Weekly News
Friday 20th June 2014

Dear Parents

No news from the incubator this week. All the eggs are warm and safe and being gently rocked from side to side to mimic the mother hen gently rolling her eggs over in the nest. There has been ‘eggnormous’ interest from the children in particular looking at the model eggs that show the development of the chick inside so beautifully.

Once again St Christopher’s children have been out and about enjoying this summer weather. On Wednesday the Year 2 children who will be going to CLFS enjoyed an afternoon of familiarisation. On the same day the whole of Year 1 went off to Downsden School for an afternoon of summer sport. They enjoyed a carousel of striking and fielding activities in mixed teams. The afternoon’s activities were followed by a lovely tea and presentation.

The teachers were delighted with the range of nominations for the overall STAR demonstrating good manners. Empathy has been the focus this week and we have worked hard with the children to help them to imagine how they would feel to be at the receiving end of behaviour both positive and disappointing. Children are so quick to learn and we have been delighted with their efforts to see things from another’s point of view. Many congratulations to Jamie H from Nursery for being the overall winner demonstrating the best manners during the week.

Drama has been the order of the week as rehearsals began in earnest. Consequently only Alex S managed to secure her Silver Star Award by popping in to be tested in between rehearsals for the production. Well done Alex.

The summer production, written by Mrs Emma London is ‘Race Against Time’ and I can confidently predict that intergalactic fans of Dr Who will be in for a treat. Please remember that entry is by ticket only so that we can comfortably seat every member of the audience and do remember please to make alternative arrangements for under 5s who can distract our tiny performers.

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Rafael Ispani for blossoming in confidence and now talking to the catering team about how much he enjoys his lunch. Well done Rafael.

Some extremely hard work by Dahl House has taken them to the top of the housepoint Leader Board with 737 housepoints. Well done Dahl House.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

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Work of the Week – Mars Class

Inspired by our visit to The London Planetarium last week, Mars class wondered if there might be any creatures living on other planets. We drew pictures of what we thought they might look like!
The Reception children are ‘off to the stars’ in their role play space station and they have already met some aliens and designed their unique profiles. It is great to see how far the children have progressed since they were in Nursery; one of the children wrote about their alien called Fred whose favourite food is “chip slugs” and his favourite thing to do is “playing football”. The children used oil pastels to draw some aliens and they have created the solar system in the classroom. Watch out NASA! The children are so clever they are learning their numbers inside out as they practice counting back from 20 and even 30.

On a topical note the children’s interest in the world cup football tournament has sparked off some wonderful learning opportunities, recording the results and predicting scores as well as creating their own football kits.

In Nursery we have had two visitors to introduce us to the work of some very special people we meet in the world. Mrs Margrave told us what a nurse does to help people. The children were surprised to learn that we might meet nurses in schools and that they visit people at home as well as in hospitals. Mr London came in his uniform too, he showed the children how a paramedic takes blood pressure and he showed us how to put on a bandage. Thank you to both Mr London and Mrs Margrave for answering the children’s questions and letting them try the breathing masks, stethoscopes, syringes and bandages. The children have become very interested in hospitals, doctors and nurses and have been using our blocks and building tools to build a hospital and making hospital beds outside in the garden. Next week we are looking forward to making a hospital role play area.

Meanwhile the children are busy making and serving meals in our café to all our busy builders and hospital workers. They are working very hard using their phonic knowledge to write menus and take orders.

Nursery parents please remember to bring your child’s book bag to school each Monday. We start the reading and maths groups on Mondays and if a book bag is not in we will not be able to change the book or the maths challenge card.

One of the main activities this week is preparing for the next exciting event on the calendar, the school play. Thank you for sending in the children’s costumes. All the Foundation Stage children love learning their songs and practising their routines they are all looking forward to showing off their talents next week.

The Foundation Team