



Dear Parents

This half term began with the excitement of having our lunches in the new facilities at The Castle. This has made a huge difference. Firstly we are served much more quickly and secondly the Dining Hall has more room and so the children can move about more easily. They do not now have to put their plates etc away. They just put their tray on the trolley at the side ready for removal by the catering staff.

Christmas began early this year as we supported The Children's Trust at the opening of the new Sainsbury's in the village. All the members of Festival Choir sang really well against the noise of the traffic. They thoroughly enjoyed sugaring their own doughnuts at the end of the morning. Sainsbury's have very kindly donated some equipment to the school for which we thank them very much. What equipment this will be has as yet to be decided.



I now really feel we are in the Christmas season. I have just been to the Church to see the Chessington Lodge Christmas celebration 'Little Angel Gets Her Wings'. Seeing our youngest pupils perform in front of a Church full of people (and this year the Church was truly packed) is always amazing but this year was unique as so many of them sang solo parts. As the pupils moved around the Church, I hope you all felt part of a very special occasion.

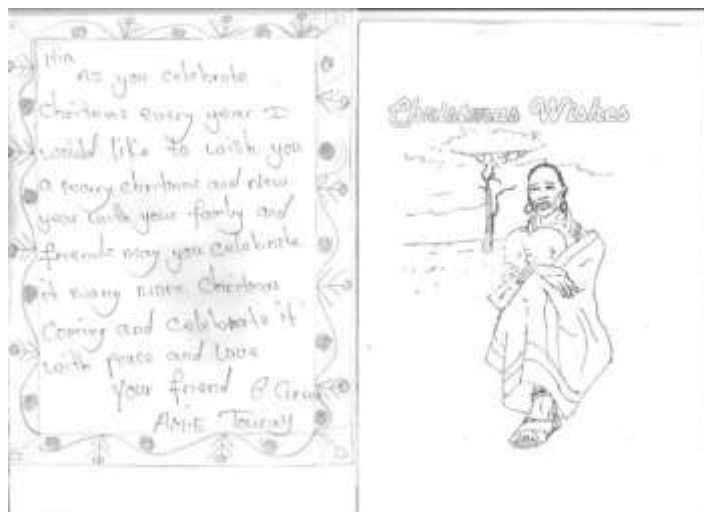
The Glyn House Carols by Candlelight promises to be just as special. To see the Church in the evening lit by candles always holds a special atmosphere. This year, the readings are from a slightly different angle although, of course, telling the same story. The songs sung by the school are different too but the congregational carols remain as popular as ever.

These two events will be the last that Mr Hill attends in his role as Chairman of Governors. Mr Hill has always supported the Junior School in all that we do and we have been very appreciative of this. I know that you would join with me in saying an enormous 'Thank you' and sending our very best wishes to Mr and Mrs Hill.

I hope you all have a fabulous Christmas and I wish you and your families a very happy and successful new year.

Yours sincerely

Mrs H M Crossley



Christmas wishes from Wellingara School

Football



The Under 8s have been working hard on using a pass to find a team-mate in space and their effort has been rewarded with some fine results. The 5-0 win over Aberdour Prep saw Kelechi Nwoko and Tomi Okuyelu continue their goal-scoring start to the season, with both scoring twice. Jung Hwan Seo also scored a double against Micklefield in a 3-1 victory, and then went on to score a hat-trick in the 5-1 win over Surbiton Prep. Tommy Barrell has been superb all term, setting up a number of goals with his excellent passing from the back, whilst Ben Richardson also deserves a mention for his committed tackling.



The Under 9 footballers have continued their brilliant term, remaining undefeated with six wins and two draws. The team fought back well in tough conditions to salvage a 1-1 draw against Micklefield, thanks to a late goal from Ethan Winter. Lewis McLellan and Ethan Woodcraft have developed a good partnership in midfield, setting up wins against Laleham Lea, Aberdour and The Study. Sidney Whittle's hard-work in defence all season was rewarded with a goal in the 2-0 win over Surbiton Prep. Congratulations to all the Under 9 footballers – an excellent term!

