



St Christopher's School

Weekly News
Friday 23rd February 2018

Dear Parents

Just before half term we enjoyed an assembly presentation by Mercury Class guiding us through the 80 year history of St Christopher's School. The children spoke with authority about the fascinating history of the school and we all enjoyed looking at the historical artefacts brought down from the attic. Congratulations to Mercury Class for this excellent assembly and thank you to Mrs Garrod for her direction. The finale was a masterful delivery of Spike Milligan's poem 'The ABC' which inspired us all to get practising for Poetry Week more of which to follow.

On Friday we were also delighted to run our annual Inter House Pancake Relay Race which was enormous fun. Every child took part and the colourful photos on the website capture the event beautifully.

Following a restful half term the children were thrilled to attend Monday's Assembly where our special guest Mr C guided them through the facts about Chinese New Year. Freya and Toby's dad gave the school some delightful artefacts brilliantly coloured red and gold and told the children the story of why these colours are so important in Chinese folklore. Seth J then stepped forward to hand out a fortune cookie to every child in the school and we thank both Mr C and the J family. We then all enjoyed a Chinese meal at lunch time and heard Twinkle, Twinkle sung in Chinese by Nursery! On Monday and Tuesday the whole school immersed themselves in poetry. The children impressed us all with their carefully learnt poems and classrooms were full of verse and applause! On Wednesday 30 children performed in the Hall for the Highly Commended Poetry Assembly and on Thursday 24 finalists performed before judges Governor Adam Goldman and our own Forest School provider Jay Bristow. The standard this year was exceptionally high and winners are listed below and finalists on p4. Thank you all for your support with this important initiative encouraging bold, articulate public speakers.

On Tuesday afternoon Year 1 set off to St Martin's Church for a guided tour by Anna Keith. They learnt an impressive amount about this beautiful building.

On Thursday afternoon Year 2 set off for two football fixtures at Parkside School and they enjoyed every part of this friendly fixture.

We also began our Times Tables awards and the first Bronze Stars of the year went out to Ethan L, Daisy M and Andy D for superb mastery of their 2x, 5x and 10x tables under testing super-fast conditions.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Niamh H for showing great kindness and comfort to a Year 1 child at lunchtime.

Well done to all the children in **Dahl** House. You are this week's winner with an impressive total of **1088** Housepoints.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week's Poetry Awards

EYS - 1st Rumi W, 2nd Ella D, 3rd Arabella M

KS1 - 1st Annie S, 2nd Fraser W, 3rd Daisy M

Event of the Week



Nursery and Pre-Reception News



Poetry week and the children have been amazing and brave. There have been no shortage of volunteers to perform poems to their group. Well done everybody for spending time with your children on this worthwhile activity. We have also been celebrating Chinese New Year. We have been cooking Chinese dumplings in the kitchen and the children loved both the activity and the taste! If you take a look at our Twitter feed you will see a rendition of Twinkle Twinkle in Chinese too. Having a go at Chinese writing and dancing with ribbons followed an amazing assembly by Mr Cheung which we all enjoyed. The children were also given a fortune cookie to take home courtesy of Seth, thank you.

Our sound this week has been 'I', down the insects body and a dot for the head. Next week our sound is 'n' - so look out for nets, nuts and newts! The children have been making cvc words using magnetic letters, mum, peg, pig, mat and even alien words like 'inp' and using numicon to explore numbers. It has been lovely to see your shape home learning pictures coming through Tapestry, thank you for your support. **REMINDER - If you have any notes or reply slips for nursery, please put them in the baskets at the beginning of the day. We do not check the children's bags**

messages may be missed if they are not in the baskets provided. Thank you

Reception News

'Happy New Year!'. We started the week learning about how people celebrate Chinese New Year. We tried using chopsticks and doing some Chinese Calligraphy. We even tried to build our own Great Wall of China! The children all recited some delightful poems using clear voices and great expression. They also loved listening to more poems, especially the funny ones.

The Reception children enjoyed telling everyone about all the fun that they had during the half term holiday. They wrote all about some of the exciting things they did, like going to parties, seeing 'real unicorns' and the dinosaurs at the Natural History Museum. The children have impressed their teachers using their super writing skills, remembering to use their phonics, using finger spaces between words and learning to write in sentences. We have lots of new learning opportunities to explore through the book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. What does your child think the bear is thinking as he walks along the beach at the end of the book? In Maths this week we are learning about doubling. Numicon is a great tool to help us work out doubles. Finding two Numicon pieces the same and adding them together is so much fun. Now I wonder if we can remember the doubles that we worked out? Inspired by our Chinese wall building the children have been busy building with all sorts of bricks. Once a construction is completed the children draw and label their model to keep in their Learning Journals.

The Foundation Stage Team



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DIARY DATES

Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th February – Parent/Teacher Appointments (all years) – External clubs and Art only running.

Wednesday 28th February 11.45am – 12.15pm and 2.45 – 3.45 pm - 2nd Hand Uniform Sales in the outside classroom.

Thursday 1st March – World Book Day – *Black and White theme* (email with details sent to parents)

Friday 2nd March – 9.15 – 11am – Open Morning for Prospective Parents – Please invite any friends or family to attend.

Considerate Cats this week are: Kaila K, George S, Alistair H and Thomas P.



POETRY COMPETITION FINALISTS

EYFS

Beatrix B
Harrison S
Darcy W
Wilfred S
Oliver N
Lucy A
Sophia A
George S
Gabriel K

KS1

Thomas P
Luke M
Thomas M
Isaac F
Mia P
Henry M
Sophie M
Lottie R
Henrietta L

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

