



Friday 12th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels as though I have blinked and we have almost made it to half term break already – time flies when you're having fun learning! It has certainly been a wonderful first half term of the year; the children have all settled well into their new classes and there is a buzz around the school. Last week we welcomed Tara Budden, our new 'School Business Manager' into our senior leadership team. Tara will be leading the administrative, premises and IT departments. We are looking forward to seeing you all at parents evening next Wednesday and Thursday when you will have the chance to speak to the teachers about your children's learning, look at some of their work and order Cauliflower Cards in time for Christmas!

### EYFS

The children have had a lovely week exploring all the signs of Autumn. We started by reading them an autumnal Percy the Park Keeper story, then with the help of the children we came up with all sorts of ideas for learning. We then spent the week using leaves, conkers, chestnuts and sticks for learning in maths, literacy, art and craft and science. We spent a long time in the wildlife garden, investigating signs of Autumn, lighting a camp fire and collecting resources. As there is still a lot to learn about the topic, we will continue next week with a focus on hibernation, night and day and nocturnal animals. The children are enjoying their morning phonics lessons and learning to read and write letters quickly. They will be bringing home reading books after half term and so we would like to invite you to an information evening for parents on Tuesday 30th October at 7pm in which we will be showing you how we teach phonics, hear children read and use the cursive handwriting script.



### KS1

The year one pupils have been exploring different settings for their writing, sitting in their own-made ice caves and deserts to help them write using a multi-sensory approach. We have been delighted with the results, as well as the children's enthusiasm for writing. The maths topic this week has been addition with money, so the classrooms were set up as shops to help the children with exchanging, counting and matching. In RE the children were learning about God as king, so they made their own crowns to remember. Next week the children will be innovating their Owl Babies stories. They will be learning all about the migration of swallows and making finger puppets and exploring maps to support this. Year two have been exploring the addition of 2-digit numbers in maths, mastering the skill by exploring various methods and strategies. They have been finishing the stunning posters about birds and we have been pleased with their collaboration and negotiation skills as they have been working in pairs. Cauliflower card art formed the focus of art in which the children have been using pastels to produce wonderful pictures. Next week subtraction will be introduced in maths, sentence structure explored in English and in RE the children will be studying the Ten Commandments.



## LKS2

Since our Ancient Egypt day, LKS2 have been learning lots more about this period in history. Year 3 have been learning about daily life as well as sequencing the process of mummification. Year 4 have learned how the pyramids were built and have also been decoding hieroglyphs. Year 4 have also managed to bring the topic of Ancient Egypt into science lessons. The two classes are carrying out an investigation into the process of mummification by mummifying tomatoes. These will take 6 weeks to mummify and they will then be able to compare the tomatoes with fresh ones, before bandaging them up. In maths, Year 3 have been learning how to use columns to add 3-digit numbers. Year 4 have learned columnar methods to both add and subtract 4-digit numbers, including how to exchange between columns when subtracting. In English, both year groups have been writing stories and then learning how to edit and improve them. Year 3 stories are based on the 'Hodgeheg' whilst year 4 have written suspense stories set in Ancient Egypt. In science, year 3 have been learning about different types of skeletons, including endo- and exoskeletons. They have also learned the names of bones and made skeletons out of paper. In addition to mummifying tomatoes, year 4 are starting to learn about the process of digestion and the names of the organs of the body involved in it.

## UKS2

Year 6 have now fully recovered from their trip to France. As a follow-up activity they have recounted their fantastic experience by making persuasive leaflets to share to the year 5 children who are thinking about going next year. Both year groups have continued to read the Arabian Nights stories and have written their own stories influenced by the tales of Sinbad the Sailor. Children have also done some fantastic descriptive writing based on the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. Linked to their study of the Islamic civilisation during the Middle-Ages, children have also researched into Arab scientists from the time and have made a fact file about them. In science Year 6 children have looked at the relationship between amps and voltage and have made both simple and parallel circuits. In year 5 the children have looked at the life cycle of animals and investigated the germination of seeds. In RE year 5 have looked at the importance of Islamic pilgrimages for Muslims and year 6 children have considered how both classical and contemporary art-work can be used to express the Holy Trinity and have written poetry and diary extracts on how life would be like for a Christian if one part of the trinity disappeared. In music, both year groups have listened to Sherezarade by the composer Rimsky-Korsakov and have analysed how his music synchronises with the story Sinbad and the Sea.

## COOKERY AT ST BART'S

Year 4 had fun constructing a pyramid of fruity cakes in their recent Ancient Egyptian themed DT Food & Nutrition lessons and Year 6 Cookery Club made a healthy vegetarian chilli this week with tortilla baskets to serve.



## SCHOOL CHARITY FUND

Over the next few days you will all be receiving a letter outlining the need to raise money to maintain the school building and facilities and asking for your support in doing this. I would encourage you to read the letter and the additional information available on the website and consider whether you are able to support the school in this way. Thank you.

## FUNDRAISING FOR THE WILDLIFE GARDEN

This Monday we were excited to receive a large cheque from Anita at Tesco from the 'Bags of Help' scheme. Thank you so much for all of you who collected the blue tokens when shopping through July and August – we were very pleased to get the second most number of votes so we have £2,000 to go towards our outdoor classroom in the Wildlife Garden. We now have enough money for the log cabin and are currently in the planning, paperwork stage.



## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November Pret-a-Portrait will be taking individual and sibling photographs during the school day. There will be an opportunity for families with siblings not at this school to book a slot after school for the whole family until 4.30pm. If you would like to book a slot please phone the school office.

## 'CAULIFLOWER' CHRISTMAS CARDS

We will be taking orders for Christmas cards on **Wednesday 17th from 6.15-7pm** and on **Thursday 18th from 5.30-8pm**. Please remember to bring either cash or cheques when you place your order. If you can't make these times, the order forms will come home in book bags and you can order them from Cauliflower Cards directly.

## TRIP AND LUNCH PAYMENTS

Please may we remind parents to ensure their trips and lunch monies are paid before half term.

## PARENTS EVENING

Parents evenings are being held on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> (3.45-6.45pm)** and **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October (5.00-8.00pm)**. Please remember to sign up for your appointments using the online Tucasi system.

## SCHOOL LUNCHES

**School lunches cost £2.30 per day, or £11.50 per week.** If you require a lunch for your child, please advise the school office by 9.30am on the day. School lunches should be paid for using the online system, or by cheque (payable to Surrey County Council) or cash. **Please ensure payment is made as soon as possible.** (Pupils in Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 qualify for a universal free school meal and therefore payment is not required).

**First half term - £73.60**

**Second half term - £87.40**

**Total for Autumn Term - £161.00**

Yours faithfully,

*C. D. Beckerson*

Charles Beckerson  
HEADTEACHER