



Headmistress
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NEWSLETTER 5

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Harvest Service

The Harvest Festival service was a wonderful way to start the week. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the fantastic display in Chapel and a big thank you must also go to the parents who helped to decorate the Chapel on Sunday morning. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and each year group performed their parts superbly. The children in Year 2 led the service extremely well. The combined Prep and Pre-Prep retiring collection from the two separate services raised £750.52 for 'Acorns'. Thank you for your generosity.

Early Years Harvest Assembly

The Nursery and Reception children also celebrated Harvest with a special assembly on Monday in the school hall. Mrs Symonds talked to the children about being thankful for what we have. Every child took part with songs and poems shared with each other.

PA Meeting

Please note the PA meeting scheduled for Wednesday 14th October 7.30pm has been cancelled. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 25th November, 7.30pm at Thomas Horton's offices. New members are always welcome. It is a great way to meet other parents and to support the school.

The PA provide many 'luxuries' which all pupils benefit from but without support the children will lose some of the many wonderful experiences and opportunities that the PA are able to fund. Please do try to attend if you can.

MacMillan Coffee Event

This special charity event was held in the Hospitality suite immediately after the Harvest festival service. Thank you to everyone who came along to support this worthy cause. A sum of £398.60 was raised.

Reception Grandparent Visitors

Mr & Mrs Greathurst came into school this week to talk about being George and Chloe's grandparents. The Reception children asked them both lots of interesting questions and we all really enjoyed the visit. We even gave them a sneak preview of our Harvest song 'Big Red Combine Harvester'.

Reception

Thank you to everyone who has pre-ordered a Nativity DVD. We are now able to confirm that filming will go ahead. If anyone still wishes to place an order for the Nativity DVD please return to school no later than Friday 16 October.

Year 1

On Tuesday Year 1 enjoyed spending a morning with Year 3 at the Pre-Prep. They worked on a variety of woodland themed activities with their mixed year-group partner. The children created an enchanted forest with clay faces. They learnt about Andy Goldsworthy and worked together to create their own natural pictures. Finally, all three groups had the opportunity to plant their own bulbs following a series of instructions. Both year groups worked keenly and cooperatively with each other and great fun was had by all.

Year 1 had an excellent afternoon visit on Tuesday from Pets At Home and a number of their furry friends. The children learned how to look after animals and discussed the differences between pets and animals in their natural habitats. Year 1 then had the opportunity to meet and pet Smudge the rabbit and Biscuit the hamster. The children all had a wonderful time.

An Art teacher from the Senior School visited Year 1 this week to talk about photography. During the afternoon the children made toy cameras out of cereal boxes and yoghurt pots. Ms McWilliams shared some of her own photographs with the pupils, taught the children about composition and discussed interesting things to photograph. The children then went outside and took photographs on the iPads in the style of Ansel Adams, an American landscape photographer. Close ups of shoes walking over tree roots, over hanging branches and detailed shots of natural textures created some lovely abstract photographs.

Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed a wonderful *marvellous middle* to their WW2 topic yesterday, participating in a variety of themed activities. They enlisted in the Home Guard and practised their drill, led by Staff Sergeant Jeff Farnes from the Senior School's CCF. The children delighted in using a stirrup pump and hose, dancing to Glen Miller and becoming part of 'ENSA' to entertain the teachers with some marvellous WW2 singing. The children will be sharing much of what they have learned this half term with their parents during a special Remembrance assembly on Tuesday 10th November, at 9.15 a.m. Year 2 children will need to come to school dressed as evacuees on this day.

Holiday Club

The Holiday Club deadline is today. A booking form must be completed for staff to process your booking. All forms received have now been passed to the Holiday Club staff who will be in touch shortly with anyone who has sent in a form.

Formal Parents' Evenings for Nursery and Reception

These will take place on the following evenings:

Monday 12 October

Foxes & Rabbits
Reception

Tuesday 13 October

Badgers & Hedgehogs

Wednesday 14 October

Robins & Otters

Thursday 15 October

Owls & Squirrels

Reminders

- Can Year 1 children come to school on Mondays in kit and bring their swimming kit with them.
- Can Year 2 children come to school on Tuesdays in kit and bring their swimming kit with them.
- Please note we do not have spare kit in school.
- If you need to contact the school please ring 01527 579679 ext. 204 from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm. and 07557 036045 from 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm. Please do not ring the mobile phone number, or leave messages on it, during the school day as this number is not be checked until Aftercare staff are on duty.
- Please note that aftercare bookings must be made at least 24 hours in advance.
- Aftercare finishes at 6.00 pm each evening and the school is then locked. Please ensure that you collect your child from Aftercare by 6.00 pm at the latest. Penalty charges will be applied for late collection.
- Please be aware that if your child is absent from school on a Friday, and you have not received a paper copy, the newsletter is always available on our school website and isams. The link is emailed to parents every week. If you have not been receiving this each Friday please contact the office so we can check the email address we have listed for you.

Junior Swimming Squad

Please note late squads (Tuesday 5.30pm – 6.30pm) are cancelled next week – Tuesday 13th October. This is due to a very late start from St Martins School who are attending a swim fixture on that day.

Lost Property

Tristan Shaylor 2F – trainers.

Alfie Slater 1K – school shorts.

Beau Langford 1C – waterproof trousers.

Oliver Jones-Elliott 1C – school coat.

Freddie Helmore Nursery – school coat

Alex Georgio Nursery – school coat

Alfie Higgins 2EM – waterproof trousers

Archie Wilson 1L – school cap

Please check in case your child has brought these home by mistake.

Star Pupils

Congratulations to Amelia Hughes, Gigi Gilbert, Robyn Duffy (Nursery), Lucas Ashurst, Priya Giles, Lachlan Halls (Reception), Oliver Jones-Elliott, Shayan Jilka, Elina Patel (Year 1), Amelia Lees, Madison Falconer, Fearne Baillie (Year 2) for being this week's Star Pupils. They were each presented with their golden star and certificate in assembly this morning.

Yours sincerely,

J. Deval-Reed