



St Christopher's School

Weekly News Friday 30th April 2021

Dear Parents

It is always a joy to show prospective parents round our beautiful school and to hear their observations full of admiration and compliment. Now that tours have started again I have enjoyed that pleasure once more and I have felt exceptionally proud all week!

One of the compliments that we regularly receive is about the children's impressive manners. We have decided to celebrate and promote our polite children this term by introducing the Manners Mole award. All term children will be rewarded from all sections of the school community for exceptional manners with the award of a Manners Mole card to keep. At the end of term all teachers will add up the number of cards that each child has received and the winner will receive a cuddly toy mole to treasure as their prize and reward. We have already seen enormous enthusiasm across the school for this initiative. Well done children.

Nursery and Pre-Reception have had fantastic fun this week with all things to do with the farmyard. Our outdoor area has become a fabulous farmyard with opportunities to 'milk a cow' or 'shear a sheep' and I loved watching these engaging activities which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. Do see the photos on page 3.

Year 1 have been continuing with their focus on Explorers with an in depth study of Captain Robert Falcon Scott including an investigation of his ill-fated Terra Nova Expedition in 1910. Learning about unsuccessful expeditions is just as important as learning about triumphs because of the lessons that we learn from them. I have been fascinated by tales of disaster with dogs and problems with ponies and the children were fully aware of the problems that freezing cold will bring.

Meanwhile at the top of the school Year 2 are involved in Multiplication Magic! It is time for the much coveted Times Table Stars Awards and we had a healthy crop of Bronze Star Winners. Knowing their 2x, 5x and 10x tables in random order at speed is an awesome achievement and we say huge congratulations to Nancy H-P, Lily W, Gabby L-T, Maximo Y, Ella D, Beatrix B, Reis P and Megan R.

This week's Lunchtime Superstar is Holly S for being such a tremendous eater. Enjoying all the food on the menu and asking for seconds too! Well done Holly.

This week saw the long awaited re-opening of our library and this was celebrated with the return of the weekly Library Raffle. Our Librarian Mrs Thum chose 'House Authors' as her theme and the Year 2 Librarians Nancy, Ariana, Sophie, Zachary, Lawrence and Scarlett organised the raffle brilliantly in both assemblies.

It was also the return of the Housepoint collection much to the joy of our 8 fine House Captains; **Harry and Darcy**, **Amelie and Harry**, **Gabby and Bailey** and **Remy and Lily**. They eagerly collected the Housepoints and the winner this week was **Dahl** House with an impressive **165** Housepoints. Well done everyone.

Mrs Annie Thackray Headteacher

Merit Awards

James C, Rebecca G, Fazan C, Imogen C, Arya K, Zachary R, Reis P, Ariana A, Felicity V, Zachery R, Annabel H, Sam B, Cillian R and Luca K.

Philosopher of the Week

Gabby L-T, Conall R and Zachery R.

Thought for the week

Is it important to know how lucky we are?

Work of the week

Year 1 have been learning about The Magic Train Ride and we decided to write our own version of the journey, using exciting adjectives. In Saturn we enjoyed some outstanding work and here is Cillian's remarkable recount of the day. Well done Cillian.

Quickly I jumped on the train. The whistle blew loudly in my ear. The train started there was a weird sound. I think it was screaming. I saw elves making creepy toys in the magic woods and snapping crocodiles and there was a wizard scooting! The whistle blew again and the train started to chug. We were in space! There were monkeys swinging on the stars and a tiger eating a alien! Even a snake 100 meters long. I went back on the super fast train. Suddenly we were under water! I saw a octopus with 1000 tentacles and a ugly old megalodon and a spooky starfish that can extend its cold body. My final stop was cakeland. I wonder who could be there?

This is fantastic Cillian! You have used lots of adjectives to describe the Magic Train Ride!



Nursery and Pre-Reception News



Our topic this term is 'Amazing Animals'. This week we have been busy down on the farm!

We made some super animals to go on our Farm display in the Art Room. We know that animals need to go to the vet if they are poorly. The children have taken great care of a range of animals



in our Vet's Surgery. As well as caring for the animals we have been busy booking appointments and writing prescriptions for the animals. We introduced the farm topic by learning some fun farming facts and seeing if we could be animal detectives and use clues to guess which animal the teacher was describing. Two of the facts we learnt were that milk comes from cows and sheep need shearing to remove their thick woolly coats. So we could really



experience life on the farm we set up a milking area and sheep shearing station in the garden. We used special tools to gently remove the fluffy foam from the sheep. Using our animal knowledge we have sorted farm animals into different categories such as by their number of legs, whether they have feather or fur and sorting them into different homes before counting them. We have had a wonderful week!



Reception News

It has been another busy and fun filled week in Reception. This week we have introduced the story 'The Huge bag of Worries' by Virginia Ironside. We discussed the story and spoke about how the bag was getting bigger and bigger. In the story Emma asked for help with her worries, the children thought this was a great idea as talking makes the 'worry monsters' disappear. As a class we talked about who we can tell our worries to and how to help others who may share a worry with us. Continuing with this theme we identified different emotions and how they make us feel as well as how it may look using our faces. We looked at the emotion 'happy' in more detail and suggested what it felt like and how we can make others happy too. The best ideas were giving our parents a hug and keeping our rooms tidy!

In Literacy, we wrote about the worry bag story. Every child was able to recall the story as well as think of a sentence or two to write! Top job!

In Maths, we have been investigating capacity using lots of different media like sand, water, pasta shapes and ping pong balls. We have been using the mathematical language involved when explaining our investigations e.g. 'Full', 'half full' and 'empty'. We moved on by using and practising our estimating skills. 'how many scoops of sand or how many ping pong balls will I need to fill the container?'

This term sees the start of Reception developing the skill of cursive handwriting. Please encourage this at home by asking your child the letter that they have practised in school and to show you how to write it!

**Bank Holiday
3rd May**

**Parent Forum on Zoom
11th May 9-10am**

Manners Mole



**Please meet Manners Mole who will be awarded to children who
show exceptional manners at school**



Mathletics:

**Congratulations to Juliet F, Callan M and Eloise B-S
for their Gold award**

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