



St Christopher's School

Weekly News
Friday 14th September 2018

Dear Parents

This week is 'Engineering Week'. We were inspired by the national initiative 'Year of Engineering 2018' this year and when a group of talented engineers explained the depths of their exciting roles we decided to let them tell our children all about this worthwhile profession. Rose, Katie and Simon designed an entertaining Assembly on Monday which was age perfect for our young students and this was followed by visits every day from the team to work with every child in the school. Twitter followers (StChrisEpsom) will have enjoyed the photographic updates showing children as young as 3 learning about and building flood barriers! Thank you very much to our wonderful visiting Team.

The 'engineering theme' has continued across the year groups and Year 2 built 'literacy bridges' as they learnt about the steps required to make an interesting start to the story, the necessary longer length for the middle of the story and the matching steps required to end a story for the perfect 'fiction recipe! Children worked in pairs to award Lego bricks to their partner for exciting story language when retelling a favourite story and the concentration was a joy to see. What a clever cross-curricular idea.

Year 1 also studied bridges with the visiting engineers. The children were awe inspired by the visual presentation and were particularly impressed by the spectacular bridge in Newcastle. The children then designed their own bridge and then made a bridge for a car out of lolly sticks and polystyrene which was subsequently road tested with success. What a wonderful afternoon.

This term's artist chosen by Mrs Degg is the inspirational architect Alfred Waterhouse who designed the beautiful Natural History Museum. Year 2 children enjoyed their introduction to this term's focus this week and enthusiastically began sketching their own Museum designs during their specialist art session.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Arabella M who helped Mrs Brown by kindly holding the door open for her at break time. Well done Arabella!

Congratulations to **Ahlberg House** for starting the brand new term with a win! They have scored an impressive total of 98 Housepoints.

Mrs Annie Thackray Headteacher

This Week's Merit Awards

Rumi W, Maximo Y, Rosie T, Holly D, Thomas S, Sophie R, Arabella M, Ava C, Scarlett S, Carlos D, Fenton F and Isaac F.

Philosopher of the Week

Miller W

Thought for the Week

If you always got what you wanted would it make you happy?

Work of the Week

Year 2 have already impressed us with their excellent writing skills. This splendid piece of writing is by Clara H in Mercury who described her delightful holiday.

My holiday

On my holiday I went to Italy. we stayed in a lovely villa with lots of toys and 7 beds. we went to a 10 degrees swimming pool. I was so cold! But luckily there was a lovely hot tub. But the problem was that when you got back in the pool it felt colder than before. we went to a restaurant with a crazy waiter who said "chips chips I know lets have chips got started". They had a lovely climbing frame and my brother said "Every swing I go on in Italy it's scary" for pudding we had some delicious chocolate ice cream.

Super work Clara with some excellent descriptions and beautiful explanations 😊

Nursery and Pre-Reception News

The first full week back and we are off to a flying start! We have embraced the exciting building works with an 'Architects Office' role-play with children designing their own buildings and making lists of building supplies required. Our story of the week has been 'The Three Little Pigs' so of course we have built the house of straw, sticks and bricks. We have been visited by three engineers this week who have inspired the children with a clever activity about building flood defences for a house. The children had brilliant ideas about what their defences should be made from - bricks, cement and even jelly! A fabulous time was had by all. The children have got off to a super start already but they may well be extra tired and possibly a little emotional after the summer break. This is all normal and will settle down soon. Be assured that there is plenty of tender loving care around the Nursery and your child's welfare and happiness is at the heart of everything we do. **We are missing two school coats - could you please check to make sure you have the correct ones.** *Reminders: Talk Like a Pirate dress up day - next Wednesday 19th September, Jeans for Genes day on Friday 21st September - jeans and house t shirt top please.*



Reception News

Can you believe that Reception have completed their first full week! Wow! What a week it has been too. We have completely immersed ourselves in the world of 'Pirates' and the children have greatly enjoyed all the fun activities we have been doing linked to this theme. We were very surprised to hear that our teachers had received phone calls from the pirate 'Captain Rupert' and even more surprised that he could not count (because pirates don't go to school!) The classes then helped the pirate count his treasure and write the digits on his treasure bags. Captain Rupert the pirate also needed help designing a new pirate ship and making treasure maps to help him hide his treasure in a safe place. Reception wanted to know what they would look like if they were a pirate, so with that in mind we took photos of our faces and added beards, eye patches, hats and even thought of what our pirate names would be. What a motley crew! Reception have been singing this week and learning pirate songs, we made up actions and used percussion instruments too! We could follow a beat and keep in time with the music. As part of our engineering week, Reception had the opportunity to make small rafts. We then tested them on water to see if they could float! Just to warn you all that after making telescopes this week several children have spotted some 'pirate activity' in our outside area. Please make sure you hide your jewels and gold when coming into school!

The Founation Team



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 18th September - Pre-Nursery Sessions start.

Wednesday 19th September - Pre-Reception and Nursery 'Talk like a Pirate Day' - All children to dress up in pirate costumes.

Friday 21st September 9am - MERCURY class assembly - All parents of children in Mercury class welcome. Refreshments will be served under the porch from 8.30am.

Friday 21st September - Jeans for Genes Day - All children to wear jeans with house t shirt on top.

**ADVANCED NOTICE: SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALES ON TUESDAY 2nd OCTOBER
11.45am - 12.15pm and 2.45 - 3.45pm.**



ORGANISED OCTOPUSES

**This week's Organised Octopuses are:
Emma S, Myles H, Arabella M,
Mrs Thackray, Lily W, Isaac A,
Wilf S and Amelia C.**

Mathletics: Congratulations go to Annie S, Dylan C and Nathan H for achieving their Gold Awards at the end of the Summer term.



Thank you for your patience with our exciting building project. Don't forget to use the peep holes placed at child eye level to watch the clever builders laying bricks.

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

