Weekly News
Friday 17th March 2017

Dear Parents

Happy Saint Patrick's Day to everyone! The Mayor of Epsom and Ewell, Councillor George Crawford attended the St Christopher's Music Festival last Thursday and talked about his love of singing in Ireland during his childhood years. He especially commented on our Year 2s beautiful performance of 'Streets of London' and we were all so very proud of Sophie Macfarlane for her solo in front of such an impressive audience. Well done to all the Year 2s for leading the way during the Festival and for welcoming nearly 200 children from all 7 schools back to school where a wonderful dining experience was followed by fun outside where new friends were made.

On Tuesday we were delighted to begin our Times Tables Awards and this week we say special congratulations to Benji Surbuts, Sophie Macfarlane, Dara Odujinrin and Zahra Khawaja for being the first Year 2s this year to win their Bronze Star for multiplication magic.

On Wednesday magic was once more in the air as we all enjoyed our MERU House Challenge day to raise money to buy some electronic Bugzie wheelchairs for children in need. Our School Council visited the MERU factory in the autumn and were inspired to work on a special project together to raise additional funds this year. The day had a focus on 'life without limbs and sight' and the children experienced wheelchair volleyball by playing seated volleyball with a low net and balloon. They came up and down stairs without using their legs, painted with their toes and played blindfold football with a ball full of bells. These were just some of the amazing activities every child eagerly participated in. We then had a Design and Technology challenge to make a vehicle in each House and the results were spectacular. In the afternoon Mr Barret brought disabled guests from his Tanglewood Home and we all joined together to run the sponsored MERU mile. The School Council thanked everyone and the beaming smiles on everyone's faces confirmed the success of the day. Special thanks to Mrs Russell and to Mrs Pryor for this spectacular day.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Benji Surbuts for his helpful and mature style of dining and for being an example to inspire others.

Well done to Donaldson House for hopping to the top with a wonderful total of 2365 Housepoints no doubt assisted by their 50 point win in the House Challenge.

Mrs Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week’s Merit Awards

School Council Stars of the Week
Zahra Khawaja, Jago Graham Amelie Chellun, Louis Graham, Lily Thum, Mia Preuveneers, Jessica Hibbert and Satvika Rajeev.
Nursery and Pre-Reception News

It has been ELMER week this week. You can’t help but be inspired by this patchwork elephant. Our purple room has been transformed into a jungle writing area and cosy reading corner. The cottage is now a safari hut and rainbow jungle biscuits are being made and eaten in the kitchen. We talked about the differences between Indian and African elephants and decided that Elmer must be an Indian elephant on account of his small ears. On Wednesday we experienced many activities which made us think of what it may be like if we couldn’t hear, see or use our legs. Painting with our toes, being guided around an obstacle course and using feely boxes were some of the challenges we undertook. We took part in the sponsored run in the afternoon and it was lovely to see our children running so brilliantly around the course. Our sound of the week is ‘g’ for gorgeous good girls in the garden!

Reception News

Well done to Mars class! They practised very hard for their assembly and what a success it was! The children have been busy making ‘Wanted’ posters and pictures of Lanky Len and Hefty Hugh the baddies from the book What the Ladybird Heard. Hopefully they will not try stealing any more ‘Prize Cows’. Some children are learning cartography skills as they draw their own maps of the farm, which is great for learning direction, positional language and writing skills. In maths we are getting very good at doubling, by adding the spots on the ladybird’s wings. The children are becoming very creative with their construction skills. Listening to the ideas of others and working as a team to design, build and play are essential for learning and life and these skills were all used in the great DT House challenge on Wednesday.

The Foundation Stage Team

DATES FOR THE DIARY

SHOWCASE MORNING FOR PARENTS ON SATURDAY 18TH MARCH 10.30 – 12.00 –
All parents welcome to come and share their children’s work and enjoy the events performed by our Year 2 children.

OUR WONDERFUL PTA PARENTS WILL BE HOLDING A PTA CAFÉ DURING THE MORNING SERVING HOT DRINKS, FRUIT JUICE AN ASSORTMENT OF DELICIOUS PASTRIES ETC.
Pleasing bring cash!

Wednesday 22nd March – Year 2 Library Quiz
Thursday 23rd March – Pre-Nursery Finishes
Thursday 23rd March – Year 2 Trip to Legoland
Friday 24th March – Red Nose Day Celebrations – Bake Off Assembly
Friday 24th March – Mothers’ Day Events – Please see separate letters for details and timings. There will be a Comic Relief collection at the end of the day so any change will be welcome in our collection buckets.

FRIDAY 24TH MARCH – CLUBS FINISH

As you know we are supporting The Woodland Trust and were thrilled this week to be awarded our SILVER CERTIFICATE. We are working towards our GOLD award and we will be growing trees from seed in the summer term. Please could you start to save 4 pint/2 litre milk cartons cut as shown with 4 drainage holes punched in the bottom for WEDNESDAY 26th APRIL our first day back. Thank you very much.

Mathletics: Congratulations to: Andy Dixon for achieving his Gold Award.

PLEASE NOTE

OWLS AND LARKS BOOKING FORMS FOR THE SUMMER TERM ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE PARENTS SECTION OF THE WEBSITE, UNDER THE BACK PORCH OR FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE.