



HEAD'S TALES

Autumn always a long academic one for the children and staff alike. New facts, skills and concepts are learnt and studied, progress monitored and next steps decided. Test weeks and Parent's Evenings come and go and thoughts turn to Christmas. It is all too easy to forget that every day the children are changing and developing so much and so quickly. As parents and staff, we see the children on a daily basis and don't always notice, but it is certainly seen by relatives who will loudly proclaim, 'My! Haven't you grown!' and 'You are such a big boy/girl now' Here in School by 'grown' we think emotionally and intellectually rather than physically. The staff and I are well aware that having such a positive relationship with the children, and their families, means that the pupils

can indeed grow to reach the best of their emotional and intellectual potential. The Ewell Castle Junior School community is a special one – a well-kept secret, a hidden gem in a sometimes difficult world and it is to be treasured and appreciated. This year we have come together in many ways raising funds for numerous charities and deserving causes and attending local community events. It only remains for me to thank all children, staff and parents for their support, not only of such ventures, but of our super School as a whole and I wish you all a very 'Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!'.

Best wishes

Mrs M Phillips
Head Junior School

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The Grandparents' Coffee Morning, with songs from the children in Nursery and Reception including 'You are my Sunshine' was a highlight of the Autumn term. Together with the Languages Mufti Day at the Junior School, the events raised £522.56 for MacMillan Cancer Support in just one day.



YEARS 3 & 4 ACTIVITY TEAM BUILDING

Years 3 and 4 started the year with a team building day at the Three Peaks Outdoor Pursuits Centre in Farnham. They enjoyed exciting activities such as Quad Biking, Archery, High and Low Ropes and Command Skills. The day was a great success with all the children, old and new, getting to know each other better and learning what skills are needed when working as a team.

Mr P Young



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Assembly was held at St Mary's in October. Each class made a class scarecrow as part of the festivities and each 'character' was interviewed during the service. They were all winners in the end. I would like to express my thanks and appreciation for the donations made towards Shelter, the charity for the homeless. We raised a grand total of £608.36.



TENNIS AVENUE ACADEMY

After the first term in which Ewell Castle have

TENNIS AVENUE ACADEMY

linked with The Tennis Avenue Academy, Ben McManus (Year 9) and Josh Conyers (Year 11) have been treading the courts and hitting tennis balls for hours. Both pupils have said how much the expert 1 to 1 coaching of Hareen Wasantha (Director of Tennis) and Ilge Alpay have helped their technical and tactical game. With the pressures of School studies as well as intensive training, Ben and Josh have been very busy pupils this term!

Mr J Grindrod

ECSports ACADEMY

The ECSports Academy is coming towards the end of its first term. Boys from Years 7 – 13 have been following



a pre-school training routine comprised of Hapkido sessions, Circuit Training, Interval training, Boxing and Fitness Tests. It certainly has given the pupils an added sense of commitment and discipline not to mention improved concentration in class.

Mr J Grindrod

GUIDE DOG VISIT



On Wednesday 12th November we were very lucky to have a Guide Dog speaker visit all the children at Chessington Lodge. Two dogs, one of which was a puppy in training, visited with a blind lady called June. Pupils from Nursery up to Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed meeting the very well behaved dogs and learning about their important job. Year 2 have been learning about senses in Science and the blind, so it was ideal meeting June and hearing about how her dog helps her. Many thanks to Guide Dogs UK.

Mrs C Cope

HASLEMERE MUSEUM



On Monday 17th November, the children in Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic day out at Haslemere Educational Museum. We each took a toy from home and we had great fun comparing them with the museums toys from the past. Some of the older toys looked very different to ours, some took a lot of practise and some were quite delicate, but it was exciting seeing how children in the past used to play. In the afternoon we were able to look around the rest of the museum. We particularly enjoyed seeing the giant spider crab, an enormous ammonite fossil and a genuine Egyptian Mummy. Some of us even spotted the Mummy's toes peeking out! Everyone behaved beautifully and we were quite sad when it was time to leave to go back to School. All in all it was a super day out!

