



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2014

*Dear Parents*

*In the Reception area you will find 8 eggs in an incubator. Following the success of last year's chicks we are again sharing the amazing journey from egg to chick with the children with beautiful models next to the incubator giving an inside perspective each day for 21 days. Do come and have a look. Each House has 2 eggs each, marked on the shell in House colours and the children are all very 'eggcited' to see who will hatch first!*

*Our lucky children have all enjoyed some extra-curricular joy during the last week. Year 2 had two splendid days at Juniper Hall for their annual residential. Do see page 2 for photos. Reception headed off to the Royal Observatory at Greenwich to visit the Planetarium on Tuesday. They loved the experience and it has generated some wonderful pieces of work in the classroom. I was delighted to learn from Daisy (age 5) about the Tadpole Galaxy that I didn't know existed. On Wednesday Year 1 set off with buckets and spades to Littlehampton to celebrate the closing stages of their topic about the seaside. The sun shone brightly as the children enjoyed a train ride, a paddle in the sea and a sand castle competition.*

*Once again the teachers were asked to nominate children who had demonstrated outstanding examples of respect and Daisy G in Mars Class was the popular choice. Well done Daisy, intergalactic knowledge and an accolade from the staff-you are a real STAR.*

*Good manners have been the focus this week and we have all enjoyed celebrating some delightful examples of manners with your polite children during the week. Two more Gold Star Times Tables Badge winners this week demonstrated consistent and correct application of all the times tables and completed the problem solving challenges. Congratulations to Natasha C and Dominic Q. Well done also to Oliver M and Seren C for achieving their Silver Stars and to Stan W, Will H, Harry M and Lucy D for gaining their Bronze Stars so brilliantly. This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Freya B for showing kindness and awareness of others whilst queuing for her lunch. Well done Freya.*

*Staying at the top of the Housepoint Board this week is **Ahlberg** House with a super total of **542** housepoints. Many congratulations to them.*

*Annie Thackray, Headteacher*

**This Week's Merit Awards**

Arlo R, Hafsa D, Max O, Finn T, Ellie B, Savannah W, Adam A, Daisy G and Mercury and Venus Class

**STAR (School Target Achieved Reward) - Respect Week**

Daisy G

**Event of the Week**

In glorious sunshine, the whole of Year 2 decamped to the leafy pastures of Juniper Hall situated at the foot of Box Hill near Dorking for their annual residential trip, occasionally known as 'The giant sleepover'! Juniper Hall is a field study centre and we had the benefit of two excellent teachers who guided us on our minibeast hunts, pond dipping identification fun, woodland searches to humanely trap mice and voles to study and general outdoor fun. Our Year 2 children made us very proud as they joined in with all the activities including campfire songs with hot chocolate and an evening rounders match.



Special thanks to Mrs Garrod, Mrs Russell and Mrs Hawes who gave up their time so generously to make this wonderful event possible and special thanks to Year 2 for making the occasion so enjoyable.

## Foundation Stage News

Summer is here! Please remember to put sun cream on your child each morning and send in your St. Christopher's sun hat. Please also note that children should wear practical shoes to school for they cannot climb and run in sandals. We prefer please sensible shoes which should be navy or black. We encourage independence daily and accordingly your child should be able to put their shoes on easily and Velcro fastenings are the easiest. Plain navy or black canvas shoes are practical for summer but please note they may get wet with water play.

In Nursery the 'builders' are still at work using the vocabulary to describe 2D and 3D shapes as they build. So children, look out for straight and curved sides and/or edges on toys, boxes and things you find.

In all this hot weather the busy builders need a drink and something to eat so we are setting up a café. The children made a list and set up a kitchen for the chef as well as tables and chairs and a cash desk. The children are trying to write their own menus and the waiters and waitresses are learning to make a list for the customer's orders.

In the kitchen our chefs have been making sandwiches for the café. In the art room this week the focus has moved to the next exciting event on the calendar – the school performance! We have been using paint, glue and printing as we make the props. Of course we are busy rehearsing too! Learning words and harmonising voices as well as learning to 'step in time' with the dancing!

The Reception children have now left earth and are off to learn about our world in space. They began their adventure watching video clips of rocket launches, moon walking and learning how astronauts sleep, eat and wash their hair in space. The children took their learning into their role play and pretended to be astronauts too!

The children have also been using 2D and 3D shaped resources to make their own rockets. They have loved going outside to hunt for moon rocks, riding space scooters and chalking astronauts.

The children had a super visit to the Planetarium. They were plunged into darkness and given the task to look for Ted's friend 'Big Bear'. One of our clever children knew they were looking at a constellation before the guide had time to explain. The staff have been amazed by the children's knowledge and fascination with the solar system. The children used oil pastels to re-create wonderful pictures of the solar system on black paper including asteroids, moons and satellites.

**The Foundation Team**



## DIARY DATES

**16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> June: GOLDEN BOOT CHALLENGE WEEK**

**For Reception, Year 1 and Year 2**

Use a more environmentally friendly way to come to school and win points for your class: Walk, Park 'n' Stride, Car Share

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June pm – Y1 Multi-Sports Afternoon at Downsend School

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June: Twinkling Stars Group Parent/Teacher Appointments

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at 9am: Dress Rehearsal for Summer Production -

Please avoid medical appointments etc for your child this morning if possible

**FOOTBALL CLUB HAS FINISHED FOR THIS TERM**

**PTA SUMMER FAIR – SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 1 – 3pm**

Please see recent letter for details about how you can help with preparations for the Fair and, very importantly, volunteering for a stall on the day. From Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June, donations of the following items will be welcome in school: DVDs & computer games, soft toys (clean & in good condition), filled sweetie jars, bottles. Please return raffle ticket money & bookings for Flossie's Magic Show as soon as possible via the PTA box under the Porch.



## MEDICAL CONDITIONS

**An illness in the Nursery concerning a child with a pre-existing medical condition involved a visit from some wonderful paramedics on Wednesday.**

**Please could we remind you of the importance of disclosing all medical issues concerning your child to the school office. Once it was established that the child concerned did not need hospital attention, in the spirit of 'People who help us' the kind paramedics welcomed children out to look at and in the ambulance and to have their blood pressure taken. Many thanks to Sam and Steve for their kindness.**

## OWLS & LARKS – AUTUMN TERM

Booking forms for the Autumn Term are now available from the Porch, Office and can be downloaded from the Parents Area of our website. Please note the change in booking conditions for OWLS.