



## St Christopher's School

### Weekly News

Friday 9th October 2020

Dear Parents

On Friday we were delighted to watch the entertaining assembly provided by Mercury. Year 2 have been studying the fascinating Tudor era and they provided us with a history lesson as well as a show to remember. Learning about Henry VIII is never dull but Mercury really brought this period to life. We even enjoyed some Tudor dancing too. Well done to everyone in Mercury for impressive character acting and performing and thank you very much to Miss Drayton for this entertaining assembly.

As you will be aware, we are all working very hard to maintain degrees of normality wherever possible during this challenging period when government restrictions affect so many of our traditional activities. Accordingly it was with trepidation that, for the first time, we launched our termly Parent Forum via the magic of Zoom. On Wednesday Governor Nigel Field chaired the event in the presence of Chair of Governors Helen Crossley with a group of committed parents who had submitted questions or who wanted to be involved in school development discussions. It was very nice for Mrs Meredith Bennett and I to be involved in discussions about parents' observations and we all enjoyed the discussions that arose from the Forum. Thank you to the parents who logged in and I hope that you all find the Parent Forum minutes valuable- do give them a read.

From one new experience to another: On Wednesday and Thursday we ran our annual Parents Evenings using a new service called Parent Cloud. This new remote package enabled us to run this event across the year groups on the same night which allowed parents their usual opportunity to find out about their child's progress in this first term of the academic year. Thank you for your support and patience with these new initiatives. We are all learning together by using the technology that is available and it will be interesting to compare the format of this Parents Evening with the usual face to face time previously experienced.

At the end of last week we received the wonderful news that we have been shortlisted to the top 3 schools in the country for this year's Independent School Association's Annual Awards for the 'Junior School of the Year Award'. We are so honoured to make a podium finish in a category where we are against significantly larger competitors. I have congratulated all the staff for it is the broad and exciting curriculum delivered by the whole team that enabled us to be successful with this nomination.

This weeks Library Raffle on Thursday included Nursery children for the first time. Mrs Thum chose 'the world' as the theme to compliment the Harvest Festival theme this year. Two librarians accordingly had to choose two additional Nursery names. This week it was Zachery R and Scarlett C to make the double dip.

Congratulations to Quinn K for being this week's Lunchtime Superstar, for showing exceptional manners by thanking the dinner ladies for such a lovely lunch. Well done Quinn.

Congratulations to [Donaldson](#) House for winning this week's Housepoint challenge [Donaldson](#) House rose to the top of the board with a splendid total of [1013](#) Housepoints . Well done [Donaldson](#) House.

Mrs Annie Thackray Headteacher

### Merit Awards

Annabelle L, Imogen C, Rory F, Logan D-W, Laura L, Elena G, Eloise B-S, Rafferty D, Rumi W, Darcy W, Felice F and Thomas M

### Philosopher of the Week

Harry S

### Thought for the Week

Is it good to be old?

## Work of the Week

Year 1 have been learning about famous London landmarks. Monty H in Jupiter class has written this wonderful piece of work about the London Eye all by himself after just half a term in Year 1. Well done Monty!

LO: To write a fact file about famous London landmarks.

Monty



The London Eye <sup>goes</sup> Slow.  
and the Millennium Wheel is the  
other name and twentyfour  
<sup>people</sup> can sit in the ~~cap~~  
<sup>capsules</sup> capsules. <sup>There</sup> are thertytwo  
capsules. The London Eye has  
it goes around in thertty  
<sup>minutes</sup> minutes. It goes really slow  
then people can get off and  
on. and



Excellent  
Work

Well done Monty! You have remembered lots of  
interesting facts about the London Eye.



## Nursery and Pre-Reception News



What a fabulous week we have had in Nursery. This week we have been learning about the season of autumn. The children were fully prepared for their learning when they arrived on Monday morning as they had been on an 'Autumn Hunt' at the weekend. We were very impressed with all of the children, as they have also been learning to put their coats on all by themselves for the chilly autumn weather. Our story this week has been "We're going on a leaf hunt". The children were very excited to walk around the playground and

field searching for signs of autumn with their magnifying glasses and clipboards. They found many things including conkers, different coloured leaves and pinecones. We have been busy counting this week in Nursery; the children have been pegging the correct amount of spikes onto our numbered hedgehogs, placing conkers onto Numicon pieces and ordering autumn pictures up to 10! A huge hit in the Nursery this week has been making hedgehog bread in the kitchen. The children were amazing at weighing the ingredients, mixing them together and kneading them carefully. They made some wonderful hedgehog shapes and added raisins for their eyes. After a night of proving the children baked the bread and ate it on the snack table. It was very popular and most children came back for more. Outside we have been creating some wonderful leaf art using a rubbing technique. The children were fascinated when they could see the leaf pattern emerging on the paper. The Mud Kitchen has been busy this week too; the children have been using different materials including conkers, leaves and pinecones to create wonderful mud pies and conker soups. What a super week.



## Reception News



It has been 'worm-tastic' in Reception again this week as we have been extending our learning further with our book 'Superworm' and all creatures wiggly! We had magic at our fingertips on Monday when we collected natural materials around the school grounds to make our own potions. The potions were to trap the 'Wizard Lizard' and save 'Superworm'! We all chose a name for our potions like Swamp, Sparkle and



Spider potion and wrote a list of all the ingredients too! Our Worm habitat in our classrooms is amazing! As soon as we arrive in school every morning, we look to see all the tunnels the worms are making. We know a lot about worms now; we find them at playtimes and on the way home too! In our circle time this week, we discussed whether small creatures like spiders and worms were scary and whether it was ok to hurt them. We all decided that all creatures are to be respected. In Maths this week, we recapped our learning of 'part, part whole' and looked at measuring. We all made large worms out of



paper and measured them using non-standard units like cubes. We discussed why it was important that the cubes were all the same size. Alongside this, we found all the different words related to length including long, short, tall, tiny, small etc. What a busy week in Reception! We all love learning!



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Stars Parents Afternoon** Tuesday 13th October via 'School Cloud'



**Friday 16th October**



**Morning collection of donations for our Harvest Festival**

**Spotty Box Awards for success outside school : Congratulation to Felicity V. Well done for receiving your 50 metre swimming badge.**



**Mathletics:**

**Congratulations to Ariana A, Scarlett C**

**Sophie G, Emily S and Sam B for their bronze certificates.**

**Congratulations to Elise D, Maximo Y and Benjamin C for their silver certificates.**

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