Mrs F Douglas



JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

Football

The Under 10/11 teams have had mixed success this term. The 'Red' team started the season well, winning the 'Plate' competition at the Shrewsbury House Tournament. Wins against Homefield Prep, Mickfield and Surbiton Prep, as well as draws against The Priory and Kingswood House mean the team is undefeated, with only the match against Aberdour Prep to come. The 'Blue' and 'Purple' teams are yet to get a win this term, however, they came close against Homefield Prep with both teams going down by a single goal. Thanks to Tommy Barrell, Captain of Football, for leading his team so capably this term.

The Under 8/9 teams have had a very successful term. The 'Red' team have won all their regular fixtures, with wins over Homefield Prep, Mickfield, and Surbiton Prep. The team also performed very well at the Downsends School Tournament, finishing second in their group and Runners Up in the 'Plate' competition. Narrow defeats for our other teams at Homefield Prep were followed by good wins at Mickfield and a clean sweep of Surbiton Prep. Bearing in mind our Year 3 children have been "playing up" (against Year 4 children) for most of our fixtures, the teams can be very proud of their efforts and achievements.

Netball



The Under 10/11 team started the term with a tough tournament at Sutton High, finishing fourth out of six schools. A hard-fought draw against Mickfield was then followed

by a superb winning streak. Victories over Bramley, Sutton High and Greenacre mean the team finished their regular season undefeated.

The Under 9 team has taken a term to finally become a 'team' and the girls have improved dramatically throughout the season. The girls suffered three defeats in a row to tough (and tall) opposition however a resounding 5-0 win at Greenacre in the final match of the term lifted spirits immensely.

The Under 8s, in their first ever term of 7-a-side netball, have performed wonderfully. An excellent win over Bramley and an exciting 1-1 draw with Mickfield were the highlights for the girls. Well done to those girls who have "played up" this term as well, helping support the Under 9s.

Swimming

Over 30 children took part in a Gala at Sutton High, a great testament to the hard-work and effort of our children in their School and external swimming lessons. Overall, Sutton High were the victors, however the Year 3 and Year 4 teams both won their divisions. There was also individual successes for Tommy Barrell (Butterfly), Chibby Nwoko (Backstroke), Jasmine Johnson (Front Crawl) and Louis Keohane (Backstroke).

Thank You

Thank you to all parents who have assisted with the serving of match teas at our home fixtures. Your help is much appreciated.

Mr M Darlow

AUTUMN TERM ARTWORK

Many thanks to all parents and children who designed and bought their own Christmas Card in support of our Junior School Christmas Card project. We had a bumper year this year, with most families buying their children's Christmas Cards, gift tags and for the first time luxury Christmas Cards. We raised an extremely impressive £442.00 profit which will buy a huge amount of art equipment for the benefit of children in both Glyn House and Chessington Lodge. I am sure that anyone who received a Christmas card will be delighted and amazed at the high standard of the children's work. Of course the children were proud and happy to pose with their own carefully designed cards.

Mrs A Rowe



CHRIS GRAYLING'S CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION





RECEPTION'S AUTUMN WALK

On Wednesday 16th October, both Reception classes set off on an adventure to Bourne Hall Park. Their mission was to spot how the seasons were affecting the Park. They entered the Park under the Dog Gate, where they heard the story about the brave dog who had rescued his owner from the lake and in whose honour the Gate was built many years before. Reception hunted around the Park – under the trees, on the grass – to see what Autumn had done. They spotted squirrels burying their nuts ready for winter and found multi-coloured leaves covering the paths, grass and trees. They enjoyed collecting some to bring back to School as a memento. Passing the Park, the children all wished that they had brought bread to feed the geese, swans, ducks and moorhens that came to say “Hello” – some of the children promised to return later with something for the birds to nibble on! The children of Bluebell and Poppy classes really enjoyed being explorers and learning first-hand about what changes that happen during Autumn and why these changes occur.

