Mr Benn 20.11.24 (I) ★

One bright sunny morning, Mr Benn wrapped up his striped tie, buttoned up his blazer and put his bowler hat on. He ~~opened~~ started to stroll down the block. A glass some time he got there, he stepped in to the magical shop. He thought to himself "what should I wear?" Just then he spotted a diver's outfit. Suddenly, a man popped up. So Mr Benn asked "can I have a <sup>(costume)</sup> with this scuba diver costume?" "Yes" answered the man. Mr Benn put the costume on, ~~with~~ and leaped out. He started to swim and spotted a baby dolphin. He swam towards it, it asked "what's wrong?" the dolphin told him "my Mum is trapped in that net!" Mr Benn saw some old ~~shoes~~ on the floor, he grabbed <sup>bed</sup> them and set the dolphin out.

Can you add an adjective here?

Can you think of a better word than said?

Thank you! ✓ said the man  
again. "Your welcome. ~~She~~  
replied Mr ~~BEN~~ He had to  
go home now so he closed  
his ~~eyes~~ eyes. When he  
opened his eyes, Out of <sup>CPuff</sup> nowhere  
a ~~purple~~ smoke ~~was~~ was around  
him. When the smoke went  
away, he was in the changing  
~~room~~ room so he put on his  
normal ~~clothes~~ and ~~she~~ happily  
set off home like a kangaroo!

What a fabulous story! Your story had  
a clear beginning, middle and  
end. Plus your dilemma was resolved!  
(3hp) Great editing.

↑ Can you add the power of 3  
somewhere in your story?

## Nursery and Pre-Reception News

What a chilly week we have had in Nursery. Our focus this week has been on cold, icy, snowy weather! The weather hasn't stopped the children from venturing outdoors. We decided we wanted to help the birds now that the weather is changing, so we made some lovely bird feeders to put in our garden. We made our own binoculars too and carried out some bird watching using photos to identify the different types of birds we could see in the garden. The children blew us away with how well they can put on their coats, hats, and gloves all by themselves. We have had lots of practise this week and they are doing a great job at staying warm. We learnt that another way to keep warm in this cold weather is to eat a hearty meal, which led us to make a delicious winter vegetable soup in the kitchen, the children loved having a go at chopping the vegetables, stirring in the stock, and blending the ingredients in the food processor. We have been making some lovely headbands in our creative room ready for our school Christmas nativity, they are all going to look fantastic. Finally, we absolutely loved welcoming all our grown ups into Nursery this week for sharing our learning, we hope you had as much fun as we did. Finally, on Friday we got to enjoy our Tree Dressing assembly! We hung our decorations up on the St Christopher's Tree while singing carols, the festive season has well and truly begun!

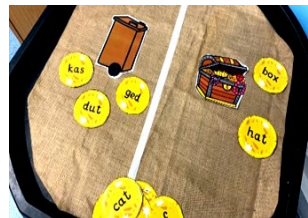


## Reception News

Christmas has officially begun in Reception! We discovered our tree tucked away in the attic and have enjoyed carefully decorating it with tinsel and baubles. The festive fun continued as we created stockings with collage materials to hang over the fireplace, crafted spiky holly, and wrote our own Christmas books.

We also been busy making our 2024 decorations ready to hang on the St Christopher's tree during Friday's special assembly. When we come to the Christmas fair on Saturday, we'll proudly point out which decorations are ours.

In phonics, we have learnt these sounds j, v, z and x, and begun thinking more about tricky words and even did a special tricky word rap! We even used our phonic skills to write about 'The Magic Porridge Pot' and acted out the story saying, 'Stop little pot, stop!'. Afterwards, we had a porridge tasting session, trying both sweet and salty recipes— can you guess which was the favourite? In Maths, we've built on last week's learning about "one more" by exploring "one less" using practical apparatus. We've also been practising our number formation. What super little learners we are all becoming!



**The Foundation Team**

**We look forward to seeing you at the PTA Christmas Fair tomorrow**



**Dates for the Diary**

**Please note that next week is the last week of clubs**

*All clubs finish on the 28th of November with the exception of Drama which has a make up class on the 2nd December*

For more news and photos follow us on our Instagram page - stchrisepsom

