Weekly News
Friday 5th February 2016

Dear Parents,

Last Friday we were treated to a ‘tour’ of an art gallery as Venus Class investigated a range of beautiful, famous paintings and imagined stories within each picture. They then chose a dance suitable for the picture and the children danced with energy and talent, with a wonderful range from the classic Sugar Plum Fairy to the lively Mud classic, Tiger Feet. This colourful assembly lit up our Friday. Well done Venus Class for your super assembly and thank you to Mrs London for producing it.

On Tuesday Year 1 headed down to Epsom town to visit Pizza Express. During the week they had been conducting science experiments with dough making and kneading this fascinating substance predicting the outcome when yeast is used in cooking. To consolidate this activity they went to see cooking action with pizza dough. This hands on experience involved tasting as well as cooking and the evaluations back at school show just how much fun learning can be!

Back at school we were enjoying a ‘life on the ocean wide’ with a visit from the RNLI who gave a wonderfully interactive talk about lifeboats and the sterling work that our lifeboat men and women do on a daily basis. This complimented Reception’s study of the Big Blue Sea.

The whole school enjoyed a visit from Mr Kojo Darko our African visitor from Ghana. With a focus on textiles Mr Darko showed the children some beautiful African traditional clothes and then introduced Year 2 to the art of tie dyeing with stunning results by each of them. Making clay masks and enjoying African music were further highlights of this wonderful day.

There have been more Times Tables champions this week. Congratulations to Teddy C, Sachin W, Daisy G, Stanley G, Arthur L, Sophia D and Vihaan S for earning their Bronze Stars for excellence in 2s, 5s and 10 x tables.

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Aayushi K for being such a polite and enthusiastic diner. Well done Aayushi.

Congratulations to Ahlberg House. You are now at the top of the leader board with 693 Housepoints

This week’s Merit Awards

Philosopher of the Week
Issy S

Thought for the Week
Is Travelling Important?

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Work of the Week
In Saturn Class, Year 1 this week the children learnt how to set out a letter. They had to use plenty of adjectives to describe why Goldilocks was tempted to enter the three bears’ cottage. Liberty R did a superb job with her creative writing. Well done Liberty. You did this all on your own!
Foundation Stage News

The Reception children have been ‘creative crabs’ this week. The children were great at remembering the names and talking about the properties of 2D shapes and now they are studying 3 D shapes too!
A visitor from the RNLI came to talk to the children about the important work he does helping to save lives out at sea. Later the children wrote about what they had learnt, like ‘Don’t go into the water on your own’ and if you are in trouble in the water you should ‘Put up your hand and shout help!’
The children are learning addition some without any adult support now, how clever! They have also been practising writing numbers correctly; I think those ‘3’s are particularly tricky.

Mrs Degg helped the children to make an enormous whale making the classroom feel deep under the ocean. The Nursery children were inspired by the book ‘How to Catch a Star’ by Oliver Jeffers they have great fun using torches to look for stars in the ‘cave’ we made. They have also been practising their cutting, printing, painting and sticking their own stars. In the kitchen they have been cutting star biscuits made with cheese and marmite, I would like to catch one of those.

We are all learning the Nursery Highway code in our new bike area, learning to stop for pedestrians on the crossings, keeping to the blue road and following the arrows as we ride our bikes and scooters are important lessons. Thank you to all the parents and the PTA for this wonderful new surface.
Next week we will be looking at the book ‘Cleversticks’ by Bernard Ashley, celebrating Chinese New Year and of course joining in with our annual and very exciting Great House Pancake Relay Race.

The Foundation Team

DIARY DATES

Feedback from the Parent Questionnaire will be circulated shortly.

Tuesday 9th - Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 9th February - Shrove Tuesday - House Great Pancake Race - All children will need their house T shirt for the race.

Wednesday 10th February 7pm - Survival Tips for Safer Surfing Information Evening for Parents.

Friday 12th February at 9am: PRE-RECEPTION Assembly
Parents are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be available in the porch from 8.30am.

Due to our inspection next week Mid-year progress reports for Years 1 and 2 will be sent home after half term.

HALF TERM 15TH - 19TH FEBRUARY

PLEASE NOTE: Due to Parent Teacher Appointments for Nursery, Pre-Reception and Reception on 24th and 25th February the following clubs will not take place:
24th - Messy Play and Indoor Games
25th - Cooking

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

SAVE THE DATE

SHOWCASE MORNING ON SATURDAY 5TH MARCH 10.30am - 12.30pm
For those new to this exciting annual event may we please highlight that it involves all our current parents who will be invited by their child to attend.