

St Christopher's EYFS News

Friday 8th December 2023

Happy Birthday!

Aria
Anne



Dates for your Diary

14.12.2023—Sunflowers Christmas Stay and Play

15.12.2023—St. Christopher's EYFS Nativity @
King's Chapel—11:00am

22.12.2023—Last Day of Term both St. Christopher's
and Sunflowers will close at 12:30

08.01.2024—St. Christopher's first day of term.

Wow! What an action packed fortnight it has been!

St Christopher's EYFS is delighted to announce that we have now achieved Level 4 in the Royal Horticultural Society School Garden Awards and ECO Gold Award at the Department of Education Gibraltar ClimACT awards. We are very proud of the hard work put in by the children and staff to make this happen.

With the arrival of December, the Christmas spirit is in full force across both St. Christopher's and Sunflowers. It was great to see so many families at the recent BFBS Christmas Lights Switch On and the children did a great job of performing some Christmas Classics! They have also taken it upon themselves to bring the joy of Christmas to the learning environments and have been busy decorating Christmas trees and preparing letters for Santa.

Not only is the festive period full of fun, it is also a time of reflection. It feels like a life time ago that we opened the doors on the first day of school and welcomed the children into their new year groups. Since then they have started to blossom. They are growing into confident, inquisitive, creative, independent and articulate young people. Their sense of fun is infectious and across both Sunflowers and St. Christopher's they have been keeping us on our toes and making us laugh. There is never a dull moment, this was particularly evident when we went to the Convent to interview HE The Governor of Gibraltar!

Here at St. Christopher's and Sunflowers, we are incredibly fortunate to have such supportive families. We would not be able to carry out the work we do or offer such incredible experiences without this support and so we would also like to say thank you to you all. We look forward to sharing the next few weeks of Christmas celebrations with you before we break for the holidays. As this is our last newsletter before the holidays, we want to take this opportunity to wish you all a well earned rest and a fun festive period with families and friends.

What have we been up to?



In Sunflowers we have been getting into the Christmas spirit with Christmas crafts, both the morning and afternoon children have been using anything and everything from paint, to felt, to sequins to create their own festive crafts. In the morning the children have been playing Kim's Game and testing their memories, and the children have really enjoyed having their own Christmas tree in the home corner. In baby room they have been practising their hand, eye coordination with jigsaw puzzles. The babies have also joined the toddlers with baking and making their own winter themed treats. Babies have also begun their Christmas crafts, making their own Christmas trees.



Over the past few weeks the children have been busy bringing the Christmas spirit into school. They have listened carefully to instructions while building Christmas trees and crafting hand-made decorations. It has also been lovely to see the children so inspired to engage with mark making as they write cards and letters to friends and Santa. They have also been making their own playdough and incorporating Christmas scents such as cinnamon and clove.



Last week saw the children begin to experiment with ice and investigate how to make it melt more quickly. This week saw the children learn about the process of freezing as they made ice lollies. They were also keen to find out which countries get the most snow. This saw the children find out more about Norway and Antarctica.

In the garden the children have been busy constructing obstacle courses and dens. This encourages children to develop their gross motor skills and co-ordination. It is great to see their perseverance developing when their ideas don't work the first time.



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.

Teacher Jargon Buster—Fundamental British Values

Fundamental British values are a statutory requirement of the EYFS curriculum. Fundamental British values help children to positively contribute to the local and national multi-diverse community of Great Britain. EYFS activities should celebrate and value the modern diversity of the UK.



Something to try at home...

Christmas

Home Learning Challenges



Design some Christmas wrapping paper. Can you use a repeating pattern in your design?



Santa is packing his bag for his journey delivering presents. Write a list of things he could put in it to help him have a comfortable journey.



Draw a picture of a snowman using lots of 2D shapes. You might be able to use all of these shapes when you draw your snowman - circles, triangles, rectangles and squares.



Christmas time is a time to think about ways we can be kind and helpful to others. Find a way that you can help someone in your family.

There were 10 baubles on the Christmas tree, then 3 baubles fell onto the floor. How many baubles are left on the tree? You could draw a picture or use your fingers to help you work out the answer.



The Three Wise Men followed a star to find the stable where the baby Jesus lay. Have a look at the stars with a grown-up. Can you find the brightest star? What else can you see in the night sky?

