

HEADTEACHER HIGHLIGHTS



Friday 26th November 2021

ADVENT BEGINS

As the decorations begin to go up in the neighbourhood, the first Sunday of Advent is this week and I am sure that lots of children have their Advent calendars ready to start opening next week. The children are loving the snowman that has appeared across the road!

Our Y2 pupils have been working very hard in preparation for their phonics screening that will be taking place over the next couple of weeks. If you would like some more information and want to do some extra practice, please go to

<https://monsterphonics.com/the-phonics-screening-check/>

Mayor Diane Hill was very impressed with some of our Y6 pupils this week. Ten willing volunteers took part in a litter pick around the local area alongside the Mayor and Mrs Stammers. They collected a colossal amount in the hour that they were out for and they were excellent ambassadors for our school. Well done!

For the first time since I started at St Matthew's, some of our school governors were able to come into school to look at the children's work and talk to staff about the wonderful learning going on in school this week. It was so refreshing to see governors in the flesh and not on screen! They really appreciated the opportunity to finally visit and had some lovely feedback for us.

Mrs Baitup won't be in school for the rest of term as she is having a long-awaited operation. We wish her a speedy recovery and welcome back Mrs Hardwick and Mrs King who will be in Kiwi Class instead.

NEXT WEEK

Mr Smith and Mrs Morton have been working hard with our two choirs on Friday afternoons, as they will be taking part in the Winter Festival event at Southborough Hub next Saturday. The event runs from 11am-5pm and the choir will be singing at 3.30pm before the lights are switched on at 4.00pm.

A letter will be sent out on Monday with arrangements for Christmas activities that will be happening in school towards the end of term.

On Wednesday, visitors from Tunbridge Wells Museum will be visiting Y1 and bring some special artefacts for the children!

Can you please ensure that children have a warm, waterproof coat with them as the temperature has dropped and children can wear plain black or green jogging bottoms for PE.

Have a lovely weekend and see you all on Monday!

TERM 2 ENDS ON 17th DECEMBER



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

YR	This week we have been comparing other cultures and countries with ours, by looking at a book called 'Handa's Surprise.' We have looked at African landscapes, animals, patterns and music. We made fantastic animal masks and painted landscapes using watercolours.
Y1	We have really enjoyed starting our learning through 'The Jolly Christmas Snowman.' We discussed which toys we most enjoy playing with, then drew and labelled them.
Y2	This week, we have been continuing our work on castles and imagining what it was like to live in one. We chose to be either the King or Queen, cook or guard and then wrote a diary entry about our day. We realised that it was very hard work living in a castle- unless you were the King or Queen!
Y3	In Y3, we added our Viking silhouette to our sea background of blue tints and shades. We enjoyed our latest Viking saga and found out that Thor had been tricked by the giant. We expressed our outrage through our diary writing. In Science, we are learning about fossils and found out about Mary Anning's amazing discoveries.
Y4	Y4 have had a really enjoyable week! We have found it fascinating to learn about Roman Villas and all of their unusual features and learning the original Roman names. We created our own drama based on our book 'Escape From Pompeii.'
Y5	Y5 focussed on accurate use of speech in their writing this week, using drama to help develop descriptions of actions and characters' feelings. We studied the architecture of the ancient Maya civilisation, inferring from our research what life must have been like and how it was affected by their class system. 5D enjoyed their time in the winter sun at Forest School while 5S got to grips with protractors to measure angles accurately.
Y6	This week, Y6 have been grappling with factors and common factors. We have started to construct our mixed media collage work with Mr Tibbits-Williams and it is looking fantastic! We have been fascinated by Tutankhamun and learnt how historians build a picture of the past from various sources. Some of us demonstrated our community spirit by taking part in a litter pick with Mayor Hill. You wouldn't believe the amount of rubbish we collected in an hour!

WHEN TO WEAR PE KITS TO SCHOOL.

MONDAYS

5S
5D

TUESDAYS

Owls
Robins
6W
6H

WEDNESDAYS

3TWP
3DB
Kookaburras
Lorikeets
6H

6W

THURSDAYS

3TWP
4R
4M
Kookaburras

Lorikeets

FRIDAYS

Ducklings
Goslings
4M/4R

Owls
Robins

FOREST SCHOOL NEXT WEEK

4R