Dear Parents

Last Friday we were delighted to welcome Mr Roland Martin, the headmaster of City of London Freemen’s Senior School to St Christopher’s. He enjoyed a tour and took part in Mercury’s Philosophy lesson. He declared it to be ‘the highlight of his week’ and it certainly was a joyful occasion with Year 2 demonstrating an outstanding grasp of this subject as they debated the question that the class voted for: ‘Is it important to be rich?’ The Philosopher of the week below is Louis for just one of the many splendid observations made by our talented children in response to this well-considered question.

On Tuesday Year 1 benefitted from a kind visit from Mr O’Halloran who came in his capacity as ‘builder’ and complemented their Science study of materials with a superb talk illustrated in detail on page 2 overleaf.

On Wednesday the whole of Pre Reception headed off on their first school trip by coach to Dapdune Wharf in Guildford. They enjoyed a scavenger hunt on the river bank meadow followed by craft activities, a tour of the museum centres looking at horse drawn canal boats and artefacts completed by a trip in a real boat! The children behaved magnificently as did all the parents who kindly offered to help on this exciting trip. Thank you all very much for coming.

On Wednesday afternoon Weston Green School in Thames Ditton sent along their finest Year 2 for an afternoon of competitive sporting fun. The children enjoyed a range of multi sports and reviewed their heartbeats and fitness skills as they enthusiastically participated under the guidance of Mrs Sarah Pryor.

This week has been Keyboard Week and the children have heard a selection of pieces played on keyboards both past and present including a study of the harpsichord. Do please listen to Chopin’s Minute Waltz as your homework tonight with a glance at a performance on YouTube to really appreciate the skills involved. I will tell you about our special keyboard guest next week but suffice it to say we are all excited.

Many congratulations to our Times Tables heroes this week. Earning their Bronze Star Award with style are the following multiplication magicians: Rory P, Sophie B, Lauren M and Zac P. Bravo!

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Edward J in Nursery for settling so quickly and enjoying his lunch every day. Well done Edward. Well done to Dahl House for the first win of the term now situated at the top with a wonderful total of 168 Housepoints.

Mrs Annie Thackray, Headteacher

**Event of the Week**

**Year 1 Science**

A wonderful visit from Mr O

Mr O was simply magnificent. Starting with the story of The 3 Little Pigs he introduced his subject perfectly and told the children how to build a house from the very beginning with the purchase of a plot of land. The talk was beautifully illustrated with samples of brick, window and worktops to name but a few and the children were enchanted with the concept of building the magnificent house shown. He very generously bought and donated the high vis - jackets and hard hats and our team of Year 1 builders can’t wait to get going on the imaginary build of a potential new wing for St Christopher’s!

Thank you Mr O!

**This Week’s Merit Awards**


**Philosopher of the Week**

Louis G

**Thought for the Week**

Being rich is nice but never as important as being happy.
Nursery and Pre-Reception News
Welcome to our new Twinkling Stars who have joined the Nursery family this term, they are already settling well. The Nursery team would like to say how proud we are of all the older Stars who have joined their Pre-Reception group this term. Having spent two terms as part of our Nursery they are now ready for the next challenge. The current Pre-Reception children have been delightful in welcoming them into the group, so thank you. This week we all set off for our first grown up school trip to Dapdune Wharf in Guildford and a what huge success it was! Thank you to all the parents who came with us. Back at school the children enjoyed P.E with Mrs Pryor where whoops and cries of excitement were heard as we played ‘What’s the time Mr Wolf?’ Look at the lovely team work that these girls are demonstrating. Building collaboration skills is just one part of our rich curriculum and we are very pleased with our caring, sharing children.

Reception News
Our topic this term is all about different ways of travelling and the children have enjoyed playing on our new bus! Neptune have been reading ‘The Naughty Bus’ and, as the story is set in London we have been looking at what makes London special. Problem solving has been at the heart of our learning this week. The children have to work out what type of sum is needed to work out the problem, record the number sentence and then solve the problem. Have a look at the photograph below of the children undertaking some brilliant thinking.

We were delighted to see Jay on Thursday and all enjoyed our Forest School fun!

The Foundation Stage Team

DATES FOR THE DIARY
Monday 8th May – Ballet Starts
Tuesday 9th May – Year 2 Visit to British Wildlife Centre, Lingfield
Saturday 13th May – PTA Ball, Kingswood Golf Club

SAVE THE DATE:
Wednesday 17th 9am – Y1 & Y2 Summer Performance (Ahlberg and Kemp parents)
Thursday 18th 9am – Y1 & Y2 Summer Performance (Donaldson and Dahl parents)
Tickets will be issued next week, 2 per family. If you wish to request an additional ticket, please contact the school office. Thank you.

SUMMER TERM IS ‘MUSIC TERM’
Music Theme: Next week we will be looking at the Woodwind section of the Orchestra and hearing a live presentation on Monday from a visiting musician. To prepare for this please can we invite you share a clip from YouTube during the weekend: Let it go from Frozen Wind Quintet.

PLEASE NOTE
Please ensure that no sesame as well as no nuts are included in packed teas for OWLS. Also, your child is going to a club that finishes at 4pm you need to book them in to an A session of OWLS.

This week’s Manners Moles
This week we are delighted to introduce our Summer Term initiative: The Manners Mole Award. We are focussing on good manners this term. As well as remembering to say please and thanks you we are particularly looking for children who behave courteously and remember to let an adult through first when they are travelling around the school. This week’s magnificent Moles are: Daisy M, Emma S, Athena D and Sophie B.

Mathletics: Congratulations to: Rafael I for gaining his Bronze Award and to Ethan L and Charlotte R for achieving Gold.