



St Christopher's School

**Weekly News**

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013

*Dear Parents*

*On Friday we were all treated to the talents of Mars Class as we watched and enjoyed their class assembly about the Gruffalo. The children have only been back in school for three weeks but they had clearly been inspired by the two Year 2 assemblies and they acted beautifully in their delightful costumes as they retold The Gruffalo story. We also saw pictures of their trip to Gatton Park where they had obviously had a wonderful time. The assembly also featured music played on homemade instruments and a Gruffalo song. The whole school and parents and relatives who had come to enjoy it were thrilled with such a super show performed with style by such young children. Well done Mars and thank you Mrs Self and Mrs London for a brilliant concept. Sport was on the agenda for our Year 2 children on Saturday. We travelled to Downsend for an invitation to enjoy netball and balls skills for the girls and football skills for the boys. The sun shone as the children raced around enjoying the rotating activities both outside and in the gym and several children impressed the staff with their athletic ability. Thank you to Downsend for inviting us and to Mrs Hawes for organising this opportunity. On Friday we supported the Macmillan cancer charity by joining in with the World's Biggest Coffee Morning. We welcomed parents into the hall for coffee where they enjoyed some delicious homemade cakes whilst listening to choirs from Year 1 and Year 2. We were delighted to raise £179. Thank you to all parents who joined in and to Mrs McKenzie for organising this event. On Monday we entertained some octogenarians! Two sisters in their eighties who had once lived in the school when it was a house in the 1930/40s came to look around. They are the daughters of the artist Stanley Spencer and they loved the tour including my office which had been one sister's bedroom and the cellar where they had vivid memories of hiding during air raids. Our Lunchtime Superstar this term is Sophia M from Nursery. She has delighted the team by her confident and polite lunchtime behaviour which is quite an accolade for a three year old. Well done Sophia! Congratulations to **Morpurgo House** who toppled Ahlberg from the top of the board by earning an impressive **396** housepoints this week.*

*Annie Thackray,*

*Headteacher.*

**This week's Merit Awards**

Savannah W, Lara K, Amelie P, Will H, Thomas P, Patrick M, Ava S, Caiden C, Milo H, Teddy C.

**Philosopher of the Week**

Alexander B

**Thought for the Week**

Should you always share?

**Work of the Week – Saturn Class**

Year 1 have enjoyed their topic about Traditional Tales. This week we looked at the The Gingerbread Man and using Design and Technology skills we made a moving picture of the gingerbread man running along the road. This picture is by Narayan from Saturn Class.



We also looked at geographical features that appear in the story. Look at Narayan's picture. In the second one the gingerbread man has moved! Can you see how the pictures have changed? What geographical features has he shown in his picture?



## Foundation Stage News



The Reception children know how to be very healthy now. Just like Oliver in the books 'Oliver's Vegetables' and 'Oliver's Fruit Salad' by Vivian French they have been learning all about an assortment of food from the fruit bowl and vegetable store. They have continued to explore using their senses through looking, touching, smelling and tasting. There has been great fun learning about weight and money using 'real food' in the 'shop'. Another fun way to explore the fruit and vegetables has been by using them for printing, although I do hope they used different fruit to make those scrummy fruit kebabs which

were created and quickly devoured on Wednesday!

The maths activities have been very colourful and creative making repeating patterns by threading coloured pasta, using peg boards, flags and sand castles. The children are also learning to work in groups to make their own fruit bowls and fruit. Pineapples were especially popular.

In Nursery we have been using our own Nursery grown produce to make some tasty treats – mini apple crumbles using our own hand picked apples and a delicious cake using our own squash. Making the 'squash cake' was a first for Mrs Rendall too.

We have been celebrating all the clever things that the children can do like ride scooters and bikes, painting, drawing and building. We have also been finding out what the children would like to learn to do. Some children want to learn to read, others to ride a bike or swim some are more adventurous and want to learn to drive a car or climb trees.



Outside the children have been practising their motor skills, balancing on a beam, steering bikes around cones, throwing and catching bean bags and balls. They have also harvested the Jerusalem artichokes and are busy developing the new digging area. We discovered some conkers and have studied them closely with magnifying glasses.

It is great fun catching the turning leaves as they dance around the garden too. Once caught the leaves have been 'upcycled' with a roll of paint for printing or some glue and artistic talent for pictures in the art room.

**Foundation Stage Team**

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2 – 3pm

Reading Information Meeting for Reception Parents – Mars Classroom

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30 – 10.10am

**HARVEST FESTIVAL**

St Martin's Church, Epsom



Please bring your gifts into school on Monday.

All and any donations received with gratitude.

*Suggested class donations:*

*Mercury: UHT milk / 250g or 350g cereal packs*

*Venus: 1 small jar of coffee / 500g pack of sugar*

*Nursery: 1 tin meat / 1 tin fish*

*Neptune: 1 tin rice pudding / 1 tin fruit*

*Jupiter: 1 packet biscuits / 1 small box tea bags*

*Saturn: Pasta sauce (Jars or packets) / 500g pack of rice*

*Mars: Tin of custard / tinned sponge pudding*

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October – Last Group 1 Art Club

Group 2 starts 15<sup>th</sup> October.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm

Talk by Mr Mark Beach, Head of Junior School, City of London Freemen's School for Year 1 and Year 2 parents

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October – Last Group 1 Cooking Club

Group 2 starts 17<sup>th</sup> October.

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 9.15am – 10.30am

**OPEN MORNING**

For Prospective Parents

Please let your friends and neighbours know