

St Christopher's EYFS News

Friday 17th March 2023

★ Happy Birthday! ★

Phoebe



Dates for your Diary

24.03.2023—What to expect in FS1—New families

31.03.2023—INSET Day (both St. Christopher's and Sunflowers closed for staff training) and last day of term 2.

07.04.2023—Bank Holiday—Sunflowers Closed

10.04.2023—Bank Holiday—Sunflowers Closed

11.04.2023—First Day of Term 3

Last week saw St. Christopher's offer Parent Consultations to families in FS1 and FS2. It was brilliant to be able to share with you the progress your children are making and to discuss areas we are currently working on. Thank you to all who returned the Parent Feedback form, we hope you found it a useful exercise and they were a valuable addition to the conversations. Sunflowers are looking forward to offering their Parent Chats and will be in touch in due course.

We are conscious we have shared a lot of information with you over Tapestry this half term. From the Parent Partnership Agreement and Curriculum Goals to our new Behaviour Policy, there is a lot to take in. These will stay on Tapestry for you to access when you need or want to. As ever, if you have any questions or concerns, or even just want some advice about how to support your child at home, please come and speak to us.

This week has seen us celebrate British Science Week and the children have been busy taking part in lots of different experiments and investigations. In St. Christopher's the children have created their own dye from beetroot grown in our garden, explored magnets, grown plants from seed and experimented to see whether they grew better in the dark or in the sun. It has been so lovely to see the children develop their thinking and questioning skills and to see them make links between other experiences

Dogs—We know that some of our families like to combine school drop off and pick up with walking the family dog. Some of our children and staff are quite anxious around dogs and trying to navigate around them on the way into/out of school can be a challenge. These are also valuable times for staff to be able to share messages with families and this can be difficult when parents are managing dogs and leads on top of the usual distractions of this time of day. With that in mind, can we please ask that wherever possible, dogs are either left at home or kept back from the school entrance. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

What have we been up to?



In Sunflowers we have been spending a lot of time outdoors with nature, and have even started planting our own seeds! The children have also really enjoyed exploring the sand and all the different ways we can transport it. In the morning the children have also been doing taste testing with sour and sweet fruit and vegetables, we have found that a lot of the children have quite a liking for sour tastes! In the afternoon the children have also been planting and caring for their own seeds, and plants, which are growing really nicely. In baby room the babies have been busy again creating some beautiful marble art pictures. They have also been enjoying the outdoors and getting to spend some time with their friends from toddler area. Throughout the setting the children have also been creating cards for Mother's day! We hope you all enjoy your special day on Sunday.



In St. Christopher's the children have had a busy fortnight! They have continued their hard work in the garden, looking after the plants and carefully monitoring the seeds that they have planted. They have also been having fun picking the fresh herbs and using them in the mud kitchen. We have also created a puppet theatre and the children have been making up their own stories and shows.



This week has seen FS1 visit the beach. They had a fantastic time exploring the seashells along the shore line, building sand castles and paddling. Listening to them talk about their experiences of visiting the beach with their families and describing the shells they found was a great opportunity for developing their vocabulary. This was a great opportunity for them to use their senses to explore the natural world and we are sure they will tell you all about it.

In the art area this week, the children have been working on their observational painting skills while creating art works inspired by different flowers we brought in for them to see. There are some beautiful, colourful creations. Elsewhere indoors, the children have been fascinated by the new electronic toys, calling each other on the 'mobile phones' and using the remote control cars.

We have also been celebrating British Science Week by taking part in lots of different experiments and investigations.



Happy Mother's Day
Wishing all of our families a relaxing day with family.



Warm Weather— As the weather continues to improve, please can children bring a clearly named sun hat to school every day. We will share more about our Sun Policy in the coming weeks.

Something to try at home...

Awe and Wonder

Fizzy Colours

You will need:



Paint pots or plastic cups



White vinegar



A few tubs of bicarbonate of soda

Shallow tray



Paintbrushes or medicine syringes



Food colouring in several colours



Method:

1. Pour out the bicarbonate of soda into the tray and spread it out.
2. Drop a few blobs of different coloured food colouring into each paint pot.
3. Top up to half full with white vinegar.
4. Put a paintbrush or medicine syringe into each paint pot.
5. Suck the coloured vinegar into the syringe or soak the paintbrush.
6. Drip the colour into the tray. What happens to the powder? What happens to the liquid?
7. Once you have dripped 2 or more colours use the brush to mix the 2 colours together. What happens?
8. What can you see in the mixture?



The Science

You just made a chemical reaction! You mixed the acid (vinegar) and the alkali (bicarbonate of soda).

Did you see the bubbles of carbon dioxide (CO_2)? That is a gas. The bicarbonate of soda is an alkali, it reacts or changes when it mixes with an acid like vinegar because they are very different. If you mix either one with water (which is neutral, not an acid or an alkali) nothing happens because they are not as different.

Health & Wellbeing

Home Learning Activity Ideas

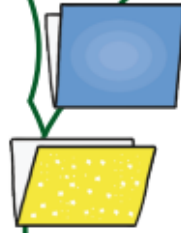


Do ten star jumps. Jog on the spot and count to ten. Do ten bunny hops. How does your heart rate feel?



Draw a picture of a happy face. Now draw things that make you feel happy.

Think of someone who helps you. It could be a parent, a family member or a friend. Make them a card or a picture to say thank you.



With an adult, build an indoor obstacle course and try it out.

With an adult, prepare a healthy snack and eat it together.



Practise balancing. Can you balance on one leg? Can you balance on one arm and one leg? Can you balance on your knees? See how many different ways you can balance.



Draw a picture of your favourite meal. Include your favourite drink and your favourite pudding.



Create instruction cards for how to wash your hands or brush your teeth. Challenge an adult or family member to follow the instruction cards.



Tidy up your bedroom or another room in your house.

