Weekly News
Friday 22nd May 2015

Dear Parents
The Hall was once again the subject of a magnificent transformation this week. It became Wonderland for our Great Read event on Thursday involving teams from 5 other schools who entered either through the rabbit hole or the looking glass according to size! The whole event was a great success and everyone was reminded of the magic that happens when you open a book.

Sport was on the agenda once again this week as we welcomed Will Timms, a professional cricket coach who spent the morning working with all year groups. The children showed great promise and approached the sporting challenges with energy and enthusiasm. We might well secure the Ashes in the future.

On Tuesday the Head Boy Yan and Head Girl Lola were invited to Epsom Hospital to hear about how St Christopher’s charity carol singing contributions were spent. Together with other schools who sang at Christmas, they were present when the new Ultrasound Machine costing £27,000 was presented to the paediatric and maternity departments and were thanked on behalf of us all. Look out for their photo in the newspaper!

On Wednesday Year 2 children were celebrated in assembly for completing their challenges in the Good Digital Citizen Award Assembly. Their awards were presented by our Chair of Governors Mrs Caroline Smart. Congratulations to all children for passing their test in how to use the internet sensibly looking at CONDUCT, CONTENT and CONTACT online.

Last Friday 9 members of our lovely PTA were invited to lunch and they wrote a letter of praise for the quality and service that they experienced. Accordingly this week's Lunchtime Superstars are Mrs Stubbs, Mrs Brown and Mrs Culligan for brilliantly providing delicious lunches every day.

Congratulations to our Times Tables champions this week. Felix A earned his Bronze star. Jacob F, Miles R and Poppy L earned their Silver Stars. Well done to all.

Day 7: Despite great excitement there has been no activity in the incubator this week. Children have shown no signs of egghaustion in their enthusiasm as they check for signs daily.

This week we say well done to Morpurgo House for accruing a splendid total of 417 Housepoints. Well done to all the children in Morpurgo House.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week’s Merit Awards

Thought for the week
Is beauty better than happiness?

Philosophers of the week
Matthew S and Sophie P

Work of the Week – Jupiter Class

Jupiter Class have been learning about Healthy Eating this week in their Design and Technology lessons. They began by planning and designing their delicious fruit kebabs and then used some impressive fine cutting skills to make them. They all passed the taste test! Can you spot the repeating patterns? Here is the colourful design plan made by Louisa R and pictured below is Jupiter Class evaluating this lesson with enthusiasm.
Foundation Stage News

The Reception children have been helping Bob the farm dog to hide his bones in different ways to confuse the naughty fox who tries to steal them. The maths task has been to record their work as number sentences, adding 2 or 3 different numbers together each time. These clever children have learnt how to use the plus/add and equal symbols. They are also learning all the different number bonds for the number 10. They have made rainbows joining pairs of numbers which total 10. We enjoy lots of number bond activities so that the children will know them without even stopping to think!

In literacy the children talked about what makes a good story. They have written some super stories set on a farm. They chose and named their characters first. Zac chose ‘Finn Fox’, Ziyah chose ‘Anbel fol and bow hos’ (Annabel foal and Beau Horse) and Bertie chose ‘Bel and the litlall gil farmer’ (Bella and the little girl farmer). As you can see the children are using their knowledge of phonics in their writing, excellent; the ‘give it a go’ approach is what the best learning is all about, well done children!

Those busy Reception children have been trying out a range of construction kits to make things that move. Joe and Jack looked at a range of vehicle designs. Joe made a boat and Jack used the magnetic blocks to make a car. Jack wanted his car to fit four people so he carefully adapted his design to make it bigger.

In Nursery this week we have been trying to be very helpful like the animals in the story ‘Farmer Duck’ by Martin Waddell. The children suggested that tidying up is very helpful, we hope they will extend this good idea to home as well as school! We also love another book by Mr. Waddell ‘The Pig in the Pond’. It has been great fun to act out the story using the props in the garden. Lots of toy pigs have been playing in all sorts of mucky and muddy natural environments after all that fun and everyone has enjoyed washing the pigs in the pond afterwards. Our pigs may even fly! Because in the art room we have been busy using all sorts of materials to make our own pigs, the children are checking they have put on four legs as well as remembering the nose is called a snout and they need a curly tail.

In the building corner children have been using blocks to make pig pens to make sure that the pigs do not get in the pond again. Clever thinking and building children!

After the break the Nursery children are going to think about what it would be like if we were butterflies and bugs looking carefully at the book ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’ by Eric Carle. If parents could collect kitchen paper rolls for the art room that would be very helpful. We hope everyone has a great half term holiday; maybe the children can go to a farm and tell their grown-ups all about our learning during the last couple of weeks.

The Foundation Team

DIARY DATES

MONDAY 25TH – FRIDAY 29TH MAY – HALF TERM
Monday 1st June: Return to school 8.30am

Wednesday 3rd June at 9am
Music Assembly

Thursday 4th June at 7pm in Mercury Classroom:
Parents’ Information Meeting for Year 2 Residential Visit to Juniper Hall

Friday 5th June
GOLDEN BOOT CHALLENGE DAY for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
(See recent letter)

Friday 5th June
Year 1 visit to the Maritime Museum, Greenwich

Friday 5th June: PTA Summer Ball

Door Mice - Congratulations to the hard working Door Mice this week for showing exceptional manners: George F, Sophie P, Oscar R, James S and Dylan F.

Mathletics - Huge congratulations to Jacob F and Ava S for achieving their Gold Certificate in Mathletics.

Emails v hard copies

You will have noticed that now that our management information system has settled in, we are using this facility to provide information via email promptly and efficiently with a view to saving paper. Letters that have a reply slip attached will continue to appear in hard copy.

Radio Star

Do listen out on Radio 2 next Wednesday for our own Jacob F. He rang and spoke to Chris Evans about St Christopher’s Great Read on Thursday and Chris has asked him to ring back next week with all the details.