

St Christopher's EYFS News

Friday 11th November 2022

★ Happy Birthday! ★

Quinton
Tanaka
Henry B
Megan
Nadine



Dates for your Diary

21.10.2022—Last day of half term

02.11.2022—FS2 Vision Screening

14.11.2022—World Nursery Rhyme Week

18.11.2022—Children in Need

28.11.2022/29.11.2022 St. Christopher's Parent Consultations

30.11.2022—BFBS Christmas Lights Switch On

07.12.2022—FS2 Visit to King's Chapel and The Convent

Since our last newsletter, it has been non stop here at St. Christopher's and Sunflowers. At the end of last half term we welcomed Cpl Husk, who visited St. Christopher's to speak to the children about strangers and 'safer' strangers, that we can approach if we need help. The children have also taken part in a number of virtual story sessions celebrating Black History Month and Diwali. They have absolutely loved joining in with these sessions and it is lovely to be able to offer them these opportunities.

This half term we have started our new theme, 'Celebrating Difference' with a bang and the knowledge organisers have been attached to this newsletter. The children have already found out more about Halloween and Bonfire night and this week have taken part in another virtual story session linked to Remembrance Day. We were visited by Cdr Tom Guy, Commander of British Forces Gibraltar, who took the opportunity to have a look around both settings and meet some of the children and staff.

This week has seen the children take part in a range of STEM based activities as we celebrated World Science Day on Thursday 10th November. We also had a visit from BFBS who came to visit the children for a special project that will air next week. As you can see, it really has been busy and as we look towards Christmas, it gets even busier!

Please make sure you keep checking the Memos section on Tapestry for information about any events taking place in setting.

What have we been up to?



In Sunflowers we have been introducing different celebrations; this started with Guy Fawkes, which the toddlers made some incredible firework artwork for, using glue, salt and paint. We followed on from this with Remembrance Day where the children



have been creating their poppies, some with paint and some with clay, we spoke about why we remember and lots of them commented on how their mummies and daddies would be in the parade. In the mornings we have been singing about Incy Wincy and even washing our own spiders down the water spout in the outdoor water tray. In the afternoon the children have been using wooden blocks to create some amazing structures and puzzles seem to have been a group favourite with children of all ages challenging themselves. Our babies have been enjoying finding their feet and have been spending lots of time playing with the toddlers. We have also welcomed some new faces who have settled in amazingly.

In FS1 the children have been finding out more about Halloween and Bonfire Night and they created some beautiful firework pictures during Free Flow. Over half term our vegetable patch was inundated with caterpillars and they have munched their way through all of the broccoli and cabbage we had been growing. The children have been fascinated by them and this has led us to find out more about them and to share stories such as The Very Hungry Caterpillar. This week the children have taken part in a range of science themed activities such as exploring bubbles and floating and sinking. They have also been creating some poppy themed art and have been learning some new nursery rhymes ahead of World Nursery Rhyme Week next week.



Alongside the FS2 children, FS2 have also been learning some new nursery rhymes and being creating some beautiful poppy themed art ahead of Remembrance Day. Again, just like FS1, the children have been fascinated by the caterpillars in the garden. They have carefully captured some of the caterpillars and creating habitats for them in the classroom so we can observe how they change. In our PSED and MyHappyMind sessions, the children have been exploring how we can celebrate the differences between us and what makes us special and unique. In Maths, as a precursor to exploring shape, the children have begun to explore angles. They made their own angle measurers and explored the different angles they could find around the classroom.



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

We are working with the children to help them develop their independence. We would really appreciate it if you could help them practise putting on their shoes and socks and using a knife and fork.

Thank you

myHappyMind—Date for your Diary

On Tuesday 22nd November we will be hosting a parent workshop, to share more about the programme and the resources you have available to support you at home.



Something to try at home...