Miss C Leadbeter

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 11TH NOVEMBER



EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY

On Friday 26th October Ewell Castle Junior School celebrated the “European Day of Languages”. At Glyn House the main language was Spanish and at Chessington Lodge it was French. Children at Glyn House dressed in the colours of the Spanish flag or in their own national dress. Children at Chessington Lodge dressed in the colours of the French flag or in their own national dress. Various activities took place across the School including a flamenco dance lesson, a bureau de change, a lesson in Mandarin and many more. Children from other countries shared a few words and phrases with their classmates. The most popular activities were the French Café at Chessington Lodge and the Spanish Tapas Bar at Glyn House. Year 6 ran the Tapas Bar and the pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 were able to sample Spanish food and learn some Spanish phrases as they took it in turn to visit the Tapas Bar. Proceeds from the Mufti day were put together with funds from other things going on around the School and donated to MacMillan Cancer Support.

Mrs B Grierson

EXPLORE LEARNING VISIT



In November Sainsbury's Explore Learning returned to Ewell Castle for their very popular Literacy workshops, first for Year 3 and later for Year 6. As always, standards and expectations were high and

the children rose to the challenge with enthusiasm. While Year 3 studied how the news is gathered and reported, culminating in their own articles about Global Warming, Year 6 turned their attention to advertising and marketing techniques and how to write persuasively, creating an impressive holiday brochure. Not only did pupils hone their skills but they thoroughly enjoyed the workshop. We look forward to the next visit from the Explore Learning team.

Mrs P Hacker

NATURE CLUB

Nature Club have been having fun planting Autumn vegetables and bulbs and making streamers to play in the wind. They were also inspired by Andy Goldsworthy's ephemeral art and made colourful creations out of Autumn leaves.

MATHEMATICS

Well done to the four Year 6 mathematicians, Ananya Balaji, Alexander Blencowe, Kelechi Nwoko and Jung Hwan Seo who got through to the second round of the Explore Learning/ NRICH Maths Competition in November.

Mrs N Ludlam

CHILDREN IN NEED



Our efforts for Children In Need in November led to a grand total of £249.00. Thank you all for supporting this worthwhile cause.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you to all of the Junior School pupils for their generosity making and donating the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. 148 boxes in total were collected which will make a huge difference to a lot of children this Christmas.

Mrs N Ludlam



NURSERY & RECEPTION NATIVITY



YEARS 1 & 2 CHRISTMAS SHOW



YEARS 3-6 CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT



FESTIVAL CHOIR & UKULELE BAND

Junior School music performances that have taken place this term include; the Festival Choir and Ukulele Band performing at Ewell Yule and the Festival Choir performing at Epsom Playhouse with the Epsom Symphony Orchestra.



PSFA

Once again, the annual Fireworks Display was a sell-out and raised a record £1150. On 28th November, Santa arrived early at The Castle, along with a variety of craft and gift stalls, for the Christmas Fair. Around £500 was raised, with the proceeds split between the PSFA and Children in Need. Thank you to everyone who made both of these events a success; parents, staff and children.

Having contributed money towards the new minibus during the Summer, we are hoping to continue to support the School in a variety of ways. The money raised so far this year, will help to pay for more play equipment at Chessington Lodge - including a games board and a nature station, complete with bug and bird houses.

Please keep a look out on the School Calendar for upcoming events. The Spring term will see the return of the Quiz Night on Saturday 24th January and a new event in the form of a Horse-race Evening on Saturday 18th April. Looking towards the Summer, the Ball will be held again in the Marquee on Saturday 4th July so please save the date! Until then, from everyone at the PSFA, may we wish you a very Merry Christmas!

Mrs V Craig, Chair



CONGRATULATIONS TO SPORTING PUPILS

Football

Congratulations to Luis Dyer and Tommy Barrell in Year 6, accepted into the Surrey South Central District U11 Football Development Squad.



Cricket

Congratulations to Year 6 pupil Shea Brophy, accepted by Surrey Under 11s for their Cricket Development Squad.



Shooting

Congratulations to Matthew Bull in Year 6, who got a top 10 finish in a recent shooting competition.

