

St. Matthew's

Church of England Infant School

Weekly Newsletter

18th January 2019



Dear Parents,

This week we launched our 'Switch-Off' Fortnight with an assembly by Mrs Rook, our science and Eco-School lead. She talked to the children about our normal everyday uses of energy, such as lights, computers, toasters and kettles and how we can save energy by switching things off when they are no longer being used. The children have come up with lots of ideas of how to remind each other and teachers to 'Switch-Off' and have been making posters to share the message around the school. They have been busy doing surveys to see what uses electricity in our school and whether lights and computers are being switched off when they are not being used. A follow-up survey at the end of the fortnight will hopefully show an improvement in 'Switch-Off' behaviour around the school.

On Tuesday, two representatives from the Rainbow Trust talked to the children in assembly about how their charity supports families of very sick children, both locally and around the country. They were delighted when we presented a cheque to them for £180.80, and were touched when the children explained that they had chosen the charity and how to raise money themselves. They were very impressed with the Rainbow Reading Competition and were amused to see all of the super photos of the children and staff reading in funny places. The great thing is that, while we were having fun, we were also raising money for a good cause. It was lovely for the children to hear that their donation will make a significant difference to the lives of others. Thank you to everyone who took part and congratulations to Lottie, Mia, Sam and Mrs Spooner for winning the prize for their category – each winner received a book, and Mrs Spooner was awarded a golden ticket!

It was great to see so many parents enjoying looking at their children's books on Wednesday – if you were unable to get in and see them, please do see / contact your child's teacher and arrange to have a look at a mutually convenient time.

For the next two weeks, we are looking at birds for the RSPB Big Bird Watch. The children will be learning about birds in class and taking part in activities relating to birds, thinking about how we can encourage them into our gardens and see how many birds we can spot. This leads up to the RSPB's 40th Big Garden Bird Watch (26th - 28th January 2019) that you can take part in by signing up at: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/everything-you-need-to-know-about-big-garden-birdwatch/> where you can request a free postal pack or take part online. If you do take part, do send in your survey to share in our assembly. From the week of the 28th January, children will be able to bring in binoculars and bird books into school so at play times they can do their own bird watching in school.

Anna and Natalie have invited school allotment volunteers to the first dig 2019 and social this Tuesday morning. The sessions will stay the same as last term: Tuesday mornings 9-11 and Thursday afternoons 2-3.15. The plan is to get the back two beds up and running first by digging out any remaining tarpaulin and then digging down a metre, then covering with manure, which should easily keep everyone busy until half term, what with a bit of weeding thrown in! There are quite a few shovels and forks, but for any people who have one at home, a few more would be helpful. This invitation is open to any other parents who would like to join Gardening Club. New people would be very welcome to come along to the social and dig this Tuesday morning after drop off. If you are unable to make that, then please give the school office your mobile number if you would like to be added to the WhatsApp group.

Attached to this week's newsletter is an outline of this term's collective worship / assemblies for your information – do please let me know if you would like to contribute to an assembly. I have also attached this term's certificate from home

– a ‘Showing Caring’ certificate, as our value is all about being a good and caring friend to others.

Well done to Tom H, Lottie, Emily and Keira for finishing their sticker charts this week.

Have a lovely weekend
Mrs Hutt.



AWARDS OF THE WEEK



Rabbits:	Madeleine, Hugo and Allie for working really hard on their tricky words and knowing so many already. Great!
Otters:	Josephine for always trying her hardest in everything she does – what a super attitude!
Badgers:	George for great reasoning in science, showing how he knows if something is alive, dead or has never been alive. Great explanations and reasoning George!

Wisdom Award:



R – Tiber for always praising other children when they are doing well.
Eva for helping her friend and offering to help carry her belongings
Jena for always helping her friends and celebrating their successes with them.
O – Tom for being a good friend and for showing sensitivity towards the feelings of others.
B – Freya for showing great kindness and friendship towards other members of the class at playtimes and in the classroom. Freya, you really are a super friend to everyone at St Matthews.

Golden Tickets

Ella B and Phoebe



DIARY DATES

Friday 25 th January	Inset Day – Staff Training
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GATE DUTY w/c 21st January Parents of:

(8.40 – 9.00am)

Monday 21 st Jan	M Wells
Tuesday 22 nd Jan	E Wheeler
Wednesday 23 rd Jan	A Williams
Thursday 24 th Jan	T Woodward
Friday 25 th Jan	INSET DAY



Children’s Film Club Night – Unfortunately we have decided to postpone the movie night that was scheduled for next Tuesday 22nd January and a new date will be announced soon. Thank you, PTA

Name _____

Showed caring for others by

Signed _____

Please use this certificate to help us to celebrate your child’s demonstration of friendship and fairness to others outside of school. We will celebrate in Friday assemblies and add the certificates to our ‘WOW’ board in the hall.