Weekly News
Friday 26th June 2015

Dear Parents
This has been a week of saying 'welcome'.
Last Thursday we welcomed Headteachers and Art Directors from 20 schools belonging to the Independent Schools Association (ISA) Regional London South Area. St Christopher's hosted the London South Regional Art Competition and competitors arrived with mini buses full of entries leaving the judges a very difficult task. There were 2D, 3D, textiles, photographic and even digital categories for all ages up to 6th Form. Our own wonderful Art Director Mrs Degg not only directed the evening, she selected our school entries taken from work by our pupils. In a hard fought contest we were delighted to win 3 first prizes and 3 second prizes in our age groups which was an outstanding result. The visitors traditionally are given a tour of the school and a dinner and the former was supplied by our amazing Year 2s who also provided some live art workshops on the evening. I have received so many compliments about their engaging and mature performance on the evening and I couldn’t be prouder. Well done to all our Year 2 children.

On Friday morning we welcomed 77 Dads into school for a Father's Day Challenge morning. All the fathers joined in with the fun and the children were exceptionally excited. Those whose fathers couldn’t get here made Father’s Day treats and had their own circuit of fun. Thank you to all our visitors and also for the lovely letters of appreciation received and special thanks to Mrs London and Mrs Hawes for devising the exciting timetable.

On Wednesday we welcomed Year 2 from The Study in New Malden for a sports afternoon of fun and competition. We all enjoyed the exciting range of activities and the medal winners from Gangnam Style Team deservedly won first place. We also welcomed all our parents in to enjoy our splendid Summer Production but more of that in next week’s newsletter.

Earning their Helpful Hedgehogs badge of honour this week were Sophie M, Miles R, Charlie S, Carys F, Rowan N and Felix A - well done for being super helpful this week.

But hard work never stops and this week we say congratulations to Charlie S, Felix A, Mathilda K, Lola F, Joaquin G and Luke S for achieving their Silver Star Times Table Awards.

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Dara O for always saying please and thank you with his confident voice. Well done Dara.

Well done to all the children in Donaldson House. You have retained the lead in the weekly housepoint challenge with an impressive total of 879 housepoints.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher
Foundation Stage News

We are so proud of all of the children in the Foundation Stage they have worked very hard every day this week. They have not only sung and danced beautifully for the performances but they have been so clever getting themselves changed and organising their clothes and costumes every day.

Inspired by their visit to Brooklands Transport Museum the children in Reception have been asking lots of questions about buses and how they have changed over time. So they studied a range of photos of buses from different periods of time and they learnt how to put them in chronological order. The children compared the various buses and then wrote their observational thoughts. Matthew wrote ‘The oldest has horses for the engine’, and Rory wrote that he saw ‘The driver is in the bus’, when he looked at the modern bus.

The children were given some foam transport stickers to create their own maps or scenes of imaginary places. Benji created a wonderful ‘water world’ while Sophie designed a town with a school for the bus, a garden with a child’s toy aeroplane and even a town refuse dump for the rubbish truck.

The children have also been exploring inside and out, they are developing their investigative skills and learning lots of scientific language to describe things they found with different textures. They found things that were smooth, bumpy, transparent and shiny I wonder what they find at home with these different textures and properties?

Some of the Upper Nursery children have enjoyed Geography field trip to the big playground, trim all around our school. They have been learning the older children’s classrooms are as well as to remember the names of some of the staff who around our school. They told me that Mrs. Thackray ‘does assembly’ and ‘takes people around’.

We all love playdough, so we have had great fun developing our fine motor techniques to roll playdough into balls and then fixing them together to make some wonderful long caterpillars. The children all concentrated very hard. I wonder what other creatures you could make children?

In Nursery we have started limbering up for the Nursery Sports Day. Do remember if your child does not attend school on a Friday and they wish to participate they are welcome. Please bring your child in wearing their house T-shirt and navy shorts at 8.30, after the sports we will take the children back indoors and give them refreshments. We will then bring the children to their parents to ensure all children are safe and accounted for. If your child usually attends Nursery please collect your child at 12.00 if that is their usual time. All of the other children should be collected at 1.30 as there is no afternoon school on Friday.

The Foundation Team

Most School Clubs Have Finished

Except Rugby (Tuesday 30th June),
Violin Stage 1 and Y1 & Y2 EzeeSport (Thursday 2nd July) and Ballet (6th July)

Diary Dates

Monday 29th June: Year 2 to LSO Concert, Barbican (morning)
Wednesday 1st July:
  Year 1 visit to Littlehampton
PTA 2nd Hand Uniform Sales at 11.45am and 2.45pm in Saturn Classroom
Thursday 2nd July: Reports home to parents

Friday 3rd July: Sports Day (See emailed letter for full details)
  9.30am Nursery Sports
  5pm Upper School Sports

Children go home at 1.30pm and return at 4.45pm

Friday 3rd July: Bring a Cake for the Summer Fair

PTA Summer Fair: Saturday 4th July 1 – 3pm

Monday 6th July (morning): Reserve Sports Day

Larks & Owls: Booking Forms for the Autumn Term are Now Available
(from Porch, Office & on website)

Clubs for Years 1 & 2 in the Autumn Term: Please return your booking forms by Wednesday 1st July

Summer Production DVD: Please return orders by Wednesday 1st July

Isa Art Awards

1st Dara O – Kandinsky - 2D Art
1st Mars and Neptune – Princess Dress – Textiles
1st Year 2 Art Club – Remembrance Poppies – 3D Art

2nd Sophie M – Explode – 2D Art
2nd Ho-Yan T – Daffodil – 2D Art
2nd Ho-Yan T – Indian Model – 3D Art