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Dear Parents and Carers,

Earlier this week, we were very pleased to host Ruth Cousins from London Children's Flower Society to judge our Spring bulbs. We were awarded an overall gold certificate for our Spring bulb displays with many children also receiving individual certificates for taking the responsibility for planting and nurturing their bulbs. Ruth was impressed with our green-fingered growers!

Our Year 5 and 6 choir joined pupils from across the borough to sing at the Croydon Schools Music Association concert this week which was held at Fairfield Halls. It is always so impressive to see the skill and pleasure our children develop in their performance skills. We are very grateful to our staff for giving up so much of their own time to support this opportunity for our pupils.

Reception children have had some fluffy visitors to their classroom this week! They have been taking great care of four ducklings which hatched in school; a great learning opportunity for the children and the ducklings are definitely on the receiving end of a lot of TLC!

Many thanks to all of the families who joined us for our STEM Fair last week which was a great success. Have a look on the website under the 'Latest News' bulletins to see photos of the wide range of activities which were available for children to experiment with – great enjoyment and a lot of mess for some! It was a great opportunity to engage in hands-on activities to spark curiosity and creativity, including coding microbits and LEGO dancing robots, solving tangram puzzles, exploring the wonders of cornflour, participating in a bridge-building challenge using spaghetti and marshmallows as well as testing engineering skills! Specific focus was given to inspiring girls by showcasing the achievements of women to reinforce the importance of diversity and inclusion in STEM.

Red Nose Day helped turn our school red for the day and has been great fun. Many of us have been inspired by the amazing efforts of so many people across the country. Children spoke in school today about some of the celebrity fundraising activities they were aware of and the importance of supporting charities when we are able to do so. Our Year 6 Leaders have worked hard to organise the event for us - thank you to everyone who supported the fundraising.

We said a temporary 'goodbye' to Connor Chughtai-Skillen today as he starts a period of parental leave which is an exciting time for him and his family and we wish them every happiness. Sapphire Class are already very familiar with Claire Van Rensburg who will continue to teach them for the rest of this year. We will look forward to our visits from Connor during the summer term before we welcome him back as a teacher at some point during the next academic year.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our Parents/Carers evenings next week. If you have not already made an appointment then please contact your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Have a lovely weekend,

Helen Carvall