

# St. Matthew's

## Church of England Infant School

Weekly Newsletter

13<sup>th</sup> July 2018



Dear Parents,

This week we talked about how we can travel in different ways, such as in a bus, racing car, hot air balloon or bicycle and then we talked about the saying that life is a journey. We thought about how we are born as tiny babies and that we have a wonderful, exciting journey through life to make. Our journey through life gives us new experiences, giving us the chance to see and try different things and to meet lots of different people. There are lots of opportunities that we can grasp on to if we climb on board. We talked about new opportunities we have next year in our new class or new school and how we can have a positive mindset to try everything that is on offer and to enjoy the next step of our journey.

Well done to the following children for being awarded a Wisdom certificate from home for making a good choice: to Sam W for *'always taking care of his little sister and making sure she stays safe. Sam guides her and teaches her wisely. He is a brilliant big brother!'*; and to Frederick for *'having quick thinking and being really helpful when his sister poured all the fish food on the floor. Freddy insisted on cleaning it all up himself to be helpful.'*

On Wednesday we had 24 photos of amazing sunflowers to enter into the Savill's annual sunflower competition, which was really super to see. The winner was Tom H with a sunflower that was 176cm tall, and from his photo we noticed that his sunflowers had been planted in the ground rather than in a pot. The hint for next year's competition is once the sunflower has grown to start with in a pot, and when the weather is warmer, plant it out so that there is room for the roots to grow more. Well done Tom!

This week Rabbits class had a fantastic day out at Gatton Park using their senses to explore the beautiful environment around them. They have been reading the 'Ugly Bug' story and finding out why the bug felt that he was ugly – he had big wobbly eyes and a hairy back. He saw all the other bugs as much better looking than him so he tried different ways to improve his appearance. Unfortunately this made him more visible to birds, so he learned that it is good to be yourself as you are made to be, and that you should be kind to yourself. Rabbits recognised that this also is true for them – to be kind to yourself and to others is so important. They had a great morning yesterday preparing their party food, making ladybird biscuits, bumble bee oreos, cheese puff cocoons and ladybird baby bell cheeses. During their party they enjoyed some games in the hall, including 'Fly, Fly, Spider' and some parachute games.

Otters Class have been reading and enjoying some different seaside stories and thinking about what they would like to include in their own seaside story. They have talked about their ideas with each other and have started to plan their story, carefully thinking about an exciting beginning, middle and end. Next week they will be using their plan to write their stories. In maths they have been continuing their unit on multiplication and division, this week focusing on repeated addition and recognising equal and unequal groups. They recalled that multiplication is adding equal groups and they went on to representing these equal groups pictorially. In PSHE they have been talking about their favourite memories of being in Otters class and about the new things that they have learned and experienced – some favourites were the trips and having ice-cream on the beach, Mr Stocker and the teachers, with science experiments being a popular favourite learning activity. They also talked about what they will miss about Otters Class and what they are looking forward to next year – they are looking forward to getting to know their new teachers and to being the top of the school. They had a super seaside party yesterday, with lots of quite unusual food – octopus and squid eyeballs, pebbles and seaweed; and played some fun games – 'Crab, Crab, Lobster', Pirate game, and 'Traffic lights', and had a flossing competition that was won by Louise!

Badgers Class have been working hard on preparing their songs and poems for the leavers assembly next Wednesday as well as completing their final designs and products for the grand finale in Year Two! The children have thoroughly enjoyed preparing their final thoughts for the year and this has included giving careful

consideration to the wonderful qualities of all of their class friends. They each have a special little something to award each other with. 'Pedals' has proved to be a huge success and something the children have really enjoyed whilst also preparing them well for the future. Thank you Tracy! Yesterday Badgers had a lovely party day, enjoying their picnic lunch which was full of 'goodies' as well as the healthy cucumber and tomatoes – they had a mixture of sandwiches, sausage rolls, popcorn, marshmallows, jammy dodgers, cakes and flapjacks, followed by an ice lolly! In the afternoon they had a great time on the common playing parachute games and a class game of rounders.