The Under 10s have come a long way since they began playing together in Year 3. A true display of their

development as a team was the result against Micklefield. Even though the 1-2 score line favoured the opposition, the Ewell Castle team deserved at least a draw against the same side that beat them 0-12 two years before. Despite losing 0-2, a strong second half performance against **Aberdour Prep** also reflected the players' improving teamwork. Daniel Raabe-Branch and Kieran Baynes have worked tirelessly in midfield, whilst Joel Evans remains an integral part of the defence.

The Under 11s have also had a very pleasing half-term. Hard-fought draws against Homefield Prep and The Study have been followed by excellent victories over Micklefield, Burys Court, Laleham Lea and Surbiton Prep. Taylor McLellan, Ben Kershaw and captain Cameron Mason-Apps have formed an impressive midfield, with Tristan Winter ever-present in defence. Franco Dean has relished his move from defender to striker, netting seven goals, whilst Freddie Foster (6) has also been in outstanding goal-scoring form.

Netball

The Under 9s and Under 10s have combined forces for a number of fixtures. Tough matches against Greenacre and **Sutton High** have tested the players' spirit, however the team responded extremely well in an excellent win against Micklefield, thanks to goals from Lily Webb (5) and Pearl Faust. Kelsey Way and Sophie Carthew have combined well in attack all term, whilst Yoojin Nam and Georgia Gunson have both developed their positional play.

The Under 11s have also had a mixed term. An exhilarating 7-7 draw against The Study was followed by superb wins against Greenacre and Laleham Lea, with Zoe Toulson scoring four goals in every match. Despite playing against much taller opposition, the team should also be proud of their performances in close defeats against Cumnor House and Sutton High. Hannah Wade and Emily Swepson have both provided quick passing, while Beth Ellis and captain Georgia Boddy-Thorp have made life difficult for the opposition in defence.

Thank you

Special thanks to captains Cameron Mason-Apps (Football) and Georgia Boddy-Thorp (Netball) who have led their teams extremely well, with strong personal performances and respect for their team-mates.

Thanks also to Mrs Alford for providing the excellent post-match teas, as well as the parents who have assisted with serving them, and to all parents for your support at fixtures throughout the term.

Mr M Darlow / Mrs C Nightingale



A group of children in Years 5 and 6 were disappointed when the 'Able Writer's Workshop' they were due to attend, run by a children's author was cancelled. However, all was not lost and I managed to arrange an author to come to us instead! Year 5 Green group and Year 6 Red group were treated to a short performance of stories, songs and poems, following themes in Rob Parkinson's book 'My Dad's Not a Dog'. The children entered wholeheartedly into the fun oral storytelling that followed and settled down enthusiastically to the writing session, which developed from this. The resulting stories made for an entertaining presentation at the end of the day and it was clear that the children had benefited from the valuable advice that a 'Real Author' can provide!

Mrs S Laws

The English Speaking Board Examinations have been the 'Speaking and Listening' focus for Years 5 and 6 this term in English. All children performed their talks, learnt poems and gave us exciting snippets of their favourite, most recent reads in class, with most pupils choosing to take on the challenge of taking the ESB exam, in front of an examiner. It never ceases to amaze me that I am treated to such a variety of subjects and how knowledgeable and confident the children are, at delivering their information. We achieved a fabulous set of results with over half the children achieving the two highest grades of merit plus and distinction.



Congratulations to everybody and especially our distinctions: Ewan Badcoe, Euan Clifford, Georgia Gunson, Daniel Raabe-Branch, Kelsey Way, Lily-Anne Webb, Beth Ellis, Anthony Frend, Luke Hadley and Benedict McManus with a special mention for Tristan Winter who has achieved a distinction for every year he has taken the examination from Year 3.

Mrs S Laws

Year 6 Primary Mathematics Challenge 2011



Every year Year 6 take part in a National Primary Mathematics Challenge organised by the Mathematical Association. It is indeed an extremely challenging paper which foxed many of those taking part. I was particularly pleased with the efforts shown by those who normally find mathematics difficult. However congratulations must go to Emmeline May and Tristan Winter who shared first place with the top scores.

