

## Weekly News Friday 21st May 2021

**Dear Parents** 

This week the chilly weather has been mirrored in Nursery's choice of 'Animals of the Week'! They have been investigating animals from the Polar Regions and snow and ice have been effectively created everywhere mirroring the chilly and wet days as the promised summer fails to get going. Do see the photos on page 3.

I was extremely proud to be able to send off our school's contributions to the Royal Mail's national competition for school children to devise a brand new stamp collection featuring 'Heroes' during the pandemic. On page 5 you will be able to see and enjoy a sample of the incredible talents on offer at St Christopher's. Many children had parents who work in the emergency services and 'My Dad' or 'My Mum' were often handwritten titles from a child beaming with pride underneath a brilliant picture. The final eight stamps chosen in the nationwide competition will be sent to Her Majesty The Queen before they can be printed and issued! How exciting. Let us cross our fingers for some success during what has been a very lucky year for competitions for our school. All the competitors earnt a beautiful certificate.

On Tuesday we were delighted to be involved with the initiative Epsom in Bloom. This is the first time for many years that Epsom has joined in with the South East in Bloom Competition and we are excited to join in too. We were given packets of sunflower seeds and cornflower seeds and our eager children have set about planting them. We are also having a year group competition to see who can grow the tallest sunflower and the flower trough and rulers are poised ready to capture the weekly growth. All we need now is some sunshine!

The school has been full of investigation about our world and we are all very excited about celebrating World Oceans Day on June 8th. From Nursery's investigations of animals and their habitats to Year 2's study of The Environment, children have been studying and reflecting on our world and the creatures in it. Their knowledge is exceptional and I enjoyed a fascinating Year 2 Philosophy lesson this week where the question with the most votes was about humans and animals shown below. The children felt strongly about the rights of animals and fully understood both the implications on the food chain as well as the disasters of extinction as a very interesting and mature debate took place.

We have more maths superstars to congratulate this week with another super group of able multiplication magicians. The following children shone under pressure and earned their Bronze Star Badges. Congratulations to them all: Elise D, Bailey T, Evelyn W, Harrison G, Conall R and Harry S.

The Library Raffle this week featured books all about Art and we say thanks you to Mrs Thum and Librarians Lawrence, Scarlett, Ariana, Sophie and Nancy for running the Library Raffle.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Rory F from Neptune Class who was nominated by the Catering Team for having exceptionally polite manners and for always eating the menu choices with such delight. Well done Rory.

The children were delighted to hear that Ahlberg House has won this week's Housepoint challenge with a superb 594 Housepoints. Well done to all the children in Ahlberg House.

Annie Thackray Headteacher

**Merit Awards** 

Megan R, Felice F, Rumi W, Reis P, Zayn P, Olivia C, Aaron S, Sam B, Leo S-M, Meili L, Max P, Sybil T, Benjamin W, Kitty T, Blake Y, Logan D–W and Elena W.

#### Philosopher of the Week

Lily W, Elise D and Nancy H P

Thought for the week

Are people more important than animals?

# Work of the week

Work of the week from Nancy in Venus Class (Year 2)

We learned how to write a persuasive letter to the Once-ler, a character from The Lorax who is damaging the environment. Nancy came up with some great arguments and organised them into paragraphs by herself. Well done Nancy.

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## **Nursery and Pre-Reception News**



It's been a chilly week in Nursery this week, we have been exploring the Polar Regions. We have been learning about different animals that love the snow and ice. The children were amazed by all the interesting facts, especially that snowy owls live underground and don't make a sound! In Green Room we have been creating 2d shape polar bears. Nursery are amazing at naming 2d shapes and talking about their sides and corners.



Arctic fruit salads have been very popular in the kitchen this week, we have been using our knife skills to carefully chop a range of fruit and sprinkling on our meringue ice! The explorers in the



garden have been travelling to the different habitats of the animals we have been learning about this term. From the farm, to the jungle and then onto the snowy artic. We can move in different ways and have been creating fabulous movement patterns. The children have been amazing at sharing their learning with their friends and sorting animals by their habitats. I wonder where our animal adventures will take us next week?



## **Reception News**



Them bones, them bones, them dancing bones...' What a marvellous week we have had in Reception. The children were introduced to the story Funny Bones by Janet and Allan Ahlberg as part of their topic, 'We like to move it move it'. They thoroughly enjoyed listening to, singing along to and dancing along to The Skeleton Song. Can your child tell you which bones are connected to each other?



Neptune and Mars started off their week creating a class skeleton! They labelled all of the bones that they knew, and made some sensible estimations as to how many bones they thought the human body has. They could not believe the actual answer for it was a much bigger number than most of their guesses! Following on from this, the children designed and decorated their own Funny Bones cardboard houses. They discovered that down a street, one side of the houses are odd and the other side is even. The children listened to and joined in with a 'counting in twos' song. They then decided which number they would give their front door and had to place their house down the odd or even side of the class street! Please encourage them to look at numbers in their environment and decide whether that number is odd or even. Reception are feeling rather



proud of themselves and are becoming quite the experts at practising cursive handwriting. This week's letters are g and q! Don't forget, these letters go under the line and look rather curly! Great job everyone for another spectacular week!



Monday 24th May Musical Performance Day For those taking part please don't forget your instruments



Wednesday 26th May - Cup Assembly



31st May - 4th June Half Term

Spotty Box Awards for success outside school :

Congratulation to Ella D – Taking third place in the Bayford Meadows Karting Club Championship and achieving a PB in torrential rain.



Tate T for awesome swimming without support and being brave by jumping in and touching the bottom of the pool.

For more news and photos follow us on Twitter @StChrisEpsom



and on our Instagram page - stchrisepsom



Here are some of the fantastic entries for the HEROES Stamp Design Competition. Well done to everyone for your creative and colourful ideas.

