

St Christopher's EYFS News

Friday 20th January 2023

★ Happy Birthday! ★

Luca
Mercy
Maddison
Evie



Dates for your Diary

23.01.2023—St. Christopher's Stay and Play—wear something red to school to celebrate Lunar New Year

03.02.2023—INSET St. Christopher's and

Sunflowers will be closed for staff training

6-12.02.2023—Children's Mental Health Week

17.02.2023—Last day of half term

27.02.2023— First day of new half term

As we write our first newsletter of this calendar year it is hard to believe we are more than half way through January already. Over the last couple of weeks we have welcomed new children to both St. Christopher's and Sunflowers and we look forward to getting to know them better as we move through this term. We are also preparing to say goodbye to some of our families over the next few months. If you know you are posted away from Gibraltar in the near future, please let us know so that we have time to prepare the reports and documents you will need to take with you to your child's next setting. It also allows us to help with preparing your child for the transition to a new place.

With the weather being so changeable at the moment, can we please ask that children bring a coat to school/ setting every day. We like to spend time outdoors each day and this is only possible if the children have suitable clothing. It would also be really helpful if you could help your child practise putting their coat on independently.

We also want to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs Angela Traverso, who recently won the title of Mrs Gibraltar Classic 2022. This week she has been in Bulgaria representing Gibraltar in the Mrs Universe Classic Pageant.

We have a busy half term ahead of us with lots of exciting things planned and we look forward to sharing this with you through our newsletters and Tapestry. As ever, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

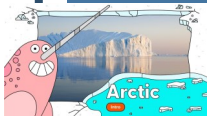
What have we been up to?



In Sunflowers we have been welcoming everyone back after the festive period; seeing both old and new faces, and hearing all about your adventures over Christmas. To see in the new year we have been creating Chinese inspired art with chopsticks incorporating red and yellow in the spirit of the Lunar New Year. Messy play has also been a favourite with the children exploring textures such as shaving foam, gloop, soil and sand. The Babies have been exploring the world of dinosaurs, and learning about what noises they make... ROAR! This has continued into their art and craft where they have enjoyed using the dinosaurs paws to stomp in the paint and using them to creating masterpieces. In maths the babies have been playing with 3 and 4 piece jigsaws and stacking with cups.



Last week saw us launch our new theme 'In a Land Far Away'. This has seen FS1 learning about dinosaurs and we were really impressed with the children's pencil control as they drew their own dinosaur pictures. They have loved exploring the dinosaur small world station and have even transported some of them to the malleable area and explored the different foot prints. They have even attempted some dinosaur themed yoga! This week has seen the children create a group collage and enjoy some dinosaur themed stories.



In FS2 the children have been exploring cold climates and have created some beautiful drawings to add to a whole class collage. They have been enjoying finding out more about the Arctic and all of the different animals that can be found there.

In Free Flow, they have been sorting animals into their different habitats and exploring the differences between them. This week we have been talking about the weather and FS2 were fascinated by the BBC Weather website and looking at where it was raining.

In the outdoor area, the children have been very excited to use Nerf guns while practising recognising their tricky words from Phonics. They created their own range and talked about how to ensure everyone stayed safe. This week we have received two huge boxes that contained some new furniture for our mud kitchen. Not only were the boxes a big hit, but the new mud kitchen has been popular too.



Lost Clothing

Please can you check your child's uniform and make sure it has their name in it. We have had reports of a number of lost items and we want to be able to return them if possible.

Illness—We know that there are a whole host of bugs going around at the moment. Can you please remind children about the importance of catching coughs and sneezes and washing their hands. If your child is not well enough to come to setting, please let us know so that we can record their absence accordingly. This can be done by calling either Sunflowers (+2005 3648) or St. Christopher's (+350 2005 3540)

Headlice:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Please be aware we have had reports of headlice being found in children's hair. For more information on how to treat headlice, please see the NHS website.



Something to try at home...

Dinosaur

Home Learning Challenges



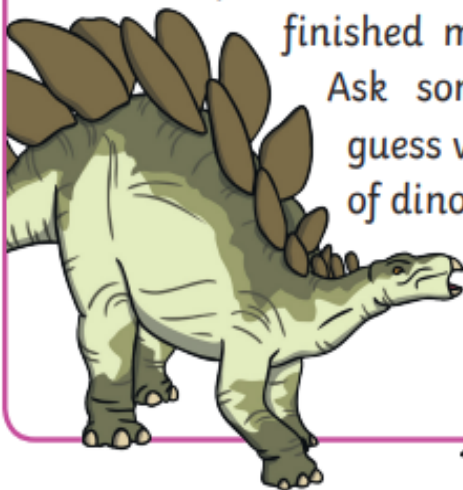
Take a blanket outside and watch the clouds on a cloudy day. See if you can spot any clouds that look like dinosaurs.

Do they have spikes or long tails? You could ask a friend or family member to play with you. Who can spot the most?



Gather together some playdough or some empty boxes and create your own dinosaur. You could use a book or a toy to help you build it. You could paint it when you have finished making it.

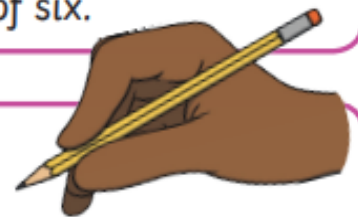
Ask someone to guess what type of dinosaur it is.



Can you think of some more words that start with the sound 'd'? Try to write a list of six.

Create your own dinosaur.

Draw a picture then write its name underneath. You could ask a grown-up to help you write some adjectives to describe your new dinosaur. Is it scary or friendly? Is it large, long or scaly?



Chinese New Year

Home Learning Challenges

During Chinese New Year celebrations, children are sometimes given envelopes with money inside!

With an adult, look at some coins and see if you can see any numbers on them. What numbers can you see? What shape are the coins? What colours are they?



Fireworks are often seen during Chinese New Year. Paint or draw a firework picture.

You could use crayons, pens, paint or eco-glitter and glue.



You were born in the Chinese year of the _____.

Draw a picture of this animal and write its name.



There are 6 red lanterns and 3 yellow lanterns hanging in a row. How many lanterns are there altogether? You could draw a picture to help you work out the answer.



Make a model dragon - you could use cardboard tubes and boxes, playdough, construction toys or natural materials like leaves and pebbles. Maybe you could draw a picture or take a photo of your dragon model!



One of the colours often seen during Chinese New Year is red. Make a list of words that rhyme with the word red, e.g. bed.