



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 14th March 2014

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

Isobel P, Finn T, George F, Sevi K, Sara D, Will H, Ellina M, Aden L, Ned S, Savannah G.

Philosopher of the Week

Fergus L

Thought for the Week

Should you care for others more than you care for yourself?

Work of the Week

This term Reception children are looking at the topic 'Rhyme Time' and enjoying weekly investigations into a variety of traditional rhymes and poems. They have used Incy Wincy Spider for some successful science experiments involving drainpipes and water and last week we saw some wonderful maths subtraction generated by the rhyme '1, 2, 3, 4, 5 once I caught a fish alive'. This week Mars Class has been investigating the rhyme 'Little Bo Peep'. The children worked hard to think of questions that an investigating policeman might ask Little Bo Peep about her missing sheep. George F wrote some thoughtful questions all by himself carefully sounding out the words without any help. Look at his splendid piece of independent writing.

George

Can I write questions for Little Bo Peep? 10.03.14



where d's dot
the galt
Lead top
How did
the sheep jump
over the fence?

Thoughtful questions George with super sounding out today!

Begin to use cursive handwriting please LMB

Foundation Stage News

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

DIARY DATES

Next week is Irish Food Week

Wednesday 19th March: Grandparents' Morning 9.30-11am

Grandparents will be welcome to arrive at the front door from 9.30 - 10 am. They will be greeted and directed to their grandchild's classroom. Refreshments will be served in the Hall.



Thursday 20th March: SPORT RELIEF

Please see recent letter for details and sponsorship form

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR CHILD'S HOUSE T SHIRT

Thursday 20th March at 7pm in the Hall
Survival Tips for Safer Surfing

Thursday 27th March from 1.30pm - Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea
- Details on separate letter

Friday 28th March at 9 am – MUSIC ASSEMBLY

Parents of children in our orchestra, recorder club and violin groups are warmly invited to attend. Coffee will be served in the Porch from 8.30am.

CALPOL

If your child seems unwell in the morning and you decide to administer Calpol just in case, please consider carefully whether your child is really "match fit" for school. It is a long and busy day for little people.



PARKING

Further to our ongoing requests for thoughtful and safe parking, we regret to tell you that one parent parked across resident's drive on Tuesday 11th March at 3:15pm. We have stated that we will disclose the registration numbers of all such offenders because other parents have been distressed at the hostility from our neighbours that is being generated by such thoughtless behaviour. Please could the owner of the car with the registration number **** refrain from parking in an inconsiderate way. Thank you.