

# HEADTEACHER HIGHLIGHTS



Friday 22nd October 2021

## TERM ONE FINISHED!

Wow! What an incredibly busy week we have had, to end the term on! As part of Black History Month, we have been learning about people that have had a significant impact in history. These have included Marcus Rashford, Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parks and Mary Seacole. The children have really enjoyed this and have produced some magnificent work as a result. Here is a useful link for parents of our younger pupils to encourage a conversation at home.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/black-history-month>

Our Y6 pupils received the results of the 11+ last night. We are very proud of all who sat the test and well done to those who reached the threshold for a grammar place. Don't forget that the deadline for applying for a secondary school place is 31<sup>st</sup> October. Please go to [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola)

Thank you to those parents who came to the meeting about the Y6 residential trip last night. If you were unable to attend, the information can be found on Class Dojo and a form will be sent home today.

We held the first of our open afternoons yesterday for prospective parents. Our House Captains, Bethany, Chinwe, Enoch and Erin did an amazing job as tour guides and made Mrs Pollard and I very proud! We are holding some more after half term, on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Please call the office if you have a child due to start school in September 2022 and would like to attend.

Mrs Phillips gave birth to a baby boy at the weekend and has named him Jacob. Congratulations to the whole family!

## FAREWELL MRS ODELL!

Today marks the end of an era for St Matthew's as we say goodbye to Mrs Odell. She has a very long association with the school and has worked with so many pupils and their families over the years. From Lego therapy, Talk Time and of course, Willow the Reading Dog, she has worked in so many different ways to help parents, pupils and staff to navigate tricky times. We are so grateful to have had her here for so long but we are still very sad to see her leave.

We wish her all the very best as she moves on to a new chapter and enjoys spending more quality time with her grandchildren.

We shall be welcoming our new Pastoral Lead, Mrs Atherton, after half term.

Thank you for all your support during this term and I wish you all a happy and safe half term holiday!

## TERM 2 starts Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November



**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 developing our language and team building skills. We have been making houses in a group for teddy, using blocks, and then describing where he is to a friend. We have planted bulbs and seeds and have learnt what they need to grow. As part of Black History Month, we learnt about Marcus Rashford and what he has done to help people.
<b>Y1</b>	We have been learning about the African American artist Alma Woodsey Thomas and have used her style to inspire our own paintings. We also learnt about our school logo.
<b>Y2</b>	As part of Black History Month, we have been learning about Nelson Mandela. We learnt about his imprisonment for 27 years and what he did after his release- he became the first black President of South Africa. We found him very inspiring, and we also enjoyed hearing the song by The Specials written about him.
<b>Y3</b>	Following on from our interviewing of the eye witnesses to Buddy's rescue, we have started to look at speech punctuation. For Black History month, we have learnt about Florence Price, who the first African American to have her classical composition performed by a professional orchestra. We used body percussion to add rhythm as we performed alongside the music.
<b>Y4</b>	We have really enjoyed learning about Mary Seacole, a truly inspirational woman who broke social rules and prejudices to work as a nurse during the Crimean War.
<b>Y5</b>	We were very creative in Art, using Chinese dragon images as inspiration to draw our own dragons, ready for our collage next term. The highlight this week has been learning about the courageous actions of the civil rights activist, Rosa Parks. The children have drafted some wonderful writing and have started to assemble their lap books.
<b>Y6</b>	The Windrush Generation has been the focus for Y6 this week. We have learnt how people from the British Colonies were invited to Britain to help rebuild the country after the war. We explored some of the reasons why they wanted to come here. We also learnt about some famous Windrush descendants and wrote biographies of their lives. We also learnt that some of us who sent linking clues to Sir Linkalot had won badges!

## WHEN TO WEAR PE KITS TO SCHOOL.

### MONDAYS

5S  
5D

### TUESDAYS

Owls  
Robins  
6W  
6H

### WEDNESDAY

3TWP  
3DB  
Kookaburras  
Lorikeets  
6H  
6W

### THURSDAYS

3TWP  
4R  
4M  
Kookaburras  
Lorikeets

### FRIDAYS

Ducklings  
Goslings  
4M/4R  
Owls  
Robins

### FOREST SCHOOL NEXT TIME

Kookaburras