Dear Parents

On Friday Mercury shone brightly by delivering expert advice about looking after our mental health and well-being in their Class Assembly. We learnt about how important it is to look after our minds as well as our physical strength and Mercury delivered top tips about how to enjoy life including trying a new activity and maybe inviting a friend to join you. Thank you Mercury for such a positive and enjoyable assembly delivered confidently and with style! Special thanks too to Miss Drayton for this super, informative production.

On Monday we welcomed parents in to school for our autumn term session of ‘Sharing our Learning’. The school was filled with happy, smiling parents and children as books and artwork were shared, enjoyed and admired.

On Tuesday Year 2 set off to Atkins in Epsom to consolidate their Engineering Week last year by enjoying a morning in a STEM Lab. Amongst a packed range of design and technological challenges the children built boats, excavated and created tunnels in sand boxes, used high-precision Virtual Reality goggles and listened in awe about the impressive buildings designed by Atkins. Special thanks to Mr S for this enriching experience.

On Wednesday I visited Nursery’s new ‘Gym’ and headed straight to the Yoga Studio where I was treated to a brilliant display of yoga by the youngest members of the school. Well done Nursery. The Garden Cottage looks fabulous!

On Thursday and Friday the whole school headed down to our local church St Martin’s for the grand rehearsal followed by the main event - our annual Harvest Festival. I am always left in awe and wonder at the courage and confidence of our young children as they recite their class poems and sing a range of delightful songs including two wonderful solos by a 3 and 6 year old! The theme this year was ‘food’ and the Harvest Dance was an enchanting display to ‘Be our Guest’. Year 2 excelled in their roles as narrators in addition to impressing us with some advanced singing and dancing. Huge thanks to all the staff especially Mrs Mulhern and Mrs Pryor for all their hard work and special thanks to all the parents who came on Thursday and Friday to help walk the children to the church and for being an excellent audience.

Congratulations to Victoria M for being nominated as this week's Lunchtime Superstar for always remembering the Catering Staff's names every day.

Congratulations to Ahlberg for ending half term at the top of the board by winning this week’s Housepoint challenge with a total of 1147 Housepoints.

Have a restful and enjoyable half term and stay safe and happy.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week’s Merit Awards

Nursery and Pre-Reception News

It's been another busy week in Nursery this week; it has been 'Challenge Week'. The children have been completing a number of challenges in all the areas of the Nursery. They had the opportunity to earn a bike licence in the bike area, a name writing certificate in Green Room and show off their amazing cutting skills in Yellow Room! In the outside area this week we have been thinking about keeping ourselves healthy not just our bodies but our minds too. The children have all signed up for their Nursery Gym membership passes and have been busy taking part in some keep fit activities as well as some calming activities in our Nursery Yoga Room. They have mastered many poses including the dog, lion and snake pose and the boat, sun and warrior pose! We have 5 birthdays in October so have made our monthly birthday cake in the kitchen for all the children to share on the snack table. We have also been peeling, boiling and mashing potatoes. We have continued to practise our rhyming this week; we have been reading 'One Mole Digs a Hole' and 'Room on the Broom', the children are able to hear the rhyming words in these familiar stories and delight in joining in. The children have been so busy this half term they are ready for a well deserved break, to give them the energy to jump into our next busy half term which includes our Nursery Assembly and Christmas!

RECEPTION

What a busy week we have had in Reception!
The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their learning with all of their parents and carers. As you will have seen, they have made such progress already and we are very proud of each and every one of them. The children have also been very busy practising their Harvest poems and all of the actions this week and it certainly paid off! The children were incredible during our Harvest Festival and should be very proud of themselves. Thank you all for helping them learn their lines and coming with us to the church. It really was a lovely morning. We have also been practising for our class assemblies which will take place after half term. We cannot wait to share our performance with you, and we hope you enjoy watching it. The children have been very lucky to have had outdoor adventures this week with Mrs Self and they had a wonderful time exploring the great outdoors and using magnifying glasses to explore autumnal features such as conkers, acorns and pinecones. They also loved planting lots of different bulbs including daffodils, snowdrops and tulips ready for the spring. We have sent home some optional homework for the half term if you wish to do it but remember, most importantly, have fun and enjoy some special family time together. Have a wonderful half term.

The Foundation Team

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Week Commencing 4th November

Poppies for sale in School

Monday 4th 8.15 – Year 2 Interactive LSO trip to Barbican.
Wednesday 6th November – Parent/Teacher Appointments – External and Art clubs only running.
Thursday 7th November 9am – NEPTUNE Class Assembly - All Neptune parents welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served under the porch from 8.30am.
Thursday 7th November – Parent/Teacher Appointments – External and Spanish clubs only running.
Friday 8th November 9am – JUPITER Class Assembly – All Jupiter parents welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served under the porch from 8.30am.

EMU AWARDS - Environment Matters to Us:
This week’s EMU Award goes to: Harrison G.

PLAYGROUND PANTHERS
This week's playground panthers: Nancy H, Benjamin K, Autumn W, Olivia C, Elena G, Ava C, Annie R, Scarlett C, Sophie B and Arabella M.

Mathletics: Congratulations to the following children for achieving their Bronze Awards:

Spotty Box awards:
Cillian R for his certificate celebrating football success.
Joseph G for his certificate recognising coming 20th in his Park Run.
Lawrence H for his certificate celebrating rugby success.

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