Dear Parents

Last Thursday we were absolutely delighted to see so many of you at our Great Art Exhibition and we were particularly thrilled to see the children using their catalogues to navigate around the Art Exhibition. Thank you all for your enthusiastic approach and as usual for your generosity when supporting this project. The main thanks must be reserved for our exceptional Art Director Mrs Jules Degg for masterminding and inspiring this successful initiative.

On Tuesday we talked about ‘giving’ and how we can make a difference to others in need. The Independent Schools Association (ISA) have formed a partnership with United World Schools to build a school and train teachers in Cambodia. The School is called Pong Tek and we looked at the building plans of this little school and heard the wonderful news that just £1 pays for a young child’s schooling at Pong Tek for a whole week! We decided that we would make this the charity to benefit from our retiring collections during next week’s Christmas Productions. Everyone has become excited about this initiative and in January we are going to have a visit from a representative who has visited the project and will show us photos of how our contributions will help. Thank you in advance for supporting this charity.

On Wednesday Reception children from Neptune Class set off to Epsom Post Office clutching beautifully written letters that they had prepared together with 56 pence that they had counted out to buy their own stamp before posting their letter. The children were extremely excited and this was a perfect activity to complete their study of The Jolly Postman book. Mars Class will also be enjoying this special opportunity on Friday.

On Thursday we held our annual Christmas Tree Dressing Assembly. Every child in the school had made a beautiful decoration and they held it up proudly to show their friends before hanging it by themselves in a place where they can gaze and admire it right up until the last day of term. Please see p 2 photos.

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Paul H for always appreciating his lunches and coming up for seconds every day. Well done Paul. All week we have become increasingly excited about our Christmas Fair. Our amazing PTA Team have been working harder than Santa’s Elves to create a very special day for us on Saturday. Please come and support us between 2pm and 4pm. It will be a fabulous event.

Congratulations to our winners this week; Kemp House. They top the board with a fabulous total of 1435. Well done!

Mrs Annie Thackray

This Weeks Merit Awards

Philosopher of the Week
John D

Thought for the Week
How important is it to laugh at yourself?

Event of the Week
Dressing the Christmas Tree with handmade decoration lovingly made by every child in the school.
**Nursery and Pre-Reception News**

This week our PSED initiative rewards "hardwork". It has been lovely to see your pictures on Tapestry showing how industrious your children have been over the weekend. Christmas is in full force now with festive tree decorating. I have never seen a christmas tree with more decorations on it in my life! The children have been using their cutting skills to make a letter to Father Christmas. They have been cutting out pictures of dolls, lego, cars, dressing up outfits and much more. The kitchen has been preparing a special treat for the Reindeer on Christmas Eve. The children will be bringing home some beautifully wrapped Reindeer food (all edible by humans). Some of our children have been building pirate ships in the garden with the big blocks so we made a small world pirate adventure land inside, complete with pirate ship, pirates and treasure, it was a big hit! We have been working on our Christmas cards for our families as well as decorating aprons for the Christmas Fair. Numbers have been our focus in group time. We are starting to recognise the numerals and match the correct number of objects to the numeral. We have been using words like more and less, most and least.

**Reception News**

As is the norm in Reception, we have been doing amazing learning and working our socks off! We have been perfecting our number writing skills. To help us write our numbers we have been learning some rhymes. Our favourite one is; "Make an 'S' and do not wait, when it's joined up, you have an 8!" Please encourage your child to practise at home.

We have been counting on and back from 20. We have been using our phonics knowledge to write invitations to our Christmas play. We always try to use the correct pencil grip and form our letters the right way. There is so much to remember when you are learning to write! We have been observing our local environment and making special things for the Christmas Fair. We visited the Post Office in Epsom and used real money to buy a stamp. We then posted our letters in the post box. Wow! Haven't we been busy?

The teachers are very impressed with how well the children have learnt their lines for our Christmas play. They are speaking loudly, clearly and learning a song and dance too. What 'Superstars' we have at St Christopher's School. You are all in for a treat next week!

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**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER – CLUBS FINISH (Except ballet)**

Monday 4th December – Last ballet
Wednesday 6th, Thursday 7th and Friday 8th December 9am – WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE – ‘Lights, Camel, Action’

Entrance by ticket only (please remember that due to the young age of our actors with our youngest performer not yet 3, we have to minimise all distractions that would upset the young stars and accordingly with regret we cannot accept babies and young toddlers in the audience. We thank you in advance for making alternative arrangements and helping each other out).

**SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER, 2 – 4PM - PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR**

We look forward to seeing you all on the day.

This week's Respectful Rabbits are:
Kai K, Joshua C, Oliver N, Emma S and George S.

**Mathletics**: Many congratulations to Ethan L for gaining his Gold award.
Also to Leo E, James H, Thomas P, Myles H, Catriona O and Saraya J all achieved Silver and Thomas P and Catriona O gained their Bronze awards
– Well done to all the children!

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