



St Christopher's School

Weekly News

Friday 8th November 2013

Dear Parents

Welcome back after what I hope proved to be a restful and happy half term.

The children are delighted to be back straight into a busy half term that will culminate in Christmas joy in the not too distant future.

This week has been a particularly exciting one for the children in Year 1. On Tuesday we walked down to Epsom to enjoy tea with the Mayor in full regalia followed by a Question and Answer session and then a tour of the Town Hall. The children impressed the Mayor with their confident questions ranging from the age of his formal hat (answer 76 years old) to a request for a parking permit by one keen citizen (aged 6 years old). The Mayor showed great patience and interest and the children enjoyed their refreshments and tour as they learnt about the history of Epsom and Ewell Council and indeed the original role and power of a Mayor. On Wednesday Year 1 were off again, this time to Windsor Castle as part of their topic about Traditional Tales. Our lucky children went behind the scenes to areas off limits to the general public. In full costume each child was knighted by the Queen's representative, the Right Hon. Mrs Kay. They enjoyed a full tour of the state apartments and St George's chapel and have photos to treasure. Please see the year group news on the website.

This week we began our Piano Assembly opportunities for budding young musicians in Year 2. Huge congratulations to Alexander W and Alex S who played pieces in assembly to a delighted audience. They earned their certificates as they also provided the entertainment as the children filed out of assembly by playing a reprise of their favourite pieces.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Aayushi K for always being so happy to see the catering team and for blossoming in confidence.

Please remember that we have poppies in school and if you would like to contribute to this important charity, please send money in with your child and they will be able to obtain one from the Year 2 Monitors who will be touring each day with the poppies.

*Well done to **Morpurgo** House for making the top spot on the first week back. They stormed into the lead with a splendid **639** housepoints.*

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This week's Merit Awards

Isla M, Austin S, Sevi K, Finn H, Joaquin G, Naomi B, Vihaan S, Seren C, Oliver M, Megan G, Olivia M, Phoebe J, Freya B, Ned S, Nell E and Fergus L.