Poppy Day Biscuit



Ingredients

300g plain flour

200g butter

100g sugar

Optional splash of milk

Equipment

Mixing bowl

Wooden spoon

Baking tray

Decorating

Chocolate buttons

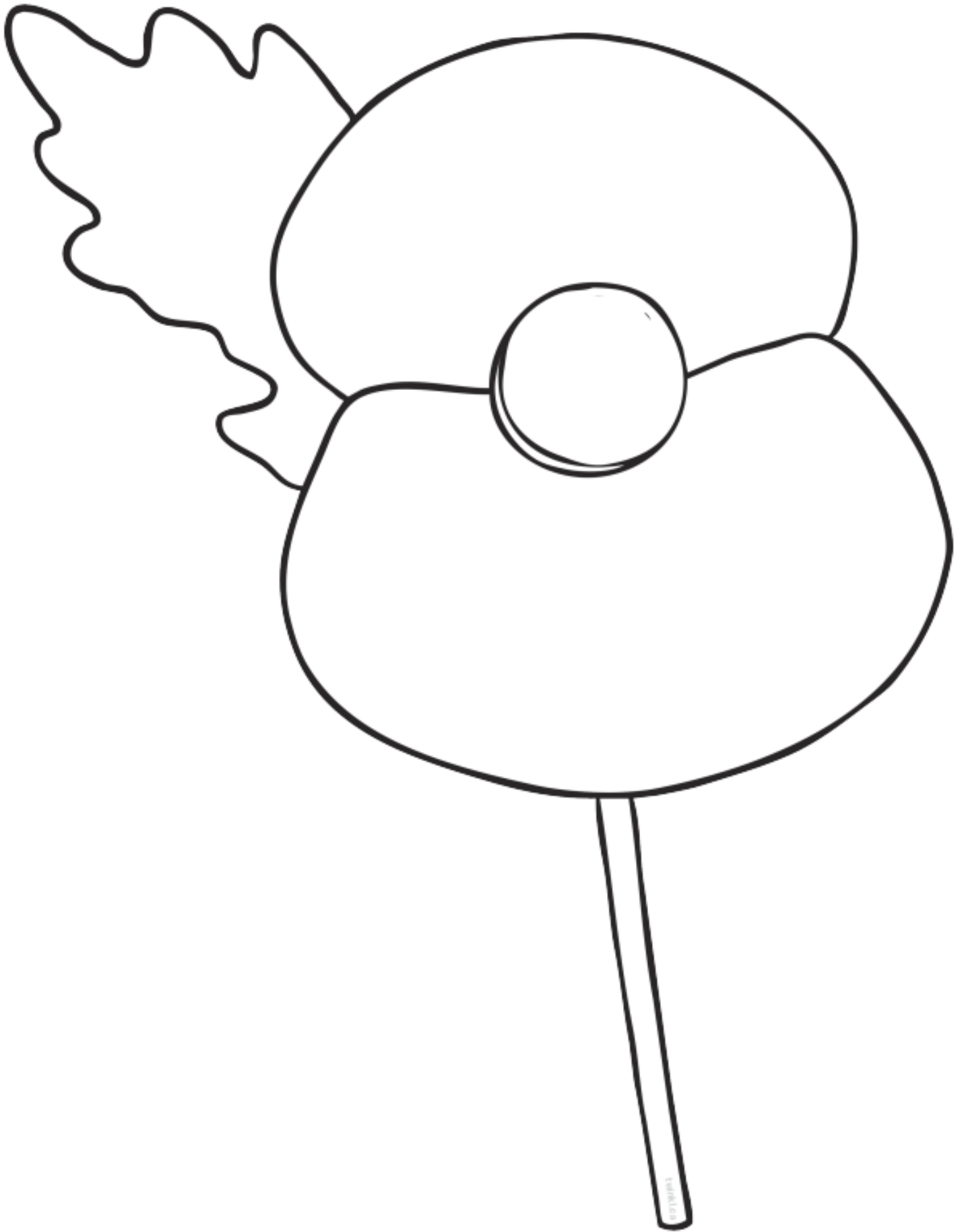
Icing sugar

Red food colouring

Water

Method

1. Pre-heat the oven to 180°C and grease a baking tray.
2. Place the flour, butter and sugar into a bowl and mix together. If it seems a little dry, add a splash of milk to loosen the mixture.
3. Form the dough into a ball and place on a lightly floured surface. Roll out the dough to your required thickness.
4. Use a circular cutter to press out the biscuits.
5. Place in the oven for 10-15 min until they start turning golden or brown around the edges.
6. Place on a cooling rack until completely cooled.
7. Meanwhile, mix red food colouring with your icing sugar and a little water. Mix until you get a thick icing to spread easily but not so it will run off the biscuit. Add more icing sugar if the mixture is too runny, or more water if it is too thick.
8. When the biscuits have cooled, use a teaspoon to carefully spread the icing on the biscuit. If possible, try and make a poppy shape.
9. Place a chocolate button in the centre of the poppy.
10. Let the icing set a little before eating. Enjoy.



Fireworks in a Glass

Science Experiment



Method

1. To start with, make sure your glass is clean.
2. Pour the warm water into the glass until about $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
3. In the other glass, add a few spoonfuls of oil and 4 drops of food colouring.
4. Add some different colours to the oil.
5. Using the fork, mix together the oil and food colouring, to spread the colours throughout the oil.
6. Finally, pour the coloured oil into the glass of warm water and watch for the 'firework' display to start.

You will need:

Food colouring (various colours)

Warm water

Oil

2 empty glasses

Fork

