



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 29th January 2016

Dear Parents

On Friday we were all delighted to see the return of the Class Assemblies this week featuring the children from Mercury Class. They talked about weather in a very topical manner addressing the rainfall and the regional floods and gave a beautifully illustrated demonstration of how much rain falls in Britain using metre sticks and some film footage. The clever children then performed a poem about King Canute which was delivered superbly with humour, costume and props. Well done Mercury and a special thank you to Mrs Garrod for this wonderful assembly.

On Monday Susannah Lea from Epsom and Ewell Borough Council came to talk to the children in her capacity as Waste Services Assistant. She talked to the children about recycling. She then introduced a competition to design an anti-litter poster and will be returning to judge and present the prize

On Tuesday we heard the story of The Lorax, the personal favourite book of the author, Dr Seuss written in 1971. He once explained that the book came out of being angry about environmental issues. Do read it and share it again with your child.

We also looked at the enormous pile of paper handtowels collected from the cloakrooms on Monday night and vowed to reduce the amount of paper towels that we use each day. We compared the amount that we had used on Wednesday morning and found a significant reduction. The other significant reduction that we found this week was with our energy consumption. Year 2 read our gas and electricity meters on Monday and Tuesday morning and afternoon and, following a day of energy conservation found an impressive difference. The House challenge on Tuesday was great fun and every child in the school worked together in their Houses to create some stunning House motifs. We have enjoyed producing our 'EXTRA' sheet containing many of the Environment challenges too numerous to mention here. Well done everyone and a special thank you to Mrs Alison Kay for coordinating such a memorable event.

Many congratulations to Naomi B and Max G for being the first two children from Year 2 to gain their Bronze Star Times Tables Badge.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Athena D for being Mrs Stubbs' star diner and "being a pleasure to cook for". Bravo Athena.

*Well done to all the children in **Morpurgo** House for gaining the most Housepoints this week with an impressive total of 497. Annie Thackray, Headteacher*

This week's Merit Awards

Rocco S, Arthur L, Rory P, Athena D, George W, Frederick K, Matthew S, Daisy M, Rafferty O, Daisy H, Teddy C and Noah T.

Philosopher of the Week
Sophia D

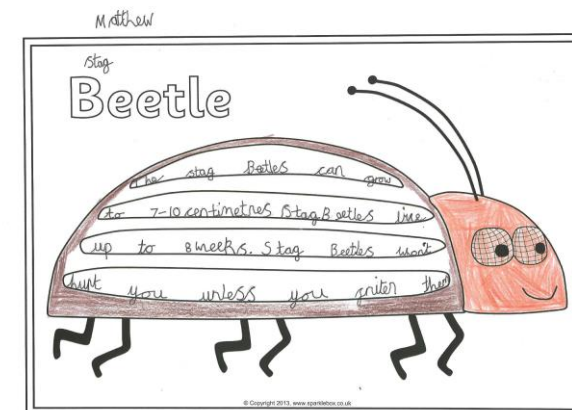
Thought for the Week
Should you always keep secrets?

Work of the Week

This week Jupiter class learned about endangered species, particularly beetles. We then went on to use donated and recycled materials to build this wonderful Insect Hotel. I am sure there will be some guests booking in soon.



Matthew S's challenge was to use a range of sources to discover information about endangered species. He chose the Stag Beetle and wrote this completely independently.



Foundation Stage News

In Nursery our book has been the Aesop fable about 'The North Wind and the Sun' which has led us to think a lot about the wind. We wondered what colour is the wind? And how do we know that it is windy? In the outdoor classroom the children have been listening to music that sounds like the wind and dancing with ribbons like the wind. In the art room the children have been rolling paper to make 'sticks' and fixing streamers onto them, then they have been going outside to test how the streamers blow in the wind. Outside the children have enjoyed playing with our beautiful new shop. They looked in the big wooden box and talked about what we should have inside, the suggestions included toys, ice cream and a hippopotamus! We have chosen **sand** and ordered some which should arrive next week which we hope the children will approve of. The children are busy learning the Nursery highway-code as they drive their bikes along our lovely new road.

Indoors we are learning how to use a ruler to draw lines on paper to make kites and flags.



The children are practising their cutting skills as they cut out kites, flags and balloons to float off in the wind. Learning to use scissors successfully is very hard. Please help at home by giving your child suitable children's scissors and lots of opportunities to practise. The Reception children have been learning how to look after the environment. They have been planting herb and vegetable seeds and wondered if Mrs. Stubbs would like to use some of their produce. Each child wrote to Mrs. Stubbs asking if she would like to use the herbs in the kitchen and what dishes she might make with them.

In Maths they have been practising the number bonds to 10 and some children have been working with the bonds of even higher numbers. The children put red and blue scales on their finger painted fish to work out the number bonds and then they wrote the number sentence.

The children know lots about looking after the local environment and how to look after the creatures in the sea. They made posters to show how they are going to look after the planet, starting with putting the rubbish in the right bins.

Important Note for Nursery - We have decided that the reading group sessions are best held in the quiet outdoor classroom and children can gather for home time in the Art Room. From next week please come to the ART ROOM to collect your child at 12.00. At 1.30 please come to the outdoor classroom to collect your child.

Hairclips and Hairbands These are often sharp, children frequently put them in their mouths and are lost on a daily basis. Please tie your child's hair back with suitable elastic hair ties and soft fabric hairbands. Thank You.

The Foundation Team

DIARY DATES

PARENT FORUM ON 2nd FEBRUARY IS CANCELLED

(No issues were submitted for discussion)

Feedback from the Parent Questionnaire will be circulated shortly.

Tuesday 2nd February: Year 1 visit to Pizza Express, Epsom

Tuesday 2nd February: Governors' AGM and General Meeting 5.30pm

Wednesday 3rd February: RNLI visit to Reception

Wednesday 3rd February: Year 2 African Art & Craft Day

Friday 5th February at 9am: JUPITER Class Assembly

Parents are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be available in the Porch from 8.30am.

Safer Surfing: Parents' Information Meeting on Wednesday 10th February
Please return reply slips by Wednesday 3rd February

Saturday 6th February: PTA Family Photography Day

Due to the young age of our Nursery children we will be featuring just the Pre-Reception children (Moon, Sun, Earth and Sky Groups) in our Assembly **on Friday 12th February**. This will be an opportunity to showcase their talents.

Would you be interested in advertising in our Music Festival Programme?

We are inviting sponsors for the programme for this year's festival on 10th March. The programmes are given out to the large audience of parents from the local area as well as the participating children. The cost will be £50 for a half page and £100 for a full page colour advertisement in a prominent place in our A5 glossy programme. If you would like to publicise your business or you know of a local business who would be interested in this opportunity, please contact the school office.



Mathletics: Congratulations go to Matthew S for gaining his Silver Award and Rory P for achieving his Gold Award.