

St. Matthew's

Church of England Infant School

Weekly Newsletter

5th July 2019



Dear Parents

This week we have been talking about the story of creation in the Bible and how God could just say the words 'Let there be...light....' and it happened. We compared it with how we make things, we can't just say 'Let there be...' , we have to actually make it, e.g. a lego house out of the bricks. We have thought about the wonders of creation - what amazes us, what puzzles us and what we think is most special. The children have been very creative – dancing, acting and listening to music as they explored the story of creation, and they have thought a lot about why they feel it is important to take care of our wonderful world and how we might do this. They had a lot of thoughtful ideas, understanding that our world is full of new developments e.g. in medicine, industry, IT, cars – and decided it is important to be able to develop new things but that we should do this in a wise way. Rev Hugh shared two special words with us – *Abad* and *Shamar*, Hebrew words that mean develop and protect - we need a balance of both. He shared a very old prayer (3500 years old!) '*God bless you and keep you shamar*' (God protect you and help you protect the world).

Well done to the following children for their wisdom from home certificate – to Eva for always wearing her glasses and helping her eyes improve; and to Alex for remembering to make a difference to the world by always switching lights off that are not being used.

Rabbits and Otters all enjoyed their moving up morning on Wednesday, spending time with their new teachers in their new classroom, getting to know each other a bit more and getting ready for September. All the classes are preparing for the End of Year and Leavers' Assembly on Wednesday 17th July. This assembly is for all classes and all parents, so do come along if you can – it is always a very special assembly, rounding off the year for Rabbits and Otters, and celebrating our Badgers at the end of their St Matthew's journey.

It has been a tricky week with the Oak Processionary Moth situation – it is a new thing for all of us to get to grips with, schools and doctors alike. We have a lot of rashes in St Matthew's at present, and it can be very difficult to distinguish between OPM rash and chicken pox (we have confirmed cases of OPM and 1 chicken pox this week) and children are also presenting with insect bites and heat rash just to keep us all on our toes! The children and staff have been amazing through this week, adapting to having no playground for the time being and enjoying the common instead. The trees in our neighbour's garden are booked to have the nests removed on Saturday 13th July and we are hoping that if the weather is good, we can still have our end of year assembly outside as usual. We still need to seek advice and confirm whether this can be the case and we will keep you updated.

This week's Young Climate Warrior challenge focuses on caring for our planet whilst out and about enjoying the summer sunshine – to remember our re-usable carrier bags, try not to use cling film, say 'no thank you' to straws and offer to recycle crisp packets. We now have a tall pencil-shaped bin by the front gate to collect crisp / nut / popcorn packets for recycling. I have started our collection off with a couple of popcorn packets today :)

Next week we will have the parent sign-up sheets out by the office for our parents' evenings on Tuesday 16th (between 3:30 and 6pm) and on Thursday 18th (between 6 and 8:30pm). These are ten-minute slots – if you have anything that you feel needs longer, please talk to your child's teacher to book a separate time.

Thank you to everyone for a great Sports Day – the children all did amazingly well, both individually and as part of a team. The races were fun – well done to the teachers and TAs for all the preparation and practising and thank you to Mr Lock for helping along the way. It is great that as I write this I can hear happy sounds coming from the common as families enjoy their afternoon picnic together – what a lovely end to such an interesting week!

Well done to Iyla for finishing her sticker chart this week.

Have a good weekend

Mrs Hutt

AWARDS OF THE WEEK



SUPERSTARS

Rabbits:	All of Rabbits class for participating so enthusiastically at Sports day and being such good sports!
Otters:	Evie for amazing listening all the time ☺
Badgers:	Gracie for being our class superstar every day. Gracie you work your socks off every day!

	Wisdom Award:
	R – Arthur for making great decisions and being so confident at sports day Sophia and Summer for making wise choices and working really hard in school, particularly their writing.
	O – Theo for making sensible choices on the carpet to ensure he is trying his hardest. Very well done!
	B – Finley for making wise choices during our sports day practices – sitting so smartly!

Golden Tickets	Alice, Evie, India, Finnlay B, Theo and Charlie
-----------------------	---



DIARY DATES

Tuesday 9 th July	Pirate workshop for Badgers
Wednesday 10 th July	Rabbits trip to Gatton Park
Thursday 11 th July	NSPCC Pants day
Friday 12 th July	St Matthews Summer Ball @ St Mary's Hall, Parkside

GATE DUTY w/c 8th July Parents of:

(8.40 – 9.00am)

Monday 8 th July	A Roussot
Tuesday 9 th July	S Weisz
Wednesday 10 th July	F Williams
Thursday 11 th July	M Wilson
Friday 12 th July	K Worrall



A gentle reminder that the next Cobham Conservation and Heritage Trust litter pick takes place a week on Sunday on **Sunday 7th July 2019, at 2pm**, meeting outside the furniture shop, No. 44, on the corner of Between Streets and the Portsmouth Road in Cobham.

High Viz vests, litterpickers and rubbish bags will be provided, but please bring along your own gloves.

Please note that there will be no organised litter pick in August but please do continue to pick up a bit of litter when you get an opportunity!

Thank you, Cobham Heritage and Conservation Trust