Dear Parents  

Thank you all for making this year’s Harvest Festival such a success. We were so proud of the children who recited their poems and sung with such confidence and evident enjoyment. Year 2 shone very brightly as they narrated the whole performance, introducing the younger children with style. Well done to our wonderful Year 2s, you really are an inspiration to us all. Pictures on page 2.  

On Monday Colin P, from the charity Lunchbox came to talk to the children about families who rely on the kindness of others. One family was able to afford school shoes for their child because of the food provided by their Food Bank. The children listened with care and asked some excellent questions. Baylen and Imogen then presented Mr P with the proceeds of our collection last week together with vouchers donated by the school making a total of £500.

On Tuesday Reception travelled to Painshill Park for an interactive day focusing on team building and collaboration. They set off on a quest to find a dragon’s egg and the day was filled with excitement and adventure.

On Tuesday Year 2 headed off to Hampton Court to complement their topic: The Tudors. Having enjoyed an interesting tour and a delightful ‘upstairs, downstairs’ experience, the children were lucky enough to be taken for a game of real tennis on the court originally belonging to Henry VIII himself! Each child marvelled at the original racket and heavy ball and followed the instructor’s advice with great care to enjoy this rare treat. Sienna S particularly impressed the experts. Well done to everyone!

On Wednesday Librarians Sienna S and Esme T led the Library Raffle and selected the lucky winners before awarding them their colourful books. We have really enjoyed reading the book reviews in the library.

On Wednesday we were delighted to hear Henry M play ‘The Light of the Moon’ in piano assembly. He played with evident talent and the whole school warmly applauded as he received his special certificate. Well done Henry!

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Harry L for enjoying his meals every single day! Bravo Harry.

Congratulations to all the children in Kemp House for leading this week’s housepoint challenge! They are now at the top of the leader board with a total of 741 Housepoints.

Mrs Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week’s Merit Awards


Philosopher of the week

Dylan Francis

Thought for the week

Is it good to be jealous?
**Nursery and Pre-Reception News**

We cannot believe how quickly this half term has gone. This week has been Challenge Week throughout the Nursery. We talked about how sometimes we find things tricky but if we keep on trying (with perhaps some help from our friends) we can achieve so much. The challenges this week have been: writing your own name, putting your coat on, pouring your own drink successfully, threading some beads, using the pedals on a bike, pairing welly boots, making a picture using 2D shapes and mixing colours. Congratulations to the children for taking on these challenges with confidence and enthusiasm. We have had special snacks at our café this week, with strawberries, blueberries, grapes together with some home cooked bread and butter – yum yum! Some of the children had a gymnastics session with Mrs Pryor and she reported back that we have some very able children in Nursery! The highlight of the week has to be our assembly. Every single member of Pre-Reception amazed the audience with their good listening, their brave voices and their gorgeous singing. We could not have been prouder. We wish you all a wonderful half term break, have fun and don't miss us too much!

**Reception News**

On Tuesday the Reception Classes had a dreadfully, daring day when they went on a hunt for a dragon’s egg at Painshill Park. The children took on terrific challenges on their adventure unfolded. We had to take turns to lead our blindfolded friends along the rope through the trees, and we crept up on the guards to take the keys quietly so we could find pine cones to help us become unicorns. We found dragon's scales, teeth and noses as we ventured into the woods where we finally found the dragon’s egg. Then we made a nest for the egg to keep it warm. But that was not all! We had a second adventure to find Winnie the Pooh. We looked in the vegetable garden, we balanced along the fallen logs and decided the dragon must have taken the roof off the ruins we discovered. Finally we found Winnie the Pooh up a tree! We thought he might have been looking for honey. We all had a wonderful day and I'm sure everyone had a good night's sleep after all that fresh air! On Wednesday we wrote a recount of some of the things we did on our trip. The children use their phonics for writing and we are very proud of all their hard work. Our Maths this week was to count the King's jewels and write the number we counted. Do keep counting and playing number games at home too! Neptune class has been looking at the book 'Dear Dragon' and we decided we should have some bubbles and make a party in our role play Castle just like in the story. Have a happy half term with some exciting fun at home!

**The Foundation Stage Team**

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**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**HALF TERM: MONDAY 16TH – FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER**

**Tuesday 31st October 8.30am – Parent Forum in the hall**

**Thursday 2nd November 8.30 – 9am**

Sharing Our Learning - Parents of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are warmly invited to come and enjoy your child's work and share in their joy of learning.

**Friday 3rd November 9am – MARS Class Assembly – All parent welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served under the back porch from 8.30am.**

A special star for Sienna S in Mercury Class for being mentioned on Page 1 three times! Well done Sienna.

This week's Respectful Rabbits are: Scarlett S, Lambert S, Emma S and James B.

Mathletics: Congratulations to Niamh H, Elodie B and Fenton F who all gained their Silver awards. Seth J and Nathan J achieved Gold, many congratulations to them also.

Please could all parents, who have not already done so, remember to complete their OWLS form for after half term. These are available online or from the office. Thank you.

Please remember that you can now follow us on Twitter at StChrisEpsom for information and weekly highlights.