Dear Parents
During the final week of half term we were fortunate enough to enjoy two wonderful Class Assembly performances by Pre-Reception children aged just 3 and 4 years old. On Thursday Sky and Earth children took centre stage and entertained us with their songs and rhymes and on Friday it was the turn of children from Sun and Moon. We all marvelled at their confidence and their evident joy as whilst entertaining us all. Thank you children and a special thank you to the Nursery Team for such a wonderful show on both days.

This week we were particularly impressed by our magical multiplication mathematicians in Year 2 and a large crop of children received their Bronze Star Awards. Special congratulations to Artie B, Isaac F, Clara H, Zoe M, Jessica H, Arisa A and Morgan W.

The School Council have been busy considering their new project for the term. They have decided to make a new ‘Bug Hotel’ to be situated in the Trim Trail and a shopping list of their essential equipment is on p 4 for anyone kind enough to donate to this worthwhile cause.

On Tuesday Years 1 and 2 set off to Wimbledon to Buddhapadipa the beautiful Buddhist Temple. They listened with fascination to the monk who introduced both the Main Temple and the philosophy behind this unique faith. With the sun streaming in to the Temple the stunning murals stood out and the red and gold decorations looked magnificent. Do see the photo on Twitter.

All week the school has been alive with the sound of poetry. In every room this important literary genre has been celebrated and in Reception the children were enjoying each other’s performances so much that they began to film each other and share the performances back on the inter-active whiteboard. The problem the children posed to the staff was the issue of just who to put through to the Highly Commended Assembly on Thursday and to the grand final on Friday. Well done to all the children for learning and reciting a poem so brilliantly this week. Photos of performers and winners next week.

Congratulations to Matilda G for being nominated as this week’s Lunchtime Superstar for such an improvement in her choice of lunches. Well done Matilda.

Congratulations to Ahlberg House for starting the half term off so well by leading the board this week with a super total of 1145 Housepoints.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week’s Merit Awards

Philosophers of the Week
Jessica H, Rayyan W and Ebba R

Thought for the Week
How important is it to be wise?
Nursery and Pre-Reception News

It has been countdown to the Pre-Reception assemblies this week. The groups have been busy making hats and learning their rhymes, ready to thrill the audiences and I think you will agree that they succeeded for everyone was delighted! There have been more amazing smells coming from the kitchen this week as the children have been making pizza pies. It was lovely to see our new Rainbow children having a go as well. We celebrated a birthday this week and enjoyed the cake on the snack table, yummy! It has also been Challenge Week and the children have been undertaking different activities that will challenge them in different ways. Colour mixing, counting, shape recognition, name writing, throwing and aiming accurately and independent coat and zip tackling to name a few. The children have showed their ‘Stickosaurus’ natures as they perservered even when the task was tough. We have a new reading area in yellow room, which we have called the ‘Reading Rainbow’. We are encouraging the children to use this as a quiet reading place where they can get lost in a story or enjoy a tale being read to them. Our woodland adventures this week have included looking at a planting calendar and deciding what flowers and vegetables we are going to grow this year. Watch the Nursery garden to see our progress.

Reception: This week our focus story was ‘You Choose in Space’. The children have had great fun deciding what they would wear and the way that they would travel in space. The children particularly enjoyed creating animals that they would like to keep as a pet; we had some interesting animal names such as the ‘pog’ (pig head and frog body) and the ‘catphant’ (cat head and elephant body)! In maths we have been focusing on calculations, the children have enjoyed learning to subtract using crossing out and have continued their learning of addition independently (especially when playing the leap frog game and keeping score!) Fabulous work this week Reception!

The Foundation Team

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

HALF TERM: 18TH – 22ND FEBRUARY

Tuesday 26th February – Years 1 and 2 Trip to Buddhist Temple.
Friday 1st March – Poetry Competition Final.

FRIDAY 1ST MARCH – PTA MOVIE NIGHT
SATURDAY 2ND MARCH – PTA FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHY DAY

PLEASE NOTE - WEEK COMENCING 4TH MARCH –
The following clubs will not run: Sewing, Mindfulness, Funky Folk, Gymnastics, Drama, Cooking, Coding and Recorder Clubs.

We were so pleased to see such a positive response to our Kind Koala initiative. Well done to the following children for demonstrating acts of particular kindness this week:
Thomas P, Sophie B and Maya L.

PLAYGROUND PANTHERS
This week’s playground panthers are Bailey T and Nancy H.

Congratulations go to: Emma S for passing her Senior Gold Belt in Judo.

Also to Annabel V for passing the LAMDA introductory exam with distinction.

Mathletics: Congratulations go to Erin O and Oliver N for achieving Gold.
Also to Arisa A and Sophie B for gaining Silver Awards and to Saraya J and Isabella G for achieving Bronze.

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