Mrs D Goff

FEELING THE COLD?



The Ewell Castle Junior School 'BASELAYER' (for Games/P.E.) is now available from

the Junior School Office

and

www.playerlayer.com

Mr M. Darlow

J1 and J2's Trip to the Barbican



On Tuesday 15th November, J1 and J2 went to the Barbican to watch the London Symphony Orchestra (LSO) put music to the story of *Millie's Marvellous Hat*. They had a great time clapping and dancing along with the music – particularly when Harry was pulled up onto the stage to dance! They also had a rather tricky song to learn which they all sang beautifully. It was lovely to see the children so fascinated by what was, for most of them, their first experience of live orchestral music.

Miss S Nesling

The Grand Multiplications Tables Challenge!

This annual event is designed to raise standards in mental skills. It is a challenge in which the whole family can become **involved!** It is important to look at the guidance below relating to your child's year group. By Years 5 and 6 the test consists mainly of word problems relating to multiplication tables.

It will be held in lessons during the first week after Spring half term, the week beginning February 20th 2012

Year groups will have their own tests and Gold, Silver and Bronze Certificates will be awarded to the top scorers.

Year 1 30 questions on knowledge and application of 2, 5 and 10 times tables

Year 2 50 questions on knowledge and application of 2, 5 and 10 times tables

Year 3 100 questions on knowledge and application of 2,3,4,5 and 10 times tables.

Year 4 100 questions on knowledge and application of 2-12 times tables

Year 5 100 questions on knowledge and application of all multiplication tables in relation to division and fractions (eg-72 divided by 6; $\frac{1}{4}$ of 28; $\frac{3}{4}$ of 36)

Year 6 As Year 5 but also linking to multiples of 10 (eg-7x70) and percentages (eg 60% of 70)

Parents are welcome to support this initiative by practising at home. Support can also be found on the **'tutpup'** and **'mathszone'** websites using the link displayed by logging in to the Junior School Website.

Many thanks for your help!

Mrs D Goff

National Young Mathematicians' Award 2011

In November we were invited to take part in the National Young Mathematicians' Award, organized by Explore Learning in conjunction with NRICH at the University of Cambridge. This is a competition for all primary schools throughout the United Kingdom.

Our representatives were: Ansh Vaidya, Tristan Winter, Soomin Lim and Emily Swepson. All four children were extremely excited at having been picked to represent their school. The high level challenge required them to get to the root of the problem, to be systematic in their approach, to work as a team and to use good recording systems. By working together our team was picked for the Regional Finals challenge. This round was a great deal more difficult and we narrowly missed the National Finals by 2 points. Given that this is a national competition, we felt justifiably proud of our achievements. The children were excellent representatives of the school.



Mrs D Goff

Chessington Lodge Christmas Production

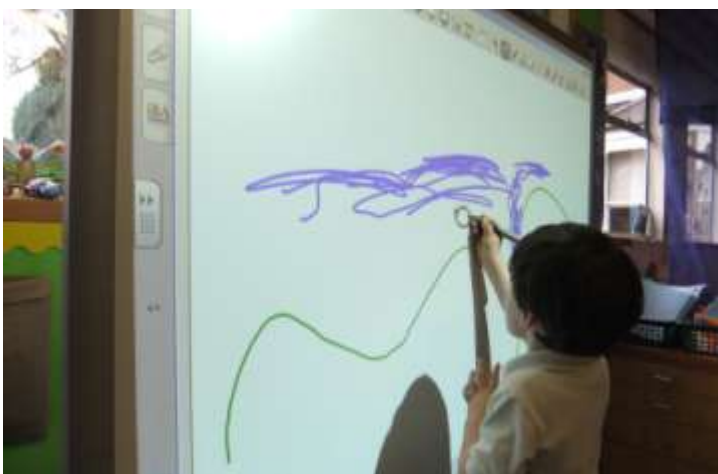


On Friday 9th December, the children of Chessington Lodge performed 'Little Angel Gets Her Wings' at St. Mary's Church in Ewell. After several weeks of rehearsals and perseverance, they put on a fantastic performance. The church was filled with beautiful singing; special credit must go to our soloists Mandy, Charlie, Sarah, JD and Noosha.



