

St Christopher's EYFS News

Friday 29th September 2023

Happy Birthday!



Mrs Carroll



Dates for your Diary

04.10.2023—St. Christopher's Visit to Commonwealth Park

17.10.2023—Term 1.1 Celebration of Learning

20.10.2023—INSET Day—Both St. Christopher's & Sunflowers will be closed

24.10.2023/25.10.2023—St. Christopher's Parent Consultations

27.10.2023—Last day of half term

As ever it has been another busy couple of weeks here at St. Christopher's and Sunflowers, we can't believe it is already the end of September. As ever at this time of year, 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 self-care 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.

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.'

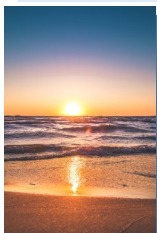
This term, we are also excited to be working with the Community Support Team so that Little Explorers is able to continue. This is a great opportunity to work with our local community and support a very popular community group. We hope to see some of you there and look forward to sharing ideas for how to support children's learning at home.

So far this year, we have already offered two parent workshops on supporting Phonics and reading and supporting maths at home. We are looking forward to running sessions for Sunflowers and FS1 in the near future.

What have we been up to?



In Sunflowers we have been learning all about ourselves. We started this by recreating our own faces, looking at how each of our faces is different and unique. We have also been learning about our family members, by looking at the photos you sent in for us! It has been lovely to see and learn about your families. In the afternoon the older children have also been creating self portraits but they have used pasta to re-envision themselves. In Baby Room we have been learning about family members, we even incorporated our own small world house set. This week our story table has been 'Incy Wincy Spider' and the babies have all enjoyed helping him slide down the water spout! Baby room has also loved continuing the water theme into the outdoor area, with lots of water play.



What a busy fortnight we have had! The children have been loving our trips to the beach each week and these have been a brilliant opportunity to explore language and work on gross motor skills. They are also learning to care for the local environment as we take the time to collect litter each visit and are able to talk about the different materials we find.

In the garden, the children have been harvesting vegetables such as peppers, aubergine and carrots. They have also been planting a new crop of beans and peas, as well as some onions. In the sand pit, the children have been experimenting with different textures to create concrete for brick laying to create their own houses.



During our drawing club sessions, the children have been designing dream houses and they had some very creative ideas! We have also been talking about feelings and things that make us happy during our circle time sessions.



A message from Sunflowers & St. Christopher's...
Remember to check the memo section of Tapestry frequently for updates and information.

Naming Belongings
Please make sure that all children's belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name.

YOUR NAME

Keeping Hydrated

We encourage the children to drink regularly throughout the school day. Please make sure they have a water bottle each day, please only provide water in water bottles. Many thanks



Something to try at home...

Houses and Homes

Home Learning Challenges

Build a house for your favourite toy using junk-modelling materials, such as cardboard boxes and empty plastic bottles. Use your teddy to measure how big the house needs to be and think about doors, windows and furniture to make it comfortable for them.



Ask your friends if they live in a flat, bungalow, detached, semi-detached or terrace house. Count how many of your friends live in each kind of house and work out which house most people live in.

Draw a picture of your dream home. Think imaginatively about what it would look like and what it would have inside. Would it be built on the ground, above or below it? Would it have secret doors, swimming pools, a zoo in the garden? Label the picture and bring it to school to share with your class.



Use the Internet to research houses through the ages. Look at Iron Age houses, Roman houses, Victorian houses and even houses from 100 years ago, then compare them to your own. What is still the same? What is different?

Make some salt dough (you can find recipes on the Twinkl website) and build a house with it. You could build a flat house picture and then try to build a 3D model. Can you make the walls strong enough to stay standing? Can they support a roof?

Count the houses on your road or a road nearby. Can you find houses with numbers on? How many houses are there? Find the number 2 and then look at the next number. The house numbers should go up in 2s. Count along the row in 2s until you reach the last house. What is the highest number?

St. Christopher's EYFS & Sunflowers INSET Days

Friday 20th October 2023
Friday 24th November 2023
Friday 8th March 2024
Friday 17th May 2024
Friday 7th June 2024



In the event of unforeseen circumstances, these dates may be subject to change. Should this occur, we will provide as much notice as possible.

