

St Christopher's EYFS News

Friday 30th September 2022

Happy Birthday!



Callum
Tori
Mrs Carroll



Dates for your Diary

07.10.2022—INSET Day—Both St. Christopher's & Sunflowers will be closed

19.10.2022—FS2 Visit to DTC

21.10.2022—Last day of half term

02.11.2022—FS2 Vision Screening

As ever it has been another busy couple of weeks here at St. Christopher's and Sunflowers as we continue to establish routines and boundaries with the children. We are having great fun getting stuck into our theme, 'Being Me in My World' as we explore our families, our local environment and our own histories. At this time of year, we spend a lot of time encouraging the children to become as independent as possible in selfcare skills. Being able to feed themselves, opening bags and water bottles, taking off shoes, coats and jumpers, are all skills that the children are working hard to master. Also, with FS2 now staying full days and eating lunch in school, we are working hard to practice using a knife and fork.

We appreciate that in a busy household, it may sometimes be easier to do simple tasks for children, the more practise they get the quicker they will become. Any help you can provide at home with these areas, is gratefully received. In the words of Maria Montessori:

'Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed.'

As we move further into the term and with runny noses and sniffles making a reappearance, please help to protect our school community by supporting your child to practise good hand hygiene and to catch coughs and sneezes. Please visit Tapestry for some suggestions for how to help children learn to blow their noses. As ever if your child is unwell, please do not send them in to school and seek medical advice where needed.

Over the last two weeks, we have offered two Parent Workshops to our FS2 families and we hope you have found them useful. We have had some really positive feedback from parents and are exploring what other sessions we can offer to our families, including those in FS1 and Sunflowers.

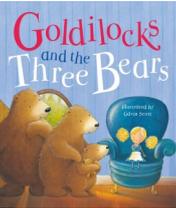
What have we been up to?



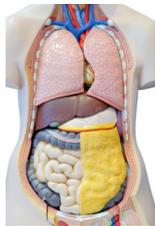
In Sunflowers we have been busy creating our very own self portraits. We looked at ourselves in a mirror and discussed what colour skin and hair we had to help us choose the correct colour resources. We have been keeping in touch with our senses by completing Barefoot Walks, experiencing new textures under our feet, and helping us to improve our balancing skills. In the garden we have been getting our green fingers out watering and caring for the plants



using jugs and watering cans. Inside to challenge our minds we have been piecing together jigsaw puzzles of varying difficulties. We have also begun looking at our My Happy Mind resources by reading the first story complete with props, teaching the children all about mindfulness and wellbeing. In the baby room we have been settling in our new friends, and have been very musical, incorporating instruments into our daily song times.



In FS1 this week we have introduced the story Goldilocks and the Three Bears and we are looking forward to exploring this further over the next week or so. We have continued to work on developing the children's listening skills using games such as sound lottos and Listening Walks. In PE we have been having lots of fun moving to music and listening to instructions in games such as the Traffic Light Game. In the garden the children have been helping to look after the plants by watering them and picking the ripe tomatoes. They have also been busy exploring the water and malleable areas and creating their own models with the junk modelling materials. This week in MyHappyMind the children created their own Busy Brain hats, as they continue to learn about how their brains work.



In FS2 the children have been learning about their bodies and some of their internal organs. They had a lot of fun thinking and talking about how their hearts and lungs work and of course talking about their digestive system! This is always a popular topic in the Early Years. They have also been sharing the wonderful family photos that you have sent in, telling their friends about who is in their family and talking about how they have changed since they were babies. In Maths the children have been introduced to five-frames and learning to use correct mathematical vocabulary when comparing people and objects by height and length. Now that children are attending full days, we are enjoying exploring music, PE and Drawing Club sessions in the afternoons.



A message from Sunflowers & St. Christopher's...

Please be aware that all future editions of our newsletter will be published via Tapestry only. We are trying to do our bit to look after the environment. Check the memo section frequently for updates and information.

myHappymind

If you haven't already, don't forget to explore the myHappymind app using the code on the letter we shared with the last newsletter.



Something to try at home...

Goldilocks and the Three Bears Home Learning Challenge

Tell someone at home the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. What did Goldilocks do in the Bears' house? What happened when the Bears came home? Try using different voices for the different characters!



Daddy, Mummy and Baby Bear each wore a hat when they went for their walk. How many hats did they have altogether? You could use your fingers or draw pictures to help you work out the answer.



Baby Bear loves to sleep in bed with his favourite teddy bear. Do you have a favourite teddy bear? Draw or paint a picture of your teddy bear.

Goldilocks and the Three Bears love eating porridge! Try making some porridge with a grown-up. Try putting some different toppings onto your porridge - you could try a little jam, fruit or honey. Do you like porridge?



Use books or the Internet to find out a fact about real bears. You could draw a picture or write your fact to share with the rest of the group.



Draw a picture of the Three Bears. Can you write the Bears' names? Listen carefully to the letter sounds you can hear in their names and write them down.