

St Matthew's High Brooms CE Primary School

What a start to 2019! We have had both Musical and Sporting events in which we have, again, been very successful. We have welcomed new children into the school and they have settled really well into St Matthew's.

Choir

The school choir took part in the Tunbridge Wells Singing Festival. It was a lovely evening as we were entertained alongside 4 other schools, with renditions with music with the theme, 'Songs from the Shows'. The highlight of the evening was the St Matthew's performance of 'Chim Chim Cher-ee' from Mary Poppins. A big thank you to Mrs Morton and Mrs Ferrell who have worked with the choir to learn the songs and made it such fun for them.



Orchestra

Mrs Brierley has introduced an orchestra to St Matthew's. We have had lots of children attend on Friday lunchtimes and this culminated in playing 'Peace like a River' in KS2 worship.

Reading

There have been two millionaire tea parties this term for the children who have read over 1 million words in the books for which they completed accelerated reader quizzes. This is quite an achievement. Mrs Walters was only too happy to have to order more special badges which she presented in worship. It is lovely to see the children proudly wearing the badges around school.



Class Worship

5TWP presented to the school and their parents, the work they have been doing based on their core text this term of Skellig. We learnt about early flight innovators, watched a science team describe the properties of items found in a garage, listened to reader's theatre and thoughtful poetry and were impressed by their wonderful art work.



Sporting News

Athletics

On Tuesday 5th February St Matthew's became Champions of Kent at the Year 5/6 Sportshall athletics, Kent School Games Finals in Gillingham. This was a huge achievement for all the children and it also meant the school has now won the Kent Finals at every age group from Year 1-6. Our team consisted of Dominic, Theo, Henry, Petroc, Jake, Nikki, Joe, Joshua, Tinashe, Tochukwu, Freddie-Lee, Freddie D, Harry, Demi, Olivia, Erin, Humairaa, Lily, Nikola, Ella, Abbie, Nicola & Daisy. There were 16 schools taking part, representing all the different areas of Kent and St Matthew's were crowned champions with a huge score of 704 points, 100 points more than 2nd place. There were superb performances from all the children but some stand out achievements came from Joshua who managed 60 speed bounces, Henry who jumped 2 meters 12cm in the long jump, Abbie who gained 58 in the speed bounce, Lily who jumped 2 meters 16cm in the long jump & Demi who jumped 6 meters 6cm in the triple jump. This was without doubt one of the most impressive performances by any team from St Matthew's, so huge congratulations to every member of the team.



Kent Schools Decathlon Championship



On Sunday 27th January Lily, Demi, Olivia, Abbie, Humairaa, Henry & Jake took part in the Kent under 11 Decathlon Championships at the Stour Centre in Ashford and they had to take part in 10 different events to gain an overall score. Lily performed really well gaining exceptional scores in nearly all 10 events. Her outstanding performance came in the long jump where she achieved 2 meters 10cm. Humairaa had an exceptional triple jump gaining 5 meters 96 cm. There were 68 boys and 70 girls taking part and Lily finished in an incredible 2nd place, Demi and Olivia were equal 4th, Abbie was 10th & Humairaa was 13th. In the boys competition Henry finished in 7th place & Jake was 15th. This was an amazing performance from all the children and 6 of them have now been selected to represent Kent in the Inter counties on 3rd March.

Football

On Wednesday 30th January the girls football team played against Speldhurst School. The team consisted of Martha, Jess, Annalys, Keeley, Abbie, Amelia K, & Amelia L. There were some great performances from all the girls and they showed huge improvement. Martha bravely stood in for our goalkeeper who was ill, making some great saves and Annalys and Jess played really well in defence making it tricky for the Speldhurst strikers to score. The final score was a well deserved 2-2 draw and our two goals were scored by Amelia K & Amelia L. Well done to all the girls.



Infant Agility Champions

On Tuesday 22nd January St Matthew's became champions at the Infant Agility competition for the 4th year running. The team consisted of Ruby, Jasmine, Betty, Amelia, Alice, Marios, Freddie, Henry, Noah & Sonny. The children had to do 6 activities including, speed bounce, skittles, shuttle run, long jump, chest push and javelin and they all performed amazingly well gaining some really high scores. They had practised every lunchtime for 6 weeks and their dedication really paid off today. They will now progress to the Kent School Games Final in June. Well done to each and every one of you.

Racket Pack Festival



On Tuesday 15th January 10 children from St Matthew's took part in a developmental Badminton Festival which gave children the opportunity to practise their racket skills. There were various stations set up which incorporated all the skills needed to play badminton. Our team consisted of Jack, Akil, Florence, Hermione, Olivia, Ganeshai, Niamh, Joseph, Joshua & Freya and they all had great fun.

Dates for your diary:

Mon 25th Feb - INSET day
Tues 26th Feb - Term 4 Starts
Fri 1st March—Secondary School Offer Day
Thurs 7th March—World Book Day
Fri 15th March—Owls class worship
Tues 19th Mar & Thurs 21st Mar—Reception parent consultations
Tues 26th Mar - 5S class worship
Tues 2nd Apr—Easter Service at St Matthews church
- Residential Meeting for year 6 parents 6:30pm
Wed 3rd Apr - Year 5 Taster Day at St Greggs
Thurs 4th Apr—Reports sent home
Fri 5th Apr—End of term
Tues 25th Apr - Term 5 Starts
Mon 13th - Thurs 16th May - Year 6 SATs week
Mon 27th May- Fri 31st May - Half Term
Mon 3rd June - INSET
Tues 4th June - Term 6 Starts
Tues 23rd July - End of Term

House Points Winners Term 3:

- 1st— **Brokes**
- 2nd— **Ridgeway**
- 3rd— **Barnett's**
- 4th— **Powder Mill**

Attendance

In term 3, our highest attending class in KS1 & EYFS is Owls with 95.8%, and in KS2, the class with the best attendance is 4D with 95.3%.

This term our attendance is at 94.9%. Our target for attendance is to be at least 96% so we have got some work to do to reach this goal.

Our Kent Attendance Officer has been in to work with Carly Buckwell, to help support families.

Safeguarding

Safer Internet Day, co-ordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. This year's theme was '**Together for a better Internet**'.

An interesting assembly for KS2 made our children think about consent. Afterwards teachers followed up the theme as we were concerned about the views of some of the children regarding the use of playing 12+ rated games.

The parents factsheet created by SID 2019 is attached at the end of the newsletter.



Parking

Please be considerate when parking near to the school. We have had complaints from some of our neighbours about people parking dangerously, causing a problem for them accessing their drives and for those who are trying to cross roads. Thank you

I was so lucky to end the term in a tea party with our wonderful readers, listening to them enthusiastically discussing their favourite authors and how well they do on the reading quizzes. This term the children at St Matthew's have shown how confidently they can speak out in worship and have continued to excel at PE, becoming champions yet again! Mrs Hayward