

St Christopher's EYFS News

Friday 21st April 2023

Happy Birthday!

Siyona
Pippa
Miss Daniella
Doreen



Dates for your Diary

28.04.2023—Bank Holiday

01.05.2023—Bank Holiday

05.05.2023—Coronation Stay and Play (12:45-14:15)

08.05.2023—Bank Holiday

12.05.2023—INSET Day (both St. Christopher's and Sunflowers closed for staff training)

18.05.2023—School Photographer

19.05.2023 – St. Christopher's EYFS Sport's Day (am)

29.05.2023—Bank Holiday

30.06.2023—FS2 Graduation

What a glorious start we have had to Term 3! It has been lovely to see everyone back after the break and we hope you all enjoyed the long Easter weekend. As we look ahead, to the coming weeks and months, we have lots of exciting things planned. From school photographer visits and Sport's Day to Stay and Play sessions and End of Year reports, there is a lot happening this term. We have added some of the key dates for the next couple of weeks above, so that you can add them to your calendars and diaries. There will be more to add as we move towards the end of term and we will keep you informed as plans are finalised.

We have welcomed some new families to our FS1 class and looking ahead we will be preparing to say goodbye to lots of our families as they move to Year 1 or on to new pastures. If you know you will be leaving us, please make sure you have let the school office know. This means we can make sure that all of the documents you need are prepared in good time. For those of you with children transitioning into FS1 or FS2, more information will be provided in due course.

With the sun shining the children have enjoyed lots of time outside, while we do have some spares, please make sure children bring a clearly named hat to school each day. We have an action packed half term lined up, with lots of visitors scheduled to come into school. We are looking forward to sharing the photos and highlights with you as we move through the term.

This week has seen us welcome our Early Years Adviser—Ms Tricia Wood. She spent time observing the quality of teaching and learning across both settings and assessing and evaluating the quality of provision from care to educational growth. She had this to say, 'A fantastic opportunity to work with children and staff, support where needed and work with the leaders to continue to develop the fabulous Early Years provision'. These visits form part of our ongoing review and improvement programmes. Next week we will be sending out our annual Parent Survey, as your feedback forms an important part of this cycle and helps us to identify areas where we can further improve our offer. Please return these anonymous surveys in the envelope provided by Monday 15th May.

What have we been up to?



It was lovely to welcome back our little Sunflowers after the Easter break and to hear all about the adventures you got up to during the holiday. Since returning the toddlers have been putting their fine motor skills to the test by practising their threading skills and planting seeds in our garden.

In the role play area the children have enjoyed putting bandages on their peers and treating the practitioners for all sorts of illnesses, as they pretend to be doctors and nurses.



In the afternoon the older children have spent time learning about the artist Vincent Van Gogh, they then created their very own masterpieces using a range of colours and paint brushes. Now that the weather has warmed up they have wanted to spend a lot more time outside. In line with our theme, 'When I Grow Up I Want To Be', our babies have enjoyed playing with the fire trucks and in arts and crafts they have created paintings using vehicle tracks. Outside they have explored mark making in the gloop, the sand tray and water tray with ducks and bubbles.



Over the past fortnight, the children in St. Christopher's have had a busy start to Term 3. Out in the garden the children have been working together to turn some huge cardboard boxes into a fire engine and others into a sea dinosaur. Others have been working together to create collaborative sculpture of a sunflower in the woodwork area. We have been so impressed with the children's perseverance and levels of engagement. They have kept going even when their ideas haven't worked out as expected.

In the classroom, there have been some very unique clay face sculptures being created and the children have been taking on the role of teacher in our school themed role play area. The remote control cars continue to be popular and the children have been designing and building obstacle courses that are becoming increasingly complex.

In our Jigsaw and myHappyMind sessions, the children have been talking about the people who live in their homes and how to be a good friend. It is great to see so many of them becoming more confident when speaking in front of a group.



We have also welcomed some new children into FS1 and they have done a fantastic job of learning our routines and finding their way around.



Warm Weather— As the weather continues to improve, please can children bring a clearly named sun hat to school every day. We also ask that children bring a bottle of named sun cream. Details of our sun protection policy can be found on Tapestry.



Water bottles—With the warmer weather, it is more important than ever that children bring a water bottle to school every day. We encourage the children to drink regularly and they are able to refill their bottles. Water bottles should be filled with water and not fruit juice please.

Something to try at home...

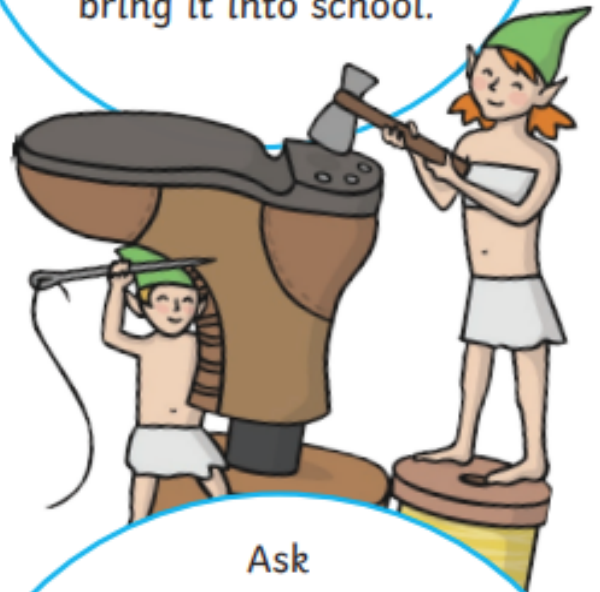
The Elves and the Shoemaker

Home Learning Challenge

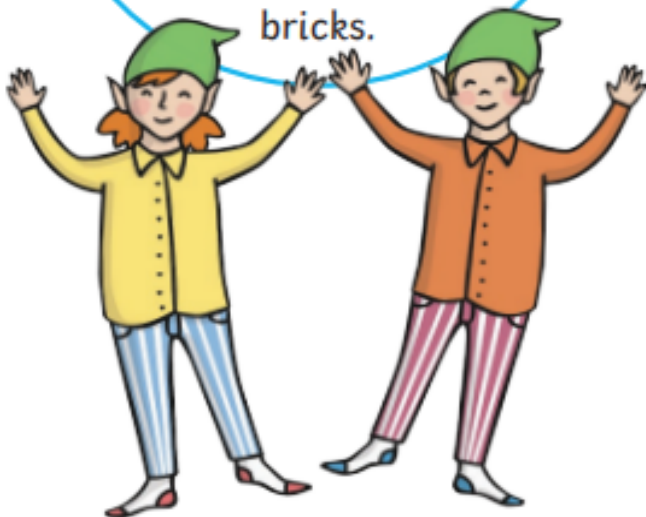
There are 2 shoes in a pair. Can you count how many shoes you have? Can you count how many shoes are in your house?



The elves were so kind to help the shoemaker. Can you do something kind for someone? Draw a picture of what you did and bring it into school.



Can you build a home for the elves to live in? How big would it be? What would they need inside? You could use old boxes or build it using building bricks.



Ask a grown-up to cut out some shapes from cardboard and put some holes along the side of the shape, all the way around. Use some string or wool to thread along the holes like the elves and shoemaker. What patterns can you make?