

# HEADTEACHER HIGHLIGHTS



29th January 2021

## Goodbye January!

Finally we can say goodbye to January as it seems to have been a very long month! The staff have continued to work incredibly hard to provide both the remote learning for those pupils who are accessing lessons from home and also those pupils who are in school. I appreciate that there have been some technical issues at times and I would like to thank you for your patience when this happens.

There have been several requests this week for pupils to return to school as it has been difficult for parents to get pupils to engage with learning or they are struggling at home. Whilst I appreciate the challenges that remote learning brings, the criteria for children coming into school remains limited to key worker parent or vulnerable pupils. This is to reduce the number of children attending to minimise the risk to all members of our school community.

This week has really highlighted the excellent teamwork we have here at St Matthew's. Obviously we are all part of the one school community, however this current way of working had led to the development of smaller teams that are working brilliantly together. Each year group has two teams. The team in school and those working at home delivering the remote learning. Everyone has been so giving of their time to strengthen those teams. Staff are working on their days off, working evenings and weekends. Whilst this is not unheard of, it is not something that should be taken for granted and I want to say a MASSIVE thank you on behalf of myself, the governors, parents and of course the pupils. Our Christian values of Kindness and Responsibility have certainly been demonstrated by all staff recently!

## Well-being.

It is Child Mental Health Week from 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Feb. We shall be doing activities connected with this. For more information, please go to

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

As we know that we are going to be in this situation until at least March, it is important to look after your own well-being as well as your child's.

Some links to help with this:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zr mhscw>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-aspects-of-coronavirus-covid-19>

**TERM 3 ENDS FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FEB**



**FULFILLING GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL**



This is a quick round up of what has been happening in each year group this week. You can see what the staff have got to say about the pupils across the School.



## School News

<b>YR</b>	We have been learning about floating and sinking and have investigated pulleys. Mr Bradshaw is building a Caterham 7 car and we have interviewed him using the questions that we wrote. We have also watched a video of how he made it! It's like the one the rabbit drives in the Lego advert-Rebuilding the world. Thank you Mr Bradshaw!
<b>Y1</b>	This week in Year1 we have been looking at the types of food people ate in 1666. We were surprised to learn that they didn't eat many fruits and vegetables so we decided to make them a healthy menu in our Discovery time. We made salt dough and used it to make baked goods from this era and we had a banquet with our friends. We have had a great week!
<b>Y2</b>	We have said goodbye to Max and the Wild Things this week by making some amazing masks. We have also enjoyed Mrs Page's art lessons on Dojo. In Maths we have been learning about making equal groups and using our times table knowledge to do division.
<b>Y3</b>	We have continued our work on The BFG, focussing on the setting and the opening of the story. We have made some fabulous enormous cups and pens for the giant. In Maths we have been working hard on our 4x table and using what we already know to work out tricky multiplication calculations.
<b>Y4</b>	Year 4 have continued to work really hard at home and at school. We have finished and published some amazing news reports and also had a really fun computing lesson with Mrs Pollard. From this we created some fantastic, single-line drawings of the Iron Man! Well done everyone! ☺
<b>Y5</b>	The progress we have made in Maths this week has been amazing! We have become short division experts! We have also written some fabulously imaginative stories about Emily and Arthur, her whale friend. In our music lesson we thoroughly enjoyed being transported back to the 80s!
<b>Y6</b>	We have continued to develop our narrative writing by generating vocabulary to describe characters. We have also drawn Viking warriors in a cartoon style, learnt about the different periods of the Stone Age. We have developed our understanding of the key parts of a healthy diet.

## School lunches

### MONDAY

Beef bolognaise pasta 1  
Vegetable chow mein 1,7

### TUESDAY

Sausage, mash + baked beans 1  
Veg samosa + rice 1

### WEDNESDAY

Roast pork + roast potatoes  
Chunky tomato pasta 1

### THURSDAY

Breaded chicken fajitas + wedges 1,7  
Jacket potato with cheese/beans/ tuna mayo 9, 4, 7

### FRIDAY

Beef burger and Chips  
1,10,11,14  
Cheese and onion pasty 1,9