Dear Parents

This week has been all about Christmas fun and Christmas giving in equal measures. Taking the lead when thinking of others has once again been our magnificent Year 2. On Monday Year 2 set off to the Ashley Centre for our annual Carol singing in aid of Epsom Hospital Medical Equipment Fund. Unlike other schools who arrived with song sheets, our children knew their words and stood and sang with confidence and played beautiful carols with hand-bells raising over £200 for this important charity.

On Wednesday the premiere of the musical nativity ‘Good Morning Bethlehem’ raised the roof and set the scene for the next two performances. Children as young as 2 years old in Nursery took to the stage inspired by the ‘older’ children who clearly enjoy every part of the limelight and the wonderful musical fun. Your children really are exceptional in their ability to perform with such confidence, and complicated dances and songs complete with some stunning solos lit up the hall and put us all in the Christmas spirit. Special thanks to Miss Kate Rendall for this original script and for directing this joyful show. It is available on DVD and I shall be buying one to enjoy over Christmas.

On Friday our lovely Year 2s headed off to bring joy to the elderly residents of Linden House Care Home. Armed with their beautiful voices and clever hand-bell skills they really did bring a bit of early Christmas magic. Each child had also written a personalised card to a named resident and they chatted with confidence about their hopes for Christmas and brought a big smile to the resident’s face. Well done Year 2.

In preparation for Christmas we shared the Posada in classes this week. The Posada is a model of Mary on a donkey led by Joseph in search of a safe place to stay and is part of the culture and traditions of Spanish speaking countries.

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Dylan C for such an improvement in his lunch choices this term. Well done Dylan!

Please can I remind you about Toy Assembly on Monday where we continue our aim to think of others and donate a new or nearly new toy for Charity.

Bravo to Donaldson for taking the lead in the penultimate week of term jumping to the top of the Housepoint Board with a splendid total of 1495 Housepoints.

Mrs Annie Thackray, Headteacher

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**Event of the Week**

We all enjoyed performing our Christmas Nativity play, Good Morning Bethlehem to parents and family this week. Well done to all the children for performing with such courage and style.

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**Merit Awards**

Mrs Hibbert, Mrs Filler, Mrs Hogarty, Mrs Metcalf, Mrs Nam, Mrs Benzing-Shears, Mrs Davoli, Mrs Waine, Mrs Gough, Mrs Fairservice, Mrs Rapier, Mrs Denyer, Mrs Ladocha and Mrs Wani for their outstanding contributions to the PTA and Mrs Rossiter, Mrs Campbell and Mrs Chapman for their wonderful Uniform Sale help.
Nursery and Pre-Reception News

It’s show week and what a show it has been. The children in Nursery and Pre-Reception have been amazing. We are all so proud of them and we hope you enjoyed the show. While that has been going on we have been busy in Nursery making Christmas trees and snowmen. The fairy from the top of the Christmas tree went missing this week and after a thorough hunt of the Nursery garden, the children decided to make wanted posters to see if the fairy could be found. Success came quickly the following day when the fairy was found and returned to her rightful place. After making vegetable soup in the water tray last week, this week, with an added ingredient the children have been mixing and creating creamy versions using shaving foam. The children have loved using the Nursery post box, as well as many cards being posted we have also found lots of other things too! REMINDERS: Please remember to put your child’s home diary in the basket at the beginning of the day if you have any messages you need us to see. NEXT WEEK: Our pantomine is on Wednesday - helpers to arrive at 9.10 to the front door. The children will enjoy a traditional roast Christmas lunch that day if they are staying for lunch. Christmas party day is on Thursday - all children are welcome to stay until 1.30 to enjoy the party lunch, please make sure that you have informed Nursery Staff of your intentions. Christmas jumper day is Friday - normal joggers and white top with a christmas jumper over the top please. What an exciting week!

RECEPTION Wow! What a wonderful Christmas show. All the children in Reception have thoroughly enjoyed singing and dancing in “Good Morning Bethlehem”. A huge well done to all the villagers in Mars and the angels in Neptune. As part of our learning this week we have been focusing on the Christmas story; the children were able to talk about the key characters and how the story links to our Christmas show. We discussed how Christmas is celebrated around the world and the Spanish tradition of Posada; the children were shown the clay figures of Mary and Joseph. We have also been very busy and creative, making calendars and Christmas cards for our grownups. Well done Reception!

The Foundation Team

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Monday 10th December – Toy Assembly – Please bring new or nearly new toys donated to the school hall.
Monday 10th December 2.15 – 3pm – Winter Music Concert – All Year 2 parents and parents of soloists welcome to attend.
Monday 10th December – Last Ballet
Tuesday 11th December – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Panto to Guildford Theatre – Please note that we will be returning to school around 5pm.

Wednesday 12th December – Nursery & Pre-Reception to Santa Show at the Epsom Playhouse.
Wednesday 12th December – Christmas Lunch.

Thursday 13th December – Christmas Party – All children to wear mufti.

Friday 14th December – Christmas Jumper Day – To be worn over school uniform.
Friday 14th December – 11.15am – Christingle Assembly – All Year 2 parents welcome to attend.

FRIDAY 14TH DECEMBER – TERM ENDS AT 12 FOR NURSERY AND PRE-RECEPTION AND 12.10PM FOR YEARS 1 AND 2. PLEASE SEE EMAIL.

ORGANISED OCTOPUSES
This week’s Organised Octopus is Isabella G.

PLAYGROUND PANTHERS
This week’s playground panthers are: Elliza M, Sophie B, Nicholas Z, Conall R, Fenton F and Gabriella L.

SPRING TERM 2019 BOOKING FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE PARENTS AREA OF THE WEBSITE, UNDER THE BACK PORCH OR FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

Please remember that you can now follow us on Twitter at StChrisEpsom for information and weekly highlights