

St. Matthew's

Church of England Infant School

Weekly Newsletter

15th June 2018



Dear Parents

This week we have been celebrating our great dads, uncles and grandads in our assembly, and we have been practising in preparation for today's Father's Day assembly. The children have had fun getting their special messages ready and learning their songs, which you will have been able to enjoy today. If you were unable to make this morning's assembly, there is a special message coming home for lucky dads, uncles or grandads and some have a lovely tie to wear this weekend! Our Father's Day raffle raised a fabulous £132 – congratulations to the lucky winner.

Due to the busy day today with the assembly and Great Get Together picnic, we did not do our usual celebration assembly, so if your child has brought in a certificate from home this will be celebrated next Friday.

The children have enjoyed sharing their enthusiasm about Healthy Eating Week, each day talking about their chosen challenge and filling in their classroom tracker. I chatted to some children today in the playground and was impressed with the amazing attitudes towards wanting to be eating healthily – some of the examples I heard were: *'I have been trying to drink more water'*, *'I am eating a healthy breakfast every day and more vegetables'*, *'I tried a vegetable bagel and it was very nice'*, *'I am having porridge everyday'*, *'I put less honey on my pancakes'*, *'I am being active by running around'* and *'we have chosen to have fruit in our Bob's Bunch party.'* All this was in a quick two-minute survey!

In our whole school circle time on Wednesday, we read the story *'When Sophie Gets Angry, Really, Really Angry...'* and talked about how our 'security guard' (amygdala) tries to step in with an emotional reaction to a situation such as someone taking something from us that we are playing with. Sophie in the story gets angry at first, then finds a space outside where she sits still and feels the breeze in her hair and watches the waves in the sea, becoming calm and able to return home. In our small groups we talked about similar scenarios where we may feel anger, and practised counting to ten aiming to feel a different response to the situation. We also practised having a 30 second, mindful relaxation, breathing gently with our eyes closed, listening to the sounds around us. We aim to practise this more – something to try at home also.

This week Rabbits have been having a lot of fun exploring their mini-beast topic, sharing what they already know about mini-beasts and thinking of questions that they would like to find the answers to, such as *'What do caterpillars eat?'*, *'Why do bees make honey?'* and *'How do spiders make webs?'* The class caterpillars have arrived and each one has been put into a pot with some special food – the children will be watching their caterpillars as they eat the food and then eventually turn into a cocoon over the next couple of weeks. In literacy they have been writing lots of sentences about mini-beasts, using their sentence spots to remind them to use a capital letter and full stop for each sentence. In maths they have been learning all about 2-D shapes, using the right mathematical vocabulary to describe them – *hexagon, pentagon, vertices, sides...* They have also been looking at patterns in a big picture - describing them to each other, then making their own patterns such as big tree, little tree, medium tree... adding in colour to the pattern as well, such as light green big tree... dark green little tree. Rabbits have been talking a lot about healthy eating this week - remembering it is good to eat 5 a day, to drink plenty of water and to get lots of exercise, also making the most of the lovely weather!

Otters Class have continued exploring the story of *The Light House Keeper's Lunch*, and have made a class story map to help them remember the different key parts of the story. They have had fun acting the story out in

the right order then creating their own story maps to help them to remember the story with lots of detail, adding key vocabulary to use in order to retell the story effectively. They have looked closely at the characters and have used lots of adjectives to describe how they look and behave. In maths they have worked hard, finishing their unit on addition and subtraction within 100. They have solved problems in context using their knowledge of addition and subtraction, solving different statements. They also remembered to use their 'Make Ten' strategy to help with their equations. They have started their next unit on money, looking at the physical properties of coins and their different values. In science they have been looking at materials – this week they received a letter from Mr and Mrs Grinling asking if Otters Class could help investigate some different materials and help them decide which would be most suitable material for a new seagull-proof basket. Otters have investigated the properties of different materials, using adjectives to describe them, and have designed their own baskets for the Grinlings. In PSHE they have been learning about safe and unsafe situations such as swimming pools, roads and railways, raising awareness of always staying safe and to tell an adult if someone is doing something not safe – also learning to not respond to peer pressure. They have made some great posters on how to be safe. Otters have also been busy on the allotment this week, weeding and watering as well as planting lots of new plants, including pumpkins, tomatoes, lettuce, beans and mint.

