Dear Parents

Hola a todos! That is “hello everyone” in Spanish, for this week we have been looking at the cuisine and customs of Spain. Our wonderful catering team provided paella for everyone and we welcomed into school Dr Garces-Caamano who offered a wonderful cooking opportunity for Year 1 children, and Mrs Cooper who cooked paella with Nursery. Thank you both!

It was lovely to see so many of you at the school Open Morning on Saturday. The children were very proud to be able to show off their classrooms and their school work and families enjoyed a tour and a display by the orchestra, the choir and the Year 2 gymnasts before heading back out to enjoy the sunshine.

On Thursday 200 children joined us for our 4th annual St Christopher’s Music Festival at St Martin’s Church. A record number of 9 schools took part in this event including music scholars from Epsom College who played for the arrival of the Mayor and members of the audience. We were very proud of our Year 2 choir who performed two songs, one in Italian, and I will include some photos of this exciting event in next week’s newsletter.

This week the great Times Table challenge began in Year 2. A Bronze Star badge is awarded for knowing the 2x, 5x and 10x tables thoroughly and for answering rapid fire assorted multiplication sums from this category with no error at all! Silver Stars are awarded when 3x and 4x tables are added to this mix and a Gold Star is nominated by the class teacher for correct and consistent use of all tables in class work and problem solving. This week three children earned their Bronze Stars. Congratulations to Lara K, Fergus L and Alexander W for their super, speedy and faultless responses this week.

Next Thursday the BBC will be filming our enjoyable Sport Relief Challenge as we run 10 laps of the field. We understand that the footage will be shown on Friday 21st March during the Sport Relief highlights. How exciting!

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Naomi B from Reception for delightful manners and enthusiastic dining. Well done Naomi!

Morpurgo House have maintained their winning streak this week by accruing 1040 housepoints and staying right at the top of the leader board.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week’s Merit Awards

Philosopher of the Week
Fergus L

Thought for the Week
Should you care for others more than you care for yourself?
Spring has sprung and the lambs are leaping in the Foundation Stage with the Nursery Rhymes Baa Baa Black sheep, Mary had a Little Lamb and Little Bo Peep. The Reception children have been counting in 2’s, 5’s and 10’s. First the children moved the sheep as they counted practically and then they moved on to a special worksheet for their counting which is much trickier. Well done children.

In Reception the children have been pretending to be Police Officers asking questions and writing notes about Bo Peep’s missing sheep. The children then decided to write questions to put in a question box for all the Nursery Rhyme characters. There were lots of great questions including; ‘How did the cow jump over the moon?’ Do you know the answer? She had springy legs! Another excellent question was ‘How did the cat learn to play the fiddle?’ Apparently the cat had been practising since he was 5.

In the Nursery art room and Reception creative areas the children have been using wool for threading and weaving, they have been making wool and cotton wool sheep and finger painting little pictures of sheep.

The children were very surprised to find out that sheep have a ‘haircut’ to take off the wool in the summer and some children remember it is called shearing. We all looked at wool and how it is used for knitting and weaving.

In Nursery we have been busy counting sheep into fields and making sure we count the same number of sheep into each field. We have also been learning the mathematical language, full, empty and partly full. A question for us all is how full is full? Outside the children have been learning about colour and how it can be mixed to make new colours using chalks.

Next week in Nursery we are going to continue the animal rhyme theme with Hey Diddle Diddle, Little Boy Blue and Old Macdonald’s Farm. The children in Upper Nursery are all practising hard for their assembly next Friday. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Foundation Team