



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 7th March 2014

Dear Parents

The whole of last week was dedicated to poetry. We were delighted with the enormous effort made by our families which ensured that nearly every child had learnt a poem and performed in the class competitions with confidence. We had so many excellent entries that we invited a selection of the children to perform in front of the school on Wednesday at the semi-finals. This treat set the scene for the Grand Final on Friday and all the finalists stepped up to perform with relish. There is a selection of photos of this event on page 2.

*Mrs Caroline Smart, our Chair of Governors, had the enjoyable but onerous task of choosing the prize winners and these are listed below. Congratulations to all the competitors who won Highly Commended certificates in a very closely fought final. On Tuesday we held the Great Pancake Relay Race and Nursery watched and waved their team flags as the Houses battled it out with a minimum of 3 pancake tosses during the quick sprint frying pan relay. **Dahl House** won the challenge and then the roles were swapped so that Nursery could have their turn to shine as the rest of the school cheered them on with gusto! **Rowling House** won the Nursery challenge and the colourful photos look splendid on the website. Do have a look. On Friday we welcomed two football teams from Downsend to play against our A and B squad. The sun shone and the boys raced enthusiastically around the pitch. There were some impressive goals and talented saves and everyone enjoyed the hearty match tea. Thanks to Mrs Jo Hawes for organising this exciting opportunity.*

Thank you to Mrs Margrave from Nursery who came in to cook some traditional Welsh food with Nursery. We are very lucky to have had such rich opportunities in the kitchen this term.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Eliza B from Nursery for splendid lunchtime behaviour and a clean plate! Well done Eliza.

*Congratulations to **Morpurgo** House for winning by earning the highest number of housepoints this week **945** is a splendid total.*

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week's Merit Awards

Aayushi K, Rowan W, Caiden C, Max G, Alexander B, Megan J, Harry M, Joseph C, Narayan M and Oliver H (twice!)

Poetry Prize Winners in the Lower School

1st Stanley G, 2nd Sophie B, 3rd Lexi M

Poetry Prize Winners in the Upper School

1st Lucas C, 2nd Finn H, 3rd Alexander B

Event of the Week The Grand Poetry Recital Final



Olivia from Mercury Class delighted us with her poem by A A Milne entitled 'What is the Matter with Mary Jane?' She performed with style, remembered all the words and even used a prop!

Lexi from Reception entertained us with an excellent and witty poem about a dinosaur. She also used props and her confident performance won her third prize in the Lower School category.



Sabina, Henry and Eliza were very proud to represent Nursery in the Semi-Finals. They performed Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star with confidence in front of the whole school.

Mrs Smart, our Chair of Governors, was delighted to be invited to judge the competition. She thanked all the children for their hard work and commented on the high standard of entries. Stanley from Neptune Class won first prize in the Lower School.



Foundation Stage News

The children would like to thank all the parents who joined us for 'Rhyme Time' this week (please see photos below). We hope you all enjoyed the fun. We loved the pictures the children made of their favourite nursery rhymes and we have now put them into a super scrap book. The pancake race was a great success, the children all took turns to run and toss the pancakes and they cheered their house on with enthusiasm! Pancakes of all flavours and types have been mixed, cooked, flipped and eaten this week.

Our new 'Nursery Library role play' has been very busy. The children have been choosing their favourite books, using the library tickets they have made and writing about the books they like best.

Spring is definitely in the air and the children have been enjoying the outside and planting in the garden. Do look out for Mary Mary's silver bells. The garden theme continues in the art room as the children paint pictures of daffodils and mix paint colours to make the petals to create more flowers. With all the plants and flowers in the Nursery we have been talking about different smells. Lots of children like the smell of flowers, sausages for lunch and Mummy's perfume. We tried the smell of nutmeg (but not a silver one) from the rhyme 'I had a little nut tree'. We all agreed that the rubbish in the dump in the book 'This is The Bear' would be a horrid smell.

Next week we are going to start thinking about rhymes about farm animals such as Baa Baa Black Sheep and Mary Had A Little Lamb.

Please can you return any nursery clothes your child may have borrowed. We have run out of spare trousers and need your help!

The health and safety of your children is paramount in Nursery. If the art room door is locked in the morning, please note that your child will have been marked as absent in the register. If you are late, please can parents/carers make sure they come to the office and sign their child into school so that we have accurate information on our register, thank you.

The Reception children have loved sharing their favourite books with their friends. They made a scrap book from the blurbs they wrote. They have loved reading all the books and enjoyed the reading experience so much that they may not finish them all this week, so the teachers have extended this opportunity so that they may carry on reading the books next week too.

One of the focus rhymes this week has been 'There was an old woman who lived in a shoe'.

The children have been using number lines to help when they subtract all those children from the woman's shoe. In DT the children have been making their own shoes. In Neptune Class they are still thinking about shoes as they set up a shoe shop in the role play. In Mars class the children have enjoyed pretending to be Dr Foster in the role play doctor's surgery.

Another rhyme this week was the first verse of 'Old Mother Hubbard'. The children thought about other pets Mother Hubbard could own and wrote reports about them. The reports included the name of the pet, what colour it is and the food it likes to eat.



The Foundation Team.

DIARY DATES

Saturday 8th March 10.30am – 12.30pm

OPEN MORNING FOR CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

You are warmly invited to look around the school with your family and friends; the children always enjoy this opportunity to show you their work and the wonderful displays in their classrooms. Our Year 2 choir, orchestra and gym team will also be entertaining us. Nursery parents will also have the opportunity to meet their child's key worker.



NEXT WEEK IS SPANISH FOOD WEEK

Thursday 13th March 11.30 – 12.45: Year 2 Music Festival at St Martin's Church, Epsom KT17 4PX

Parents and friends welcome

Friday 14th March at 9am: MERCURY Class Assembly
Parents very welcome; light refreshments served in the Porch from 8.30am

Wednesday 19th March: Grandparents' Morning 9.30-11am
Please see recent letter for details; replies by 12th March please.



Thursday 20th March: SPORT RELIEF
Please see recent letter for details and sponsorship form

! STOP PRESS !

At the time of writing the BBC have indicated they are willing to film our children raising money as they complete their sponsored laps of the field.

Thursday 20th March at 7pm in the Hall
Survival Tips for Safer Surfing
Please see recent letter for details; reply slips back by 12th March please.

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Clarification: The Year 2 Visit to the Look-Out Centre is on Wednesday 2nd April.

[SAVE THE DATE – PTA SUMMER BALL ON SATURDAY 3RD MAY – Letter to follow shortly](#)