Weekly News  
Friday 24th May 2019

Dear Parents

The week began with a return of the sunshine and it has been wonderful to see the grass, now healthily green thanks to the recent rain, full of children playing happily in sunhats!

On Friday we welcomed parents Ms S and Dr and Mrs O in to school to teach us all about Ramadan. They gave a beautiful illustrated talk about the Muslim religion and the children were fascinated as they learnt about customs and traditions associated with this faith. Thank you very much.

On Monday we started the week with a superb visit from M & M Theatre Company made possible by our generous PTA, thank you. We were transported from Kansas to Oz during a terrific production of The Wizard of Oz and the talented actors with wonderful costumes and significant acting skills held and entertained our enraptured children. What a treat and we have had some excellent ongoing work generated by this show as you will see from page 2.

On Tuesday we welcomed Year 2 children from Chinthurst School for an afternoon of sporting challenge brilliantly arranged by Mrs Sarah Pryor. Everyone worked hard but successfully together and certificates for skill were awarded following milkshake and flapjacks!

We could not have been prouder of the smallest people in the school this week when our young Nursery and Pre-Reception children took to the stage for their summer production, ‘Animal Magic’. With a range of performers from those who joined us after Easter to seasonal performers aged 4 the children showed maturity and impressive stage presence and we enjoyed every scene. Thank you to everyone involved and well done children! Thank you for your generous donations to the retiring collection which raised £283.68 towards St Christopher’s Hospice, our school charity this year.

We finished the week congratulating outstanding performances across the school with our annual Cup Assembly. The waiting children were quick to applaud the success of others as well as show delight when it was their own turn to be presented with a cup. Do see the Trophy Cabinet for the winners.

Congratulations to our super mathematicians who earned their Times Tables badges this week: Thomas M and James H received their Bronze Star Award and Leo E, Isaac F, Morgan W and Satvika R received their Silver Star Award. Well done children!

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Annabel H in Nursery for mastering the use of her knife and fork so beautifully. Bravo Annabel!

Congratulations to Kemp House for winning the end of half term challenge with an amazing total of 843 Housepoints. 

Mrs Annie Thackray, Headteacher

Philosophers of the week
Maya L

Thought of the Week
Should we always look the same?

Work of the Week

After watching ‘The Wizard of Oz’ on Monday the children in Year 1 Saturn Class were inspired to write a letter to the wizard, from the point of view of one of the characters from the story. Sophia A put herself in the ‘ruby’ shoes of Dorothy and wrote a thoughtful letter all by herself trying to persuade him to send her back to Kansas. Well done Sophia.
This week was ‘Showtime!’ What a fantastic week we have had. All our children were amazing in the show. They learnt dances, words and came on and off stage like professionals and didn’t they look amazing? All the Staff in Nursery are so proud of them all. We still managed plenty of learning this week too. We have been practising our sounds by listening to the initial sounds in words, eg: ‘c’ at the beginning of cat. We have also had a go at blending by speaking like a robot eg: d-o-g = dog and then trying to hear all the sounds in small words eg: ‘how can I write the word hat?’ = h-a-t. This is all very tricky work and the children were very good at listening and using the sounds they know. We have also been using our counting to find out how many bounces of a ball, jumps, hops and star jumps we can do, we even had a go at estimating. Thank you for sending us your photographs on Tapestry, showing us all the counting games you did at home. We also had a go at flour sprinkling to make pictures and recreated The Bear Hunt scenes with mud, leaves and grass – what a mess we all got into that afternoon! Have a lovely half term and hopefully enjoy some lovely weather.

RECEPTION
‘What the Ladybird heard’ is our focus story this week: Lanky Len and Hefty Hugh have been up to no good trying to steal the farmers prize cow! Luckily the farm animals worked together to stop the cow from being stolen and the farmer called the police. The children enjoyed this story and were able to create their own story maps containing all the key events in the story. The children added some captions and speech bubbles to their story maps to remind them of what happened. We have been designing our own class farm; the children collected the materials including grass and mud from outside. It got very messy, but we had lots of FUN. They were then able to place the animals in the correct environments and say why they would or wouldn’t be suitable for each animal. Talking of messy we have been learning to count in 2s. To help us we decided to paint our feet to make a counting in 2s number line! The children in Reception had art with Mrs Degg this week; they have been celebrating line and colour in the style of Friedensreich Hundertwasser. They are learning to close shapes and fill spaces to create eye catching results. Once again, a super busy week in Reception.

The Foundation Team

Dates for your diary

Monday 3rd June – Return to school after half term.
Wednesday 5th June 1.45pm – Twinkles Parent/Teacher Appointments.
Thursday 6th and Friday 7th – Y2 residential visit to Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre

PTA Second hand uniform sales on Thursday 6th June – 11.45AM – 12.15PM and 2.45 – 3.30PM in Mercury Class.

A Date for Your Diary
Monday 10th June 8.30 – 9am – Whole School Sharing Our Learning - All parents welcome to come and share the hard work your children have been doing this term. We are delighted that Nursery and Pre-Reception have asked to join in.

Playground Panthersons
This week’s playground panthers: Freya C, Nathan H, Emily L, Lucy A, and Holly D.

‘Leading Llama’: There are various ways to earn this special award by being a leading example in behaviour, effort and achievement. These super stars earnt a Llama this week. Ask your child to tell you why they earnt their Leading Llama Award:
Joseph G, Gabriella L, Sophie R, James C, Megan R and George S.

Please ensure that all children have their sunhat in school after half term.

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