

# St. Matthew's

## Church of England Infant School

Weekly Newsletter

6<sup>th</sup> July 2018



Dear Parents,

During our 'Feeling Good' week we have been focusing on Resilience. Yesterday the whole school did lots of activities in their mixed class colour teams, learning how resilience helps us to cope when things don't always go right. With Mrs Fish, the groups were trying their hardest to knock over a weeble and found that it was impossible to do as weebles, when they are knocked down, bounce right back up again! They talked about times when they have physically fallen over or off a bike or scooter and how they have managed to get back up again to have another go. They drew and decorated a picture of themselves as a weeble and talked to each other about how to be like a weeble and bounce back. With Mrs Harman, the groups were thinking of times when they had found something tricky but had been resilient and kept on trying, for example trying to use monkey bars or to ride a bike without stabilisers. They created some fabulous posters with messages such as '**Don't Give Up**'; '**You Can Do It**' and '**Nearly There!**' In Mrs Selencky's session they were thinking about being kind friends who encourage each other not to give up and to keep on trying – drawing pictures and writing about times that they have been helpful to someone else. Mrs Joyce's group had a very interesting time being challenged - first they did a blind fold task where, once blindfolded, they had to trust their friend to lead them safely around the maze. This was followed by a teamwork activity where the children needed to help one another out to complete the challenge of passing the ball using bucket and not hands. We will follow up these activities by encouraging the children to have a resilient attitude towards learning, remembering that we achieve through determination and effort; and also that it is important to be encouraging towards others.

Well done to the following children for their Wisdom certificate awarded for making a good choice: to Isaac for '*Prioritising getting ready for school over playing with his toys. Isaac has consistently helped mummy by getting breakfast made by himself so we are ready on time*'; and to Genevieve J for '*holding her friend's hand when she was scared to tell the truth to an adult and for supporting her.*'

This week Rabbits class have had a lot of fun with a story all about a spider who is too busy to join in with all the animals who offer him some fun – such as the horse who offers him a ride and the cow who offers a run in the green meadow. The spider didn't answer each time and kept on spinning his web. The challenge was to remember which animal came next in the story as they went from biggest to smallest and to recall the beginning, middle and end. The final exciting challenge was to create a different ending for the story then to write and illustrate it. Everyone has decorated a wooden spoon to go on the school allotment, drawing things we can grow such as carrots, raspberries, strawberries; and minibeasts that we might see over there. They have talked about why they love being in a church school, finishing their RE unit, writing some very thoughtful things: '*I love being in a church school because: I can sing songs (Franklin); God made the world and assembly (Harley); I love church because it is the best thing ever, it is beautiful! (Rory); I love the cross, Reverend Hugh, Reverend Elisabeth and going to church (Edith); I like learning how to write and learn about Jesus and God.*'

Otters Class have been talking about postcards that they have sent and received, learning about features of a postcard such as the picture on one side and a space for a stamp, name and address. They put together a mindmap to include the key features and went on to write a postcard to someone. In maths they have started a new unit on multiplication and division. They explored doubling and halving in the context of money, understanding and explaining doubling as '*two equal amounts added together*' and halving as the inverse of this. They went on to recognise groups that were equal or unequal and found that multiplication is adding equal

groups. In science they did a melting investigation (perfect in this weather!), finding some materials that they could try and melt. They spent time examining the materials, discussing what each felt like and predicting what would happen when they were heated. They observed what happened when they were placed over hot water, thinking about why some melted more quickly than others and why some did not melt. Otters have been talking about their year in Year One, thinking about their favourite memories, what they feel they have done really well and what they are aiming to improve. They have written this as part of their report, which parents will receive next week.

Badgers Class have started their designs for their top secret ‘something’ for the leavers’ service. The wooden pieces, sawn by the children themselves last week, are securely fastened together and they are all looking forward to completing the final product which they will proudly present on the day. This week they have been taking the opportunity to reflect on the year they have had as Badgers, as a class and as an individual, sharing some memories. They have been busy writing their page for their school report, reflecting also on their favourite memories and moments during their wonderful years at St Matthew’s. They have also been really excited about visiting their new schools, coming back with tales of the brilliant days they have had. It is lovely seeing them to be so ready and excited for their next steps! They have been practising ready for sports day – which will have been apparent from seeing them in the World Cup Relay this morning as they were all so quick and had really mastered the moves!

On Tuesday Freddy’s granny, Sheila Grallert came in and read her book called *Billy the Button Buster* – so the children got to meet a real, live author! She also did an amazing magic trick about a king who was too mean to share his sweets and always counted them to be sure that none were taken. Somehow, although sweets were taken, the numbers always added up to 9! We loved the book because the illustrations are great and Billy manages to overcome his fear of buttons through being brave and also with the help of two elves. A great story for our being resilient focus week.