Philosopher of the Week

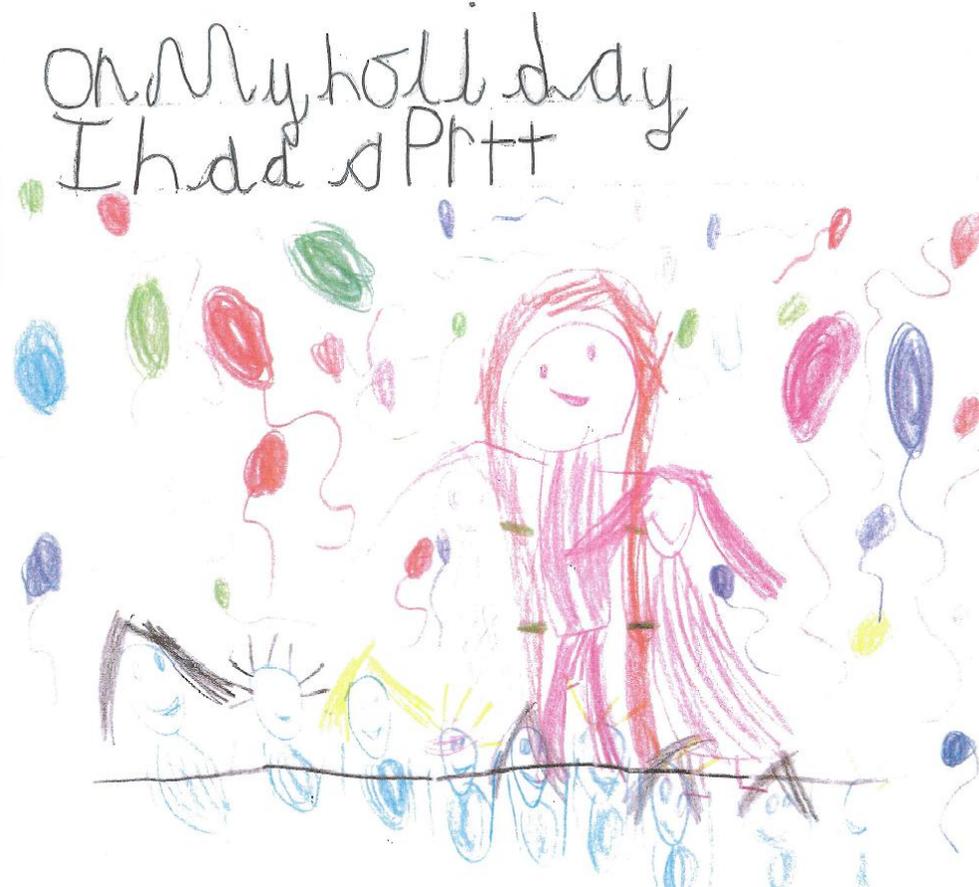
Max O

Thought for the Week

Should you always do what people say?

Work of the Week

This week the work of the week is by Mars Class. Reception pupil Daisy G wrote about her half term holiday. Daisy had no help with her writing but managed to write "I had a party" by herself. What a super illustration!



Foundation Stage News

Whoosh! *Bang!* *Pop!* *WHEE!* went the fireworks in Nursery and Reception this week. Firework Night and Diwali celebrations have been all around the Foundation Stage. In Nursery we have listened to the music and used colourful ribbons to dance like fireworks in the garden. The rain has made the Rangoli patterns look beautiful over the playground. Lots of children have been colouring carefully to make Rangoli patterns and Diwali cards too.



We have also been celebrating three children's birthdays by making special cakes using cardamon for a Hindu flavour. Our maths activity this week has been to use lots of shapes to make rocket pictures. The children talk about the shapes as they create their pictures: 'I want a shape that is small?' and we help them to investigate further: 'Can you count the sides on your shape?' It is fun to explore shapes as we play. The children love the story about Rama and Sita. We are not scared of the baddy Ravanah who has 10 heads but we love the monkey king Hanuman who helped to save Sita. Can your child remember what was used to light the way for Rama and Sita?

Rangoli patterns in the playground

In Reception Neptune class have worked so hard to make a firework assembly, I am sure all their parents are as proud of their performance as we are. The children created some wonderful Catherine Wheels using paper plates, glitter, wool and lots of glue! They have blown paint across the paper to make firework pictures and used foil and tissue paper to make sparklers and more fireworks. There have been fireworks on computers too as the children practice their computer skills to make firework pictures. Best of all they have even cooked fireworks! Well, they made delicious chocolate sparklers. I hope Reception are not planning to blow up the school, at least not before they have finished counting! The focus this week has been to use their fingers to touch each object as they count rather than move the objects. Well done children. It is very tricky to move your finger and count each object carefully. All the children are bringing home their carefully made Christmas card that they have been busy making this week, I am sure you would love to buy the card to send to your friends so please complete the order details and return the form and card as soon as possible. Please remember to indicate in the home/school book if there are any envelopes being returned to school that day in your child's bag so that staff are made aware of all correspondence. Thank you.

The Foundation Team

Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th November –
Parent/Teacher Appointments

Please note that the following clubs will not take place:

Tuesday 12th – No Art club

Wednesday 13th – No Gym, Recorders and Sewing

Thursday 14th – No Cooking and Board Games

Friday 15th November at 9am: JUPITER Class Assembly
– Parents welcome

PTA Casino Night: Friday 15th November at 8pm
Last orders for tickets by Monday 11th November please.

Friday 29th November at 9am

MUSIC ASSEMBLY

Parents of children in our Orchestra, Recorder and Violin Clubs are warmly invited to attend. Coffee will be served in the Porch from 8.30am.

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Pupil Portraits – Lawrence Photography

Please return your orders to school by Monday 11th November.

Thank you.

Christmas Cards

Your child will be completing the design for their Christmas cards in class and bringing it home with an order form next week.

Completed orders should be returned to the PTA post box in the back porch by FRIDAY 15th NOVEMBER.

Year 1 Christmas Colouring Competition

Your child could win a deluxe art kit and see their entry displayed in Hamptons window. Please return all entries to school by Friday 22nd November.

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR VACANCY

We have a vacancy for this post which is for 5 days a week from 12pm to 1.30pm term time only. Please do tell your friends and neighbours and see the website for details.