



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 6th May 2016

Dear Parents

What a joy to see the return of the sunshine with the new month of May! Our children have been making the most of this lovely weather and enjoying time on the field. The rounders match during Rounders Club on Wednesday afternoon looked glorious in the sunshine.

This week we were delighted to welcome 7 members of the PTA who had been invited to lunch. The dining hall is a busy and happy place to be, brilliantly managed by our very own Maître d'hôtel, Mrs Taylor. In a prompt and effusive thank you letter, one PTA member wrote: "Mrs Taylor is a hero, running that dining room day after day with such precision and enthusiasm". No surprise then to discover that this week's Lunchtime Superstar is the lovely Mrs Taylor who deserves the wonderful praise and recognition generously given by our PTA. We were also delighted to hear that our visitors found that the portion sizes and selection of fruit available was very impressive. We know how lucky we are to have Mrs Stubbs and her team. Thank you to our dining visitors, we enjoyed having you to lunch. Well done everyone.

Last week Susannah Lea from Epsom and Ewell Borough council returned to school to bring the prizes for the anti-litter poster competition. The winners were presented with their prizes (see p 4) and the school were presented with 6 'wormeries' which we are very excited about.

*On Wednesday the School Council set off around Chartwell Place to put up their prize winning posters reminding families to park considerately and carefully. Local residents were so pleased to see this positive initiative as shown in the photo on p4 and came out to speak to the School Council delighted with their hard work. We hope that you will enjoy the bright, effective posters and take heed of the children's messages to reduce the potential stress during morning and afternoon pick-ups. Many congratulations to Rory B for achieving his Silver Athletics award this week. Congratulations to all the children in **Dahl** House who have taken the lead in the Housepoint race with a superb **360** number of housepoints.*

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week's Merit Awards

Rory B, Lauren M, Kieren A, George T, Arthur L, Vihaan S, Rafael I, Henrietta L, Eliza B, Frederick K, Stanley G and Thomas M

This week's Good Deeds

Robyn C, Rory B, Pietro M, Toby H, Benji S, Teddy C and William W

Work of the Week

Year 1 are learning about the Victorians. This week the children learnt about diary writing in literacy. They used their history studies to imagine that they were a poor child working in the coal mines in the Victorian era. Kieren A from Saturn Class wrote this a super entry all by himself. Well done Kieren.

Tuesday
Dear diary,
Today it was dark
while I was cleaning the
mine. It was scary
because it was dark.
The mine was cold and
stinky. I worked 12 hours
a day. I pulled all
the doors^(doors) that I lost
all my strength.

Foundation Stage News

Our book in Nursery this week has been 'Mr. Gumpy's Outing' by John Burningham, we noticed that Mr Gumpy's house is by the river and he has a boat just like the houses we saw on our trip last week. We have looked at all the characters and counted each one as they got on the boat. We have been finding out the number that is '1 more', as each character got on the boat.

In the art room we made our own boats out of tinfoil and tested them in the water. We put little plastic people in the boat counting out '1 more' each time. We put the people in the boat carefully until disaster struck and the boat sank. We talked about why the boat sank and what helps the boat to float better. I am sure the children are such good boat builders now they could make boats to float in the bath or take to a stream with you at home.

In the garden the children have been busy in the ticket office writing out tickets for a boat trip and in the 'river' the children have been catching and making fish. Some of the children are learning to use IPad's and using their phonic knowledge to label all sorts of boats and ships.



If we are going to become strong sailors (and writers) we need to develop our muscles and fine motor coordination, so we have had great fun moving in time with the music as we lift, squeeze and punch the playdough in 'Playdough Gym'.

After all this hard work we love to have a lazy picnic by the role play river but first the kitchen was in great demand as even the youngest children made their own sandwiches selecting the type of bread and filling, using a knife for cutting and then washing up all by themselves! Well done children. What a delicious activity.

Next week our book is 'Billy's Bucket' by Kes Gray.

The astronauts in Reception have been learning lots about the moon. They shared the story 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. Poor Baby Bear, he could not persuade his mummy that he had been to the moon. The children decided to write a report with lots of information and facts that they know about the moon to prove to 'Mummy Bear' that he had really been to there.

The children have labelled the rockets that they made with their grandparents and made pictures of themselves as the astronauts to go in the rockets. Next the children went into the dark tent with torches to discover more about the solar system.

Some children have used the software '2 paint' to draw some great pictures of rockets. Other children have used the 'spinner' to create some colourful planets.

I wonder if they will be going on a real field trip to the moon next week? **The Foundation Team**



DIARY DATES

Monday 9th May (afternoon): Year 2 visit to Linden House

Foundation Stage Summer Production

Tickets will be sent out in the week of 9th May: 2 tickets per child. If you cannot attend on your given day, please try and swap with friends before contacting the office.

Tuesday 17th May audience: Pre-Reception parents

Wednesday 18th May audience: Nursery parents

Thursday 19th May audience: Reception parents

All performances will start at 9am and last about 1 hour. There will be a collection afterwards for Macmillan Cancer Care.

Nursery Children are welcome to participate in every performance and should be collected promptly afterwards on days they do not usually attend Nursery.

PTA SUMMER BALL

Raffle tickets now available. There are lots of prizes, please support PTA fundraising by buying/selling tickets!



Prize winners: Stanley G, Daisy G, Issy S, Arlo R, Jack C and Athena D



The School Council and a resident of Chartwell Place.