On Wednesday all the classes enjoyed moving up morning, spending time with their new teachers and TAs, doing lots of fun activities to get to know each other. The teachers enjoyed meeting the parents too and we hope that the session helped to answer any immediate questions you may have about your child’s new class. Please do ask if you have any further questions. We had the opportunity to welcome new Rabbits parents to a coffee morning in the hall, where they had the chance to mingle, meet the school nurse and Sue and Penny who do our breakfast and after school clubs. A really big thank you to Jane Gow for sorting and selling second hand uniform to the new parents – the parents appreciated it, and Jane raised a fantastic £154!

Thank you to Tracy who has been running the ‘Pedals’ Cycling sessions for Badgers Class, helping them to learn about how to care for their bikes to keep them maintained and road-worthy and how to cycle safely. Badgers have been enjoying these sessions and tell me that they are learning a lot about being safe.

Thank you to Dominika and Genevieve who talked to the whole school about Poland, where Dominika is from. The children found where Poland is on the world map and got to find out about and taste some different foods, as well as finding out lots of interesting facts. Next week we are looking forward to a talk about Palestine with Loki, a talk about Germany with Isabella and Theo, and about Madagascar with Dominic.

Yesterday’s film club was a success and the children enjoyed watching ‘Trolls’ – thank you to Mrs Harman for rushing home to fetch her copy! The children were nice and cool in Rabbits class, where they have super air conditioning, and enjoyed the popcorn.

Next week we have a work experience student from the Howard, Emma, who will be helping out in each class on different days. I am sure that the children will enjoy getting to know her!

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>, Savills will be coming in to judge the sunflower competition so now is the time to take a photo of your tallest sunflower and send the picture in with its height in cm. Please send photos in by Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> in order to enter the competition.

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>, it is class party day and each class will be sending out information on what to wear or bring. Later in the day on Thursday, it is ‘Meet the Teacher and Book Look’ from 3:30 to 7:30 – where you can visit

your child's current class to look at work books from this year and chat to your child's teacher or ask any questions.

On Friday I will be taking a rest as Finnlay takes over as headteacher for the day, we are looking forward to finding out what we have in store! I am sure he will be a very kind and lovely headteacher and there will be some rewards for all the wonderfully behaved children we have here.

Looking slightly further ahead, we would very much like to have an official opening of our school allotment and would like to invite parents and children to come over to the allotment at 3:25 on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July straight after school. We will have light refreshments and everyone will have the chance to see how well the allotment is doing – the children can tell you what is growing and maybe even direct you to a weed or two to pull up! They are getting very good at recognising weeds and helping with the watering.

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Hutt

## AWARDS OF THE WEEK



**SUPERSTARS**

<b>Rabbits:</b>	All of the children for a brilliant sports day and all of the parents for doing so well in the 3 legged race!
<b>Otters:</b>	All of the children for a brilliant sports day and all of the parents for doing so well in the 3 legged race!
<b>Badgers:</b>	All of the children for a brilliant sports day and all of the parents for doing so well in the 3 legged race!



### DIARY DATES

Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Pedals Course 2 starts Rabbits trip to Gatton Park
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Savills sunflower competition assembly
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Class summer parties Meet the teacher 3.30-7.30
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Multisports club Mr F Bulley – Head Teacher for the day!

### GATE DUTY w/c 9<sup>th</sup> July Parents of:

**(8.40 – 9.00am)**

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	M Wilson
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	K Worrall
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	A Fairley
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	E Coccolios
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	I Hayne



### Clubs – Autumn Term

*We are in the process of finalising club details for next term and hope to have them sent out by the end of next week. Thank you,*

### Preloved Uniform

After yesterday's successful sale held by Mrs Gow, we still have a few items of pre-loved uniform left. We have quite a few of the PE trousers and jumpers, and they're only £5 for the pair – it would be crazy to not take advantage of a bargain! (plus think of the PTA kitty and the environment!!). Please see inventory attached.  
Thank you

## Pre-loved Uniform Inventory

	Size	Quantity
<b>Coat £5</b>	3-4yrs	
	5-6yrs	I
	7-8yrs	
<b>Cap £2</b>		I
<b>Woolie Hat £2</b>		I
<b>Scarf £1</b>		
<b>Jumper £3</b>	26inch	III
	28inch	I
	30inch	I
<b>Cardigan £3</b>	26inch	
	28inch	
	30inch	I
<b>Book Bag £3</b>		II
<b>PE Bag £2</b>		
<b>PE Jumper £3</b>	3-4yrs	III
	5-6yrs	IIII
	7-8yrs	
<b>PE Tracksuit Bottoms £2</b>	3-4yrs	IIII IIIII II
	5-6yrs	IIII II
	7-8yrs	III
	9-10yrs	
<b>PE T-shirt £2</b>	3-4yrs	III
	5-6yrs	
	7-8yrs	
<b>PE Shorts £2</b>	20inch	I
	22inch	II
	24inch	II
	26inch	