Dear Parents

This time last week Year 2 were to be found deep in the Surrey countryside at Juniper Hall for their annual residential and what an enjoyable residential we had! We were extremely proud of our intrepid students who took part in every activity with enthusiasm and dedication in both sun and rain and you can enjoy some photos of this trip on page 2 and on the News section of the website.

On Tuesday Year 1 headed up to Chinthurst School for a morning of sporting challenge and fun followed by a delicious lunch. Thank you to Mrs Pryor for organising this and to Chinthurst for their warm hospitality.

On Wednesday Pre-Reception headed off for their first school trip and enjoyed the coach trip as well as the fascinating London Museum of Water and Steam situated in Kew. The children were delighted to have a hands-on experience turning wheels and watching pistons work as well as visiting the largest engine in not just the UK but the world! We experimented with dam and stream blockades and even spun an Archimedean screw pump to transfer water from one level to another! The highlight of this lovely trip was a ride on a real steam locomotive and if you look at the photos on Twitter @StChrisEpsom you will see what a special treat that was! Well done to our tiny students for exceptional behaviour and engagement all day and thank you to our super parent helpers.

On Thursday we warmly welcomed a representative from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution to present an interesting and helpful assembly about this important institution and to remind everybody about the importance of water safety in time for the summer holidays.

On Thursday Mrs Jules Degg and I attended the ISA London South Regional Art Competition in Tunbridge in Kent taking with us 12 splendid entries. We will share the results with you next week.

That just leaves Friday and this was a very special day because we celebrated Father’s Day with the best dads in town! Around 140 dads stopped their busy schedule to take part in our annual challenges and the smiles of the assembled crowd both large and small lit up a grey day. Thank you all for coming.

Congratulations to our mathematical superstars this week. Scarlett S won her Bronze Star Award and Lambert S won his Silver Award. Well done.

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Darcy W in Reception for bravely asking to try new dishes and discovering she liked them! Well done Darcy!

Bravo to Donaldson House for climbing to the top of the leader board with this week’s Housepoints by earning an impressive total of 1317 Housepoints!

Annie Thackray Headteacher

This Week’s Merit Awards

Dormitory Competition Winners: James B, Thomas M, James W and Lambert S.
Foundation Stage News

NURSERY AND PRE-RECEPTION – Thank you for those parents who came to our first ‘Sharing our Learning’ session on Monday. It was a huge success and very beneficial for you to see how your child starts each day. If you didn’t manage to make it, please don’t worry, there will be other opportunities each term for you to come and share the fun. The week had finally arrived for our trip to the Kew Steam Museum, we have been hearing stories about steam trains in preparation and so were especially delighted to go on a real steam locomotive. The children behaved beautifully and thoroughly enjoyed the day. Do see the website for photos! The Nursery had a lovely day at school when Pre-Reception were away. They had a visit to the trim trail, went inside the woodland garden, made popcorn and cones to name a few exciting things. We have been continuing the theme of holidays, with children role-playing travel agents and deciding where they should go for a summer break. We have enjoyed savoury muffins this week and the children have been using different kitchen utensils with Miss Holli in the kitchen. Friday brought all the dads to school for a fun filled morning of Father’s Day challenges. I hope you enjoyed the hot dogs served by a mini chefs, the crazy golf course, driving a remote control car over a bridge to name a few.

RECEPTION – Sharing is caring! – That’s what we are all about in Reception this week including sharing our toys, time and friendships. We started off the week by trying to help ‘Bob the balloon’. He couldn’t make friends because he didn’t know how to share. He was feeling rather ‘down in the dumps’. The classes decided that they could help him by writing advice slips about how to share. We had lots of super ideas and suggestions. Once they were read out to ‘Bob’ he was feeling much happier. So much happier in fact that he wanted to reach the sky! We were excited and delighted to watch him float away high in the sky to meet his ‘balloon’ friends. The children even waved him goodbye and good luck! In maths we have been looking at division. We have used a variety of materials to equally share amounts from playdough and sweets to coins and beans! The children had great fun making groups and some of them could even recognise the division sign and use it in number sentences too. To support our learning further we changed our role play area into a ‘Pizza Parlour’. Here the children were cutting the play pizzas into half so that they could share with a friend. We have been lucky this week to have our Art director Mrs Degg with us. She spoke about the artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser who was inspired by nature. He loved how nature has no straight lines and is full of colour. Looking at his paintings the children drew their own picture in his style then used bright colours to make their drawings come alive. Wow! They do look amazing. What an exciting week.

The Foundation Team

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 20th June – Last Pre-Nursery Session.

SATURDAY 22ND JUNE 1 – 3PM - PTA SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

PLAYGROUND PANTHERS
This week’s playground panthers: Sophia A, Zahra M, Holly D and Darcy W.

‘Leading Llama’: There are various ways to earn this special award by being a leading example in behaviour, effort and achievement. These super stars earn a Llama this week. Ask your child to tell you why they earn their Leading Llama Award:
Nancy H and Lily W.

Mathletics – Congratulations to Caitriona O for achieving her Gold Award.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RETURN LIBRARY BOOKS WEEKLY. ALL LIBRARY BOOKS NEED TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL BY FRIDAY 28TH JUNE.

Congratulations to Kemp House for the first chick to be hatched. Set by the House Captains weeks ago they have decided to call their ‘offspring’ Willow.