

Weekly News

Friday 1st February 2013

Dear Parents

We began last Friday with a real treat in the form of Jupiter's Class Assembly. We all marvelled at how much knowledge year 1 had absorbed about their current topic and felt most impressed by the calm, confident delivery of fascinating facts by these clever children. Mrs Hawes had helped the children to choreograph a super tribal dance and Miss Harper had taught them a popular animal song from the Jungle Book. Thank you to these teachers and special thanks to Mrs Kay for producing such an enjoyable and colourful assembly.

On Tuesday evening the Upper Nursery Parents enjoyed a Reading Information Evening. This was extremely well attended and provided an interesting look at the vital strands of reading together with a reminder about just how complicated the English language is even for adults. Special thanks to Mrs Bolton our nursery teacher and Mrs Russell our literacy coordinator for leading this helpful evening.

On Wednesday we were delighted to welcome a motorbike enthusiast into the school who brought his Honda 900cc Fireblade into the hall. Children from Reception and Nursery were delighted to be able to sit on such a beautiful machine and asked some splendid questions as part of their topic about transport. Please see the website for some beautiful photos on the Event of the Week section.

Our Lunchtime Superstar this week is Charlie N who impressed Mrs Stubbs and her team with his kindness and helpfulness at lunchtime. Well done Charlie!

Good Luck to our year 2 sports teams who are in action this weekend. The girls are off to Downsend for an afternoon of inter school netball and hockey fun and we are fielding an A team and a B team at the annual Chinthurst Football Tournament on Saturday morning.

Congratulations to Morpurgo House. What a splendid total of 305 this week reflecting a week of good behaviour and hard work.

 $Mrs\ Annie\ Thackray,\ Headteacher$

This week's Merit Awards

Alexander P, Thomas P, Finn T, William S, Kristy M, Harry S and Forbes M

Philosopher of the Week

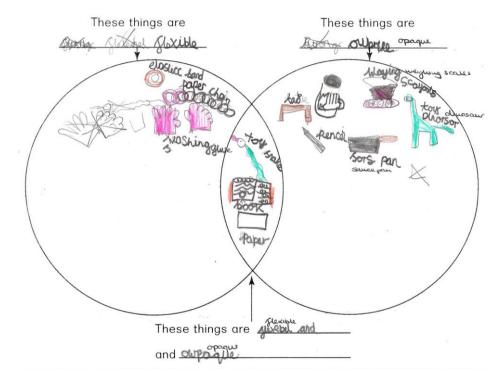
Jodie K

Thought for the week

Are you more important than one another?

Work of the Week - Jupiter Class

In science, Jupiter Class have been learning about materials. We made a collection of materials, including wood, plastics, textiles, paper, metal and rock. We sorted the materials according to different properties. Alice C chose materials which were flexible and opaque. She realised that some items belonged to both sets and was able to record her findings on this Venn diagram.





Foundation Stage News

In Reception the children have been reading the book 'The Train Ride' by June Crebin. They discussed what they might see out of the window if they went on a train. Then they wrote sentences and drew pictures to describe what they thought they would see. The children have been busy with maths activities adding and subtracting people as they get on and off the train. They have also been trying out their measuring skills to find out about different lengths of train track.

The Reception children are doing some cooking each week and practising their washing up skills. This is of course a very important skill which we hope the

children will practise at home. In fact washing and drying up will support the development of fine motor, manipulation and coordination skills all necessary for writing. It will also help the children understand the importance of cleanliness and hygiene for a healthy life. Most of all washing up is fun when you are four or five years old!

The Nursery children love the book 'The Duck in the Truck' we are sure that many of the children can tell



their families the story. We have enjoyed rhyming words like 'muck, stuck and truck'. We have also made and used props to retell the story to our friends. There has been 'muck' composed of clay and water to explore in the art room, as well as using fine soil as 'muck' to retell the story and make tracks on our paper road. We enjoyed playing a bus game where the children counted each space as they moved their buses carefully along the track. They have also been learning to add the passengers on to the bus. There are many types of transport to sort out in Nursery and the children have been learning to sort and categorise transport according to colour, type and other properties.

When the duck was driving the truck along the track that was taking him back he had been shopping for vegetables. The lucky Nursery children found the vegetables and have been busy making soup this week. The smell of warming soup has been making everyone feel hungry and lots of the children declared that the soup was 'delicious'.

Our airport has been very busy and the children have been drawing pictures of themselves and writing their own passports. They have also been using the blocks to make lots of different vehicles.

We were very lucky to have a motorbike in school this week. The children were very excited and loved trying on the helmet and sitting on the bike. They also asked our guest some very interesting questions and know lots about two wheeled transport now.

The Foundation Team

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 5th February: Governors' Meeting
Thursday 7th February: Reception Class visit to Brooklands Museum
Friday 8th February at 9am: VENUS Class Assembly

PTA EVENTS

Friday 8th February 7.30pm – QUIZ NIGHT!
please see letter for full details

Saturday 2nd March – Family Photography Day
please see letter for booking details

Calendar of events this year on the PTA Spring Newsletter (copy on website)

OWLS: Contact number 4 – 6pm

If your child is attending OWLS and you are going to be late collecting them, please call or message Mrs Kay on the following number between 4 and 6pm: 07760457547.



<u>Please note that this number is only to be used for emergencies on the day</u> concerning Owls - Thank you.

LIBRARY BOOKS

Please ensure that all library books are returned to school every week during your child's library session.

Videos to DVD

We have a limited number of videos which we would like converted to DVD. If anyone has access to a machine and could volunteer to complete a gradual changeover, we would be grateful. Please let the office or Mrs Thackray know.

All expenses will be covered by the school.