Mrs S Fowler

Nursery's New Interactive White Board



Nursery received an early Christmas Present this half term! We have been busy learning how to use the Interactive White Board. We have lots of games to play, learning to take turns. We have also been using it to write our names!

Miss H Seager

Woodcote Nursery

If you go along to Woodcote Nursery to buy your Christmas trees and goodies would you please ask for a voucher for Ewell Castle School and bring it to either Mrs Rowe or your form teacher to be passed on to me. The more we collect the more money we have for flowers etc to brighten up Glyn House and Chessington Lodge for the summer months. A reminder slip will be in your child's book bag.

Many thanks in anticipation.

Mrs A Rowe

Festival Choir at Sainsbury's



The Festival Choir really sparkled at the official opening of the new Sainsbury's Local in Ewell on 30th November, 2011. They welcomed the festive season by singing a selection of Christmas carols which also helped to raise money for The Children's Trust. The children enjoyed meeting Paralympian Josh Beacham along with Barney the Bear, and they particularly enjoyed going behind the scenes in Sainsbury's to prepare their own doughnuts! A huge thank you to all the family and friends who came to give their support – a fun time was had by all!



Miss S Nesling

Notes For Your Diary

January

Thursday 5th	Term Starts
Friday 6th	Nursery & Reception to Polka Theatre Years 1-6 Puzzle Day
Tuesday 24th	Church Assembly
Saturday 28th	PSFA Trivia Quiz

February

Tuesday 7th	Year 6 Parents' Evening 4:00-5:30
Wednesday 8th	Year 6 Parents' Evening 6:30-8:00
Thursday 9th	Year 3 Words and Music
Monday 13th - Friday 17th	Half Term Week
Monday 20th - Friday 24th	Grand Multiplication Challenge
Wednesday 29th	Years 3—5 Parents' Evening 4:00-5:30 Chessington Lodge Parents' Evening 6:30-8:00

March

Thursday 1st	Chessington Lodge Parents' Evening 4:00-5:30 Years 3—5 Parents' Evening 6:30-8:00
Friday 2nd	Reception to Natural History Museum
Tuesday 6th	Year 2—Year 3 Parents' Information Evening
Thursday 15th	Nursery & Reception Spring Entertainment
Thursday 22nd	Year 5 Bikeability
Friday 23rd	Year 5 Bikeability Years 1 & 2 Spring Entertainment
Monday 26th	Swimming Gala
Wednesday 28th	Year 4 Production
Friday 30th	End of Term

Charities

We supported the Poppy appeal this year giving a total of £148.29 from both Chessington Lodge and Glyn House.



We gave the Macmillan Cancer Fund £309.47 collected from the Grandparents Coffee Morning and the mufti day.

Thank you for your support for these and all our Charity events.

Mrs H M Crossley

A Word from the PSFA

Our first PSFA event of this academic year was our annual fireworks display at the beginning of November. This occasion was again a great success and still proves to be one of the most popular events in the PSFA calendar, with over 400 people enjoying the food and spectacular fireworks, mixed with the wonderful music. We would like to thank Miss Brack for supplying the music again.

Our next event will be the Quiz Night on 28th January 2012. Please go to the PSFA section on the School website to download your application form for this event.

100 Club Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the first 100 Club Draw (**November**). **It's not too late to register; download a form** from the PSFA area on the School website.

If you can help out at any future events please email the PSFA.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Ewell Castle PSFA

Traffic in Church Street

In order to help our neighbours and provide easier access to Church Street could all parents use the one-way system as shown below entering Church Street from the village and exiting via the Church end.



Could all parents dropping or collecting pupils please park sensibly taking note of the parking restriction in force in Church Street

Thank you