



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 6th September 2013

Dear Parents

On behalf of the whole team here at St Christopher's may I offer you a very warm welcome back to the Autumn Term. Everyone is smiling this year with happy stories of sunny summer holidays both abroad and, for the first time for many years, here in our own lovely country.

The holidays were extremely busy here at school for, in addition to some exciting building refurbishments, we had the onerous task of replacing our excellent caretaker Mr Dave Gard. We were delighted to receive an enormous response to the advert and we have appointed Mr Neal Bennett who, in addition to being a trained and practising chef has considerable experience of being a caretaker and comes to us very highly recommended. Mr Bennett will be joining us at the end of September and during this month we extend our thanks to Mr Robbie Smart who is doing a superb job.

The building programme went to the wire this time with finishing touches being made late on Tuesday evening but the results are quite wonderful and I have placed a photo of the new Mercury classroom on page 2. Also installed was a Nursery Office which will considerably help with our administration. Our library refurbishments were also completed and also 'installed' part time in our beautiful new library is our new librarian Mrs Sue Nicholls.

In addition we welcome Miss Danielle Eames to the team as Neptune class teacher ably supported by Mrs Lisa King. In Nursery we are delighted to have increased our ratio provision and Mrs Fiona Butler joins us as a morning Classroom Assistant and Mrs Lisa Savill joins us for the afternoons. As you will remember Modern Foreign Languages are now being taught with an emphasis on global cultures and Ms Sarah Assen has also joined the staff on Fridays. She will be joined by Mrs Helen Mulhern our new Music Teacher who additionally works on Mondays and will be straight to work preparing for the Harvest Festival.

The Dates for the Diary sheet sets out a very exciting and ambitious term so I wish you all a happy one and look forward to the journey ahead.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

Event of the Week

This is a photo of the beautiful new classroom that was created during the holidays. The children of Mercury are thrilled to be able to enjoy such a bright and spacious area. Thank you to the builders who finished it in time.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Foundation Stage News

Welcome back to the new school year in the Foundation Stage and a special welcome to all the new children. We are delighted with just how quickly our children are settling in. It is very hard for such little children to get used to a new place, different children, adults and routines. We are very proud of them all being so brave taking their first steps on their learning adventure in St Christopher's School. We would also like to welcome our new staff members Miss Eames who will be teaching Neptune with Mrs King who will be her Teaching Assistant. Mrs Hamilton is the Teaching Assistant in Mars Class on Monday Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Clark is the Teaching Assistant in Mars Class at the end of the week. In Nursery we welcome Mrs Butler who will be leading Moon Group each morning and Mrs Savill joins Nursery every afternoon. All the new staff are also being very brave and settling well.

Our topic this half term is 'Busy Bodies'. In the Nursery the children have been joining in with our action song 'I've got a body, a very busy body and it goes everywhere with me.' We hope all our parents will be able to join in with the song in a week or two!

The children have loved exploring Nursery this week trying out new games and meeting new friends. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to take part in their young lives.

In Reception the children have been having fun, fun, fun, labelling the parts of their bodies, or rather putting labels on each other! In Mars Class the children have also been making a big head using collage for a super display.

The whole school art focus is based on the designs of Orla Kiely and the Reception children have started exploring patterns and printing using potatoes, cotton reels, lego and lids. We look forward to seeing your work children! The Reception children have had lots to tell their teachers about their summer holidays and they have been looking at a world map and plotting the places where they have been visiting during the holidays. This year the lucky children who stayed in England have all talked about the wonderful weather we have had and are now continuing to enjoy this week.

The Foundation Team

PARENTS' INFORMATION MEETINGS

Monday 9th September at 7pm: Year 1

Tuesday 10th September at 7pm: Year 2

Wednesday 11th September at 7pm: Reception

Wednesday 18th September at 7pm: Nursery

CLUBS

Clubs start on Monday 9th September and end on 29th November. Please see the lists on the Noticeboard and on our website. Art Club and Cooking Club have been split into two groups – please make a note of the dates.

PROMPT PAYMENT is required for fee-paying clubs please.

Friday 13th September at 9am

MERCURY Class Assembly

Friday 13th September 2 – 3.30pm

Year 2 Sports at City of London Freemen's School. Please see letter for details and return permission slip by Monday 9th September.

PTA New Parents' Coffee Morning

9am on Friday 13th September

Babies and toddlers welcome!

SPORT 4 ALL

Please return any outstanding sponsorship money by Monday 9th September, thank you.

GENTLE REMINDER – Please continue to show consideration towards the residents of Chartwell Place. One resident from No 8 has made a polite request to families who are trying to avoid the lamp post situated outside his house to kindly refrain from walking on his garden. Thank you.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Copies of letters, dates for the diary, weekly menu and booking forms are available in the Parents' Area of our website.