

ISSUE

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Newsletter

Dear Parents

At the end of the first Autumn half-term, it is great to see how far the children have come in these few short weeks. At Parents Consultations, you will have heard how your children have settled into their new classes and routines, as well as seeing some of the excellent work they have been doing. I have had the privilege of celebrating with around 15 children this week who have achieved **Headteacher's Awards** – their achievements are varied - from phenomenal progress with times tables to reflective and careful designs; from using new strategies to add and subtract to excellent improvement in descriptive writing – but all have one thing in common. These children – and many other unsung heroes across the school - have made excellent progress through their resilience and determination to succeed. As we continue to focus on “Building Learning Powers”, it is good to see the children using their learning powers to make progress across the curriculum.

Looking back to the beginning of term, it is good to see how the new initiatives started then have grown and developed over the past few weeks.

Prayer Council and School Council are elected and growing into their roles;
Mission Weeks have enabled 3 classes to develop in faith and action;
Parent Prayer group on a Friday morning after drop-off is thriving in our new Chapel space
Charanga Music is giving the children lots of opportunities for singing and playing music

The eagle-eyed will have spotted lots of visitors to our school on Wednesday 17, when we hosted a **“Community Project” led by one of our Reception Dads, ably assisted by a team of colleagues from SHL.** They volunteered for a day of hard labour and transformed our Prayer Garden and inner courtyard through their planting, weeding and tidying, as well as refurbishing our newly donated lockers for Year 6. We are very grateful for all of their help to make our school learning environment the best possible for our lovely pupils – and of course, we will always be happy to host any group of volunteers who are able to help out in the future! **Also a big thank you to Garsons garden centre for a donation of £100** which was put towards compost and planters. The children have been super excited this week, watching the progress of our **new KS1 play frame.** As you will have seen, the frame itself is taking shape and we hope it will be ready for the children to use after half-term. Our thanks go to the PA for their generous donation towards this project. As you know, we are working on raising money for the next stage of the KS1 playground redevelopment and the PA have several big fundraising events coming up after half-term, so please continue to support them generously!

Our collective worship this week has included a focus on one of the church's newest saints – St Oscar Romero – who was canonised in Rome last weekend. The children have been learning that saints are people who continue to grow in their closeness to God – many of the saints (I'm thinking of St Augustine and St Paul) were first great sinners, but later came to realise the error of their ways and grew in holiness and love of God. When Pope Benedict came to England in 2010, he encouraged all school children “not to be content with second best” and “to enter into friendship with God” because when we do these things, we become kinder and more generous and therefore closer to becoming saints. As we look forward to the Feast of All Saints on 1st November, let us encourage our children in their faith and in their journey to sainthood. We wish you all a wonderful half-term break with your mini-saints! Enjoy the Autumn sunshine!

Best wishes, Catherine Burnham

UNIFORM A reminder that children must wear their winter uniform after half term.

RECENT COLLECTIONS Thank you to everyone who has supported our recent collections and projects: CAFOD £433.70, Book Fair £464 worth of books; Cardinal Newman Feast Day Mufti £250 towards a new school banner. The Harvest Festival collection for the Walton and Hersham Foodbank was delivered on Wednesday and was very gratefully received.

SCHOOL LUNCHES—the new menu is being sent with the newsletter. Don't forget to let us know about lunches for next half term and make payment. No lunches can be booked if you have any payment outstanding from this half term. Thank you.

COOLMILK A reminder that if you would like your child to have milk at school you can register at coolmilk.com. Children under 5 are entitled to this for free.

APPEAL FOR BULBS Following the great work by our Community Project volunteers this week, we are hoping to finish off planters with bulbs for springtime. Thank you to those who have already brought some in, any more donations of bulbs for children to plant after half term would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD—SHOEBOXES We sent home information this week about the Samaritan Purse's Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. We hope you will enjoy getting these ready over half term. Please bring in your completed boxes from Thursday 15 November (no earlier, please) and by 9am on Tuesday 20 November. Please remember to make your donation towards project costs including shipping. Thank you.

WEEKLY AWARDS Our Weekly Awards for Learners, Believers and Friends in each class include Reception for the first time this week—see attached. You can find the weekly lists on the newsletter page in the News & Events tab on our website.

SCALES PROJECT—EXHIBITION SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER AT WOKING LIGHTBOX

This is a Surrey Communication and Language in Education research project and does important work with children's language development. The exhibition is on 10 November from 10.30am to 5pm. Entry is free and researchers will be there to talk to about it. This is highly recommended.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

Our Years 5 and 6 football teams are taking part in the ERPSSA League this year. Well done to both teams who won their opening matches last Friday against Burhill. Year 5 won 6-3 (scorers Jack 3, Seweryn, Thomas W, Nathan) and Year 6 won 3-2 (scorers Nathan 2, Daniel G). The next matches are against Cleves on 2 November. Results and scorers will appear on our website in News & Events—Sport.

ELMBRIDGE RENTSTART CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION Elmbridge Rentstart spoke at an assembly in June about their work helping homeless and vulnerably housed individuals in this area. For 2018-2019 it is the nominated charity of the new Mayor of Elmbridge who will be judging entries for their Christmas Card competition. The deadline is Friday 2 November. Please see the attached flyer for more information and how to enter.

DALEY THOMPSON'S NEW YOUNG ATHLETES CLUB This is open for children aged 7 to 11 and runs Friday 9 November to Friday 14 December at Xcel Leisure Centre. Please go to www.aspiretogreatness.co.uk to find out more.

PA NEWS

Attached are flyers for **Fireworks at Esher Rugby Club** (PA gets a commission on Cardinal Newman sales), the **Movie Night on 9 November** and information about the **Christmas Fair on 18 December**.