

Weekly News

Friday 30th January 2015

Dear Parents

We were all very excited to receive a card from the famous author Julia DONALDSON. The DONALDSON House Captains, Felix and Cameron had written a lovely Christmas card to Julia advising her of her House's splendid performance in the weekly housepoint challenge. She was delighted to receive such a lovely card and letter and has promised that next time she is near Epsom, she will pop in and visit!

On Friday we were hugely entertained by the Class Assembly performance by Saturn. This entertaining assembly contained extracts of clever maths, lovely literacy and beautiful artistic cave paintings. The children are delighted with their new topic, From Castles to Caravans and the creative work supported by Mrs London and Mrs Degg in the classrooms is most impressive. Saturn children sang a super song taught by Mrs Mulhern and gave a wonderful gym performance coached by Mrs Hawes and the finale was a dance that had everyone tapping their toes with delight. What a production! Thank you Mrs London and the talented Saturn children.

Kindness Kangaroos this week have been a focus of the week with joyful news about acts of extraordinary kindness. This week's recipients are: Oliver D, Nathan J, Caiden C, Sophia D, Jago G, Sophie B and Joaquin G. Year 1 once again shone in the Mathletics this week; with Bronze Certificates awarded to Issy S, Daisy G, Arlo R and Thomas M. Bravo to Patrick M from Mercury class for earning your Silver Certificate.

On Wednesday we were delighted to welcome Nursery parents into school for an information evening about Maths and Knowledge and understanding in the World in the EYFS. Thank you for your enthusiastic support.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Zachary C for such an improvement in his choice of food and for such a wonderful sense of humour which makes the Team laugh. What a star you are Zachary!

This week's housepoint champions are Morpurgo House topping the leader board by earning a wonderful total of 549 housepoints. Bravo Morpurgo House!

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

This Week's Merit Awards

Lexi M, Oscar R, Cameron M, Lucas C, Sophie P, Felix A, Mathilda K, Michael S, Athena D, Liberty R, Joe C, Matthew S, Claudia M and Abigail M. **Philosopher of the Week** Alexander S **Thought for the Week** Is beauty important?

Work of the Week

The work of the week is by Jupiter Class. In Year 1 we have been learning about **adjectives:** words which describe things. Stanley imagined the view from his bedroom window and worked hard all by himself to describe what he could see. He used some super **adjectives**. He also used **similes**. **Similes** are when you describe something as similar to something else. **Similes** use the words 'like' and 'as'. Can you spot Stanley's similes?

showing

Foundation Stage News

When the Reception children wrote their 'news' this week their teachers were very impressed with their ability to start their sentences in different ways. They talked about the different times that the news happened and used a variety of 'sentence starters' in their writing. Rory Parley's news started 'On Saturday' and Daisy had news about 'Yesterday'. Great work children!

Red Riding Hood has been the 'book focus' this week and the children have had fun role-playing in 'Grandma's House', making character masks and painting scenes for the story. They also decided Grandma might need something to cheer her up, like, flowers, fruit and presents which they drew to go in a basket. In maths the children looked at 2 dimensional shapes that they saw in Grandma's basket and compared them to 3 dimensional shaped objects. They also made number lines going up to 30 and then used them to work out their own addition number sentences.

The children thought that there are quite a few 'baddies' in the woods so they decided to make 'Wanted' posters to help find the wolf and Goldilocks. The children included some very good adjectives in their writing to describe these characters. I hope they are found!



In Nursery we have been thinking about what it would be like if we visited the moon, drawing and role-playing being on the moon, like the bear in 'Whatever Next' the wonderful story by Jill Murphy. Lots of children think they would see aliens, some are green, others orange and some aliens are very small.

The Upper Nursery children love their phonic group times with games to help them

listen and recognise the sounds. The children are very clever trying hard to write the tricky letters such as 's' and 'a'. Everyone loves to play the phonic fun computer games.

We enjoy playing maths games with dice and try our very best counting. We are

learning to choose who is to go first and who will have the next turn by following the game and watching our friends as they have their turn and accepting that they will not always win. These are important lessons well learnt.

Out in the garden the 'aliens' (from the moon) have been off on space walks making strange bubbly patterns in the playground!



Next week our learning is focussed on the illustrations of 'Lauren Child' the clever author and illustrator of the books Charlie and Lola.

Many thanks to all the parents who came to the Curriculum Information Evening, we hope it was useful. **The Foundation Team**

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 3rd February: Governors' Meeting

Friday 6th February at 9am: VENUS Class Assembly -Parents are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be available in the Porch from 8.30am.

Friday 6th February: Year 2 Girls' Sports Afternoon at Downsend School - *See letter for details*

PTA QUIZ NIGHT – FRIDAY 6th FEBRUARY AT 7.30PM

£10 per person to include fish & chip supper

Please get together your team to enjoy this popular event. Booking forms available from the office.



SAVE THE DATE: PTA SUMMER BALL ON FRIDAY 5TH JUNE

School Questionnaire

Please complete and return your questionnaire by Monday 2nd February.