



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 12th May 2017

Dear Parents

On Friday to close Keyboard Week we were absolutely delighted to welcome the famous one handed concert pianist Nicholas McCarthy into school. He enchanted the children with his playing and he set imaginations alight as he talked about the fairy stories behind some of the famous classical pieces. The children closed their eyes as he played and fed back some glorious images that they had 'seen' in their minds including a green goblin and a girl out walking in a thunderstorm! Nicholas then delivered an inspirational talk about his journey to the Royal Academy of Music and the children listened with fascination. The Q and A opportunity was delightful and one of our pupils declared that this session had taught him to follow his dream to become a spaceman inspired by Nicholas' approach showing courage and determination.

On Monday we welcomed Tina Wilkinson into school with a wonderful selection of flutes. She showed the children an early wooden flute edged in silver and allowed some lucky children to try out the wide range of instruments. Do check out Twitter for sound and visual images of this exciting Music Term.

On Tuesday Year 2 set off to The British Wildlife Centre at Lingfield to complement their topic: Awesome Outdoors. They were delighted to see owls, otters, badgers and foxes to name but a few. The children returned bursting with information about the less well known British animals and their subsequent project work has been wonderful to read.

Year 1 and 2 are knee deep in the final rehearsals for our summer production 'Hoodwinked' and I can secretly reveal that there are some outstanding comic performances to brighten your day. I look forward to seeing KS1 parents there next week.

Many congratulations to our Times Tables champions. The Bronze Star winners this week are: Robyn C, Rory B and Elliot M. Super congratulations to Benji S for gaining his Silver Star award too.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Nathan Hall in Reception for splendid manners and for enjoying his food every day. Well done Nathan.

Congratulations to **Ahlberg** House for winning this week's challenge with a splendid total of **304** Housepoints.

Mrs Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week's Merit Awards

Zac P, Sophie M, Sophie B, Rory P, Kai K, Dylan F, Jack B, Lambert S, Seth J, Thomas M, Leo R, Carlos D and Annabel V

Triumph of the Week

Zachary C

For passing his Grade 1 piano exam with a Distinction

Work of the Week

Year 2 Mercury have made grass heads as part of their Awesome Outdoors topic. Sophie M has written some detailed instructions in case you want to try this at home. In the photos you can see Bertie and Freya proudly showing their 'tatty heads' followed by 'monk style' and 'short back and sides' respectively.

How to make a grass head

1. Try and find some old tights massive or tiny
2. Next you need to carefully cut the tights in half so you have one leg.
3. After that you fill the tights with sawdust and grass seed, first you put in the grass seed then you put in the sawdust.
4. You tie a knot so the grass seed and sawdust stay inside.
5. Then you decorate the head so it looks like a kind of face, it could be a three eyed face!
6. Now you need to put the head in a plastic cup.
7. Finally you need to water the grass head.

by Sophie Magarara



Nursery and Pre-Reception News

Our book this week is 'The Train Ride' and the children have been drawing pictures of what they would see from the window if they went on a train. The kitchen has been the place to go to prepare the sandwiches you will need for your journey. We have been comparing sizes as well this week, looking at biggest and smallest by ordering different sizes of transport. We are carrying on with our phonics activities and this week the sound of the week has been 'o'. We enjoy being in different groups to learn our sounds to make sure we are learning the best way we can. Our 'Epsom Music Hall' role-play has been alive with children playing the glockenspiel this week after



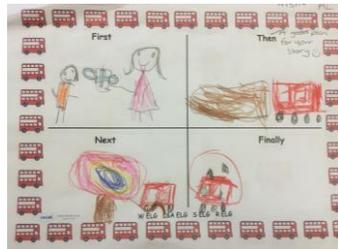
being inspired by watching the wonderful concert pianist and talented flautist perform in our assemblies.



Reception News

Continuing with the inspiration from the book the 'Naughty Bus' by Jan and Jerry Oke we have started to make our own books. The children have been working in teams (which is a tough challenge). They are learning to listen to the ideas of the other children and negotiate in order to choose what the four stages of the story should be. Once planned, the children wrote a list of what they would need to make each scene and their story plans. Later the children made four small world scenes and photographed them all by themselves using our iPads to make the illustrations for the story. Next week we will be writing our own books.

In Maths we have been looking at 3 dimensional shapes, can your child name the shapes they see around them in their environment?



The Foundation Stage Team

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Wednesday 17th 9am - Y1 & Y2 Summer Performance (Ahlberg and Kemp parents)

Thursday 18th 9am - Y1 & Y2 Summer Performance (Donaldson and Dahl parents)

Friday 19th May 9.15 - OPEN MORNING FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS
Please let any family and friends know that they are welcome.

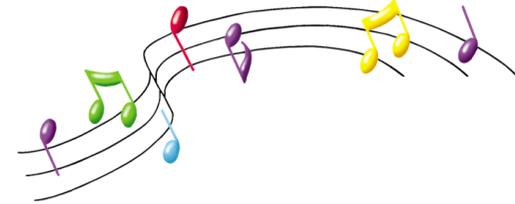
PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING ERRORS ON THE SUMMER CALENDAR:

Monday 3rd July 9am - Music Assembly

Half Term - 16th October - 27th October

Summer Term 2018 - First Day Wednesday 18th April.

SUMMER TERM IS 'MUSIC TERM'



Music Theme: Woodwind week

This week we have met the flute family and enjoyed comparing them in size. Your child may like to draw a picture of their favourite woodwind instrument for our display board in the hall. Prokofiev uses lots of woodwind instruments in 'Peter and the wolf'. Can your child tell you which characters are represented by each instrument?

This week's Manners Moles

This week we are delighted to introduce our Summer Term initiative: The Manners Mole Award. We are focussing on good manners this term. As well as remembering to say please and thanks you we are particularly looking for children who behave courteously and remember to let an adult through first when they are travelling around the school. This week's magnificent Moles are: Freya M, Matthew S, Mia P, Baylen B, Sophie M, Logan R and Rafael I.



Mathletics: Many congratulations to John D for achieving his Gold award.