Dear Parents

On Tuesday our Reception children had their first school trip out to Painshill Park in Cobham. As well as an exciting day of pirate themed activities one highlight was joyfully shared with me at the end of the day by 4 year old Jack with his eyes shining exclaiming: ‘Mrs Thackray, we met a real pirate!’ There were numerous team building activities in both the rain and sun. There was a treasure hunt when the children had clues to find the gothic temple and the magical grotto, before finally taking 30 steps and finding the treasure under the Jolly Roger. The children particularly enjoyed making a 3D map with natural objects and mud masks as a finale.

This week we named our Head Boy and Head Girl Team and House Captains and next week I will tell you about the other honours that were awarded:

Head Boy: Arthur L  Head Girl: Daisy G
Deputy Head Boy: Stanley G  Deputy Head Girl: Louisa R
Donaldson House Captains: Freya B and Sachin W
Morpurgo House Captains: Toby H and Naomi B
Dahl House Captains: Claudia M and Joshua I
Ahlberg House Captains: Teddy C and Issy S

The Blue Bench Monitors are responsible for ensuring that everyone has a friend to play with so do remind your child to sit on the blue bench if they are feeling ‘blue’ or lonely and the Blue Bench Monitors will scoop them up:

Blue Bench Monitors: Harriet G and Caiden C

I was so proud of all the Year 2 children as they applauded their peers enthusiastically and felt pleased for each other. It is never easy to choose from such a wonderful set of children and so we ask the entire St Christopher’s team of staff to nominate children for each category. We are proud for each and every child and as the year continues there are many opportunities for them all to shine.

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Toby H for helping Mrs Culligan in such a grown up, sensible way. Well done Toby.

Congratulations to Morpurgo House for winning this week’s housepoint challenge. They soared to the top of the leader board with an excellent 318 housepoints.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This week’s Merit Awards

Philosopher of the Week
Rocco S

Thought for the Week
Can bullies be nice?

In Year 2 we have been looking at story settings during creative writing lessons. Claudia M from Venus Class wrote this wonderful piece of description inspired by this interesting city photograph. She had a splendid attempt at spellings all by herself and used some impressive punctuation. Well done Claudia.
The Pre-Reception children had a tricky job this week using scissors to cut out their special ‘Listening Ears’. We are sure these extra big ears will help the children to notice all the different sounds that they can hear in their phonic sessions.

As part of our topic ‘places we go’ we have been exploring different parts of the school. We spent some time in the library learning all about how we borrow books and then return them to the library when we have enjoyed them. We liked finding out about the scanner too. In the role play library we have great fun taking turns to be the librarian and checking tickets. The children have been sharing books and love to talk about the stories. Our literary critic Clara said ‘It was funny when the wolf looked over the hedge.’ Myles laughed ‘When the pig splashed into the pond it was funny’. Continuing the library theme our book focus this week is ‘Excuse me that is my book’ by Lauren Child. It is all about Lola’s favourite book, can your child remember what it is called? I am sure your child would enjoy a visit and story in your local library this weekend.

Despite a little rain the Reception trip to Painshill Park was a great success and enjoyed by all. The children played ‘I Spy’ which great fun. Can your child remember animal made the pile of soil? Or which they saw getting ready to fly south? The (sorry pirates) loved the treasure hunt had great fun using natural objects for ephemeral art as they made a Treasure Island. The pirates have been busy all week, for treasure with gusto. Can your child are going on a Treasure Hunt’ to you? I you have been told all about the fun and (and learning too) on Pirate Day. The children are becoming so good at making maps we will not need any Satellite Navigation systems for St Christopher’s families!

The weather is very autumnal but we embrace all weather and every season. Please remember all of the children need rain coats every day. Nursery and Pre-Reception children all need waterproof trousers too. Thank you for naming all your children’s clothes clearly, we always try our best to ensure all the children’s clothes are in the correct bags. Naming shoes is also very important, we take them off to put on boots but sometimes the shoes get in a muddle!

Please could we have cardboard boxes for our modelling table. (If you are able to turn them inside out and re-stick them with masking tape that would be very helpful.)

Many thanks from the Nursery Team
The Foundation Team

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 22\text{nd} September
Football Club Starts

Friday 25\text{th} September
9am VENUS Class Assembly
All parents and carers welcome to attend. Coffee will be served under the porch from 8.30am

Parent Forum – TUESDAY 14\text{TH} OCTOBER at 7pm
If you would like to raise an issue you may do so either via your Class Rep or direct to the Chair of the Forum, Governor Mr Nigel Field. He may be contacted directly via his email nigel.field99@gmail.com. All submissions should be made by Friday 26\text{th} September.

PTA DISCOS
Friday 16\text{th} October
Nursery, Pre-Reception and Reception – 3.30 – 4.15pm
Years 1 and 2 - 4.30 – 5.30pm
Please return ticket requests by Friday 9\text{th} October to the PTA box under the porch

Mathletics - Congratulations to Sachin W and Benji S for achieving their bronze awards.

Congratulations to Vihaan S for being awarded a distinction in his recent LAMDA exam.

PLEASE NOTE: The out of hours telephone is solely for emergency calls regarding OWLS. Any other messages regarding your child should be left on the office telephone number please.