



St Christopher's School

Weekly News Friday 18th March 2022

Dear Parents

What a week! We ended last week by taking a team of Year 2 children to compete in a National A Cappella competition in Reading last Friday and were overjoyed to secure First Place and win the ensemble category bringing home a stunning glass trophy! Well done to our very own Mini-uets: Cillian, Rafferty, Monty, Mia, Harriet, Izzy, Edward, Izabella, Florence and Emily.

On Tuesday you flooded in with messages of love and support for people in crisis in Ukraine and we asked our Head Girl Thea, Head Boy Rafferty, Deputy Head Girl Olivia and Deputy Head Boy Monty to help Mr Bennett carry your boxes full of much needed contributions to the front car park and to load them onto the van. Thank you all for such characteristic generosity.

On Wednesday Reception headed off to Bocketts Farm. The children were all able to recognise the animals and animal homes from their topic studies this term and both Mars and Neptune impressed the farmers with their knowledge. They enjoyed a beautiful tractor ride and many hands on experiences with a range of animals and all agreed that it was a splendid day out.

On Wednesday I headed to Essendene Lodge to introduce their Years 3,4,5 and 6 to the art of Philosophy as part of the school's Wellbeing Week. Our lucky Year 2s enjoy weekly Philosophy lessons and it was lovely to share some of our favourite warm up games and texts to stimulate debates with each year group who impressed me with the fascinating questions that the children devised.

On Thursday we were all looking forward to our termly Sharing our Learning opportunity and our wonderful PTA made the day even more special by buying in a traditional Irish Band and Irish Dancer to celebrate St Patrick's Day. Parents and children arrived to a wonderful display of folk music and dancing and after a delightful start to the day where parents enjoyed sharing and celebrating their child's exceptional work and progress, the children headed in to an Assembly all about the historical traditions in Ireland. The PTA then gifted each child a packet of seeds with the following inscription on each packet: "For each petal of the shamrock this brings a wish your way. Good health, good luck and happiness for today and every day".

On Friday it was time to enjoy a morning of exercise as we all ran a sponsored mile for Comic Relief. Thank you all for sponsoring this National Charity. The sun shone brightly and the photos on page 5 show how much the children enjoyed the experience.

This week we began our magical multiplication mathematical initiative called The Times Tables Stars. First up are the Bronze Star contenders who need to know their 2x, 5x and 10x tables at speed and in a random order tested by Mrs Thackray! This week we say special congratulations to Annabel H, Olivia C, Daniel B-P and Thea L.

Congratulations to this week's Lunchtime Superstar Nikhil K, well done for being such a wonderful eater and for enjoying your fruit so much !

Congratulations to **Kemp** House who are the winners of the weekly Housepoint Challenge. They have soared to the top of the board with a splendid total of **1392** Housepoints.

Annie Thackray Headteacher

Merit Awards

Max M, Bella I, Phoebe B, Lia M L, Juliet F, Luca K, Barnaby B, Imogen C, Tate T, Evie W, Daniel B-P and Grace H

Work of the week

Mercury have been learning about riddles. Olivia wrote an excellent one ...can you guess what it is?

My Riddle

no Man made

& Can be big or small

I am very good for your jaw

~~pe~~ Pearl Pearl such a cyan Turb all

of these colours

I explode in your mouth!

& Careful... I can be dangerous

You should always spit me out

chew me but never Swallow me

What am I?

By Olivia

What a wonderful riddle! IS it...

bubble gum? yes!

Nursery and Pre-Reception News



Nursery have had a wonderful week! Our focus story is one of our favourites 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'. We have been enjoying retelling the story in a variety of ways. In the garden we had a bear hunt role play, we put on our wellies and travelled through the story, even meeting a big brown bear in the cave! In Yellow Room the children created their own bear hunt game board, they used a range of materials to create the different parts of the story and then added some numbers, characters and a dice. We were learning to take turns, roll the dice and



move the correct amount of spaces. We have also been learning about why some animals like bears hibernate. We discovered that they sleep through the winter so made some lovely cosy bear caves for the bears to sleep in. In Green Room this week we have been creating 'bear hunt' story maps, whilst retelling the story we have been using a range of materials to represent the different features e.g. brown paint with oats for the mud. In the kitchen we have been observing what happens to bread when it is heated up in the toasters. The children then continued to build on their spreading skills to add the topping of their choice, banana and raisins to create yummy bear toast. Pre Reception



have begun their preparation for their Class Assembly; they have been using their loud clear voices and their grownups are in for a real treat. Nursery were so excited to invite their grownups into Nursery for Sharing our Learning and they enthusiastically showed them their favourite areas of the Nursery and their favourite activities to do. The children in Nursery were amazing at joining in with the Comic Relief mile on Friday. They ran fast with their Year 2 buddy and enjoyed collecting all of their stamps. What a busy week!

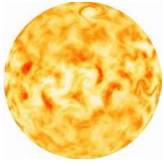


Reception News

This week we finally got to go on our much-anticipated school trip to Bocketts Farm! The day started with a rather bumpy tractor ride around the farm where we were able to see all the animals playing in the fields and in their pens. As we took the tour the farmers were able to give us lots of information and fun facts about the animals. The children were however a bit concerned that they couldn't see a cow matching the 'Fine Prize Cow's' description leading us to believe that Hefty Hugh and Lanky Len had beaten us to the farm! The children were able to recognise the animals and their homes from all our farm research this term and impressed the farmers with their knowledge. Our tractor ride was followed by some hands-on animal encounters. We had the opportunity to feed the sheep and alpacas. The farmer told us the names for a Mummy, Daddy and Baby sheep. Can you remember their names? After a busy morning at the farm, we finished the day with a quick visit to the soft play before boarding the coach back home. Despite a little drizzle, all agreed that it had been a most wonderful day! If that wasn't enough fun for the week, Neptune performed a fantastic Friday assembly with their retelling of 'What the Ladybird Heard'. Well done, Neptune. We were so proud of you.



**Wednesday 23rd March - Nursery
Mothers Day Stay & Play
From 8.45am-9.15am**



Thursday 24th March - Pre Reception Assembly

All Sun & Moon parents welcome to attend

Refreshments will be served under the porch from 8.30am

Followed by Mothers Day Stay & Play from 9.30am-10.15am



Friday 25th March - Pre Reception Assembly

All Earth & Sky parents welcomed to attend

Refreshments will be served under the porch from 8.30am

Followed by Mothers Day Stay & Play from 9.30am-10.15am



Friday 25th March - Reception, Year 1 & Year 2

Mothers Day Afternoon Tea

From 2.45pm - 3.15pm



Mathletics:

Congratulations to Kitty T, Conor L and Annabel N for their Gold award.

Spotty Box Awards for success outside school :

Conor L for his Gymnastics Grade 3 Certificate

Dexter R for Team Player Award from Guildfordians RFC Spring Festival 2022



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Red Nose Day fun