Badgers Class have been having a very exciting week. Yesterday they had their pirate day, looking amazing and authentic in their outfits. They learned a pirate song about the different jobs that a pirate crew can do and did lots of drama and role play of the jobs that they had applied for last week. Following this, they wrote a recount of their experience as a pirate and made their own treasure maps. They used pro-bots to navigate treasure maps, programming carefully to find the treasure. They went on to write a pirate story with an exciting beginning, middle and end, using their story boards to remember the details that they wanted to add in. When I visited the class this week they were exploring and describing feelings of an imaginary journey. In bare feet, with ocean music playing and eyes closed, they took a journey with Mrs Skudder across an ocean in a rowing boat, arriving at a mystery island where they felt the sand with their feet and approached a dark wood... The vocabulary used by the children throughout the lesson was fabulous – *gentle breeze... rhythmic rocking... terrifying... heart pounding... bravely ... waves lapping...* - I really felt that I was there on the island! In PSHE, Badgers are thinking about what it feels like to be moving on to a new school soon, sharing what they are excited about and also what might worry them a little – learning to talk about worries so that they can be addressed. They are thinking about friendship as they will be keeping present friends and also making new ones, sharing helpful hints on how to make good friends.

Everyone had a great picnic this afternoon – thank you to all the families who contributed such a wonderful variety of foods from so many different cultures. We all enjoyed trying many different tastes and the children liked finding out what their friends had brought in to share.

Next week in Monday's assembly, Otters Class will be talking to the rest of the school about the important voluntary work that the RNLI does and why we like to support them as a school. They will be sharing what they have been learning about the RNLI and asking everyone to wear orange and / or blue on Friday 22nd June and to bring £1 donation for their RNLI collection. This mufti day is for the whole school and can be either school uniform with a bit of orange or full mufti orange and / or blue.

Next week is also 'Feeling Good' Week, where the focus is all about resilience. We will be doing lots of activities that promote a focus on good emotional health – learning to cope with any pressures and beginning to learn that we can reduce the impact of life's stresses. Mrs Fish would like to ask if anyone has a weeble as one is required for one of our resilience activities – if you could lend a weeble to the school, please bring it in on Monday! At the end of the week we will have some lovely community fun together at our school summer fair on Saturday 23rd June – hopefully with sunny weather.

Thank you for the fantastic response to our Sponsored walk – so far this has raised a magnificent £1200. If there is any more sponsor money to be brought in, please can it be brought in by Friday 22nd June.

Attached to the newsletter is a letter from Mrs Rook, explaining our Plastic Bottle Boat Challenge that we are taking part in as a school – plastic bottles are needed as early as possible next week so that the children can start their designs and boat making.

Enjoy the weekend, whether it is at the Summer Party this evening, the run on Sunday or other family fun.

Mrs Hutt

AWARDS OF THE WEEK



SUPERSTARS

Rabbits:	All the Dads, Uncles, Grandpas and All the children for a fantastic Father's Day Assembly!
Otters:	All the Dads, Uncles, Grandpas and All the children for a fantastic Father's Day Assembly!
Badgers:	All the Dads, Uncles, Grandpas and All the children for a fantastic Father's Day Assembly!



DIARY DATES

Monday 18 th	2.30pm new Rabbits induction session
Tuesday 19 th	2.30pm new Rabbits induction session Year 2 swim team – gala at Feltonfleet 3pm
Wednesday 20 th	2.30pm new Rabbits induction session
Thursday 21 st	Otters trip to Southsea Aquarium Badgers trip to Portsmouth HMS Victory
Friday 22 nd	RNLI Mufti day Swimming lessons – all classes
Saturday 23 rd	School Summer Fair 2-4pm

GATE DUTY w/c 11th June Parents of:

(8.40 – 9.00am)

Monday 18 th June	G and R Giddens
Tuesday 19 th June	A Gow
Wednesday 20 th June	G Kinnersly
Thursday 21 st June	G McCallum
Friday 22 nd June	A Mckenna



EFFINGHAM & LEATHERHEAD RUGBY CLUB

GIRLS RUGBY U7-U11

Do you want to try a new sport?



FREE Girls Only

Pitch up and Play session -
Sunday 1st July 10am @ KGV

Find out more at:

www.eaglesrugby.club/girls-rugby

Effingham & Leatherhead RFC, King George V Hall, Browns Lane, Effingham, Surrey, KT24 5ND

Core values
of rugby union



Teamwork



Respect

Enjoyment

Discipline

Sportsmanship