We have had some interesting talks about other countries this week from parents and children. Dominic and his mum told us all about Madagascar – we found out that it is an island off the east coast of Africa and is shaped like a left foot-print. We also found out that the lemur is special to Madagascar and Fairtrade vanilla pods are grown there. Charlotte, Theo and their mum told us all about Germany, and in particular, Bavaria. The girls and women wear a dirndl and the boys and men wear lederhosen – and they all looked super smart in these! Thank you for the treats that you brought in for us all to taste. Loki and his grandad told us all about Palestine and we learned lots of interesting facts, including that Bethlehem, Nazareth and Jerusalem are all in Palestine. We found out what each colour of the flag meant and got to see pictures of amazingly embroidered clothes. We have put pictures of all of our talks on display in the hall. Next week we are looking forward to hearing all about France – if anyone else would like to do a talk before the end of term, do let me know.

This morning we had representatives from Cobham and Surrey libraries talking to the children about their Summer Reading Challenge. To take part, visit one of the libraries and register your child – then select your books to read. For every 2 books read, there is a little prize and the challenge is to read 6 books overall (or more!). We learnt some interesting facts – you can have up to 20 books at a time for 3 weeks, there are 52 libraries in Surrey and you can return books to any library in Surrey.

Today we have all been kept on our toes by a very kindly but fairly strict Mr Bulley, headteacher for the day. He welcomed our visitors and visited each class to make sure that everyone knew to be on their best behaviour so that he could award lots of stickers. Rabbits class have had an extra 15 minutes lunch break to be in keeping with the rest of the school and Mr Bulley did a very efficient celebration assembly, where he asked everyone to do the birthday prayer again because not everyone was joining in properly! I will have to watch out for my job at this rate! Mr Bulley said *'Being headteacher is great! I have given stickers for children playing nicely together in the playground and in the classroom. I have reminded children of our rule that we don't have play fighting in the playground and I took a photo of an amazing house built out of blocks that had 30 dolls inside. I liked visiting the classes this morning as they all stood up and showed me respect. I loved doing assembly and giving out all of the certificates.'* Thank you Mr Bulley, it has been lovely working with you.

Next week we have our very special Class End of Year and Leavers' Assembly on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 9:15. All parents are invited to attend this assembly and will be directed where to sit (hopefully outside) so that they are seated near their child's class. Badgers parents are invited to stay for a drink afterwards.

At 3:25 on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July all parents and children are invited to join us over the road on our allotment to celebrate our school allotment grand opening. Although this is the official opening, the children have already been enjoying planting vegetables and seeds, weeding and watering. We are delighted that children have this extended learning opportunity which further enhances our outdoor curriculum provision. Parents who are keen to support this project are invited to sign up to help with the maintenance of the allotment throughout the year – we will be needing summer watering and weeding volunteers. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible joining us on Wednesday afternoon – come along and enjoy a drink and some cake and get to know our new learning space!

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 9:15 we have a concert for parents of Mrs Piantino's musicians and we look forward to seeing you at the concert.

School finishes for the year at 1:15 on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July and we will all be able to reflect on the fantastic year that we have had and look forward to what our next year has in store for us!

Congratulations to Keira and Seren for completing their sticker charts

Have a lovely weekend,  
Mrs Hutt

## Concert

Mrs Piantino invites the parents of her pupils to a short concert of their works on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July 9.15am – 9.30am in the school hall

## AWARDS OF THE WEEK



**SUPERSTARS**

<b>Rabbits:</b>	Emilio for coming up with great ideas of how to make things, and Sofia for having made lots of individual progress this year
<b>Otters:</b>	Sam for working hard in all areas at all times
<b>Badgers:</b>	Matilda for amazing singing and actions when practising our Leavers' Assembly songs



## DIARY DATES

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Last French club
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	9.15am Leavers Assembly – all welcome 3.25pm Allotment Opening Last Holly's dance & Chess club
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	9.15am Concert for Mrs Piantino's musicians (and their parents) Last Football club
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	1.15pm School finishes for Summer

## GATE DUTY w/c 16<sup>th</sup> July Parents of:

**(8.40 – 9.00am)**

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	T Hood
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	S Jackson
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	F Jones
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	I Little
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Z Loubeau

