



St Matthew's RC Primary



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10th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As another weekend approaches, we have had a lovely week welcoming back some familiar faces – Mrs McCready and Mrs Christian have been in covering classes whilst our class teachers have been completing training and preparation for the term and weeks ahead! The children (and staff!) were delighted to see them and we hope they'll both be popping back again soon!

We would like to thank everyone who joined us for our virtual Meet the Teacher on Tuesday evening and we hope you found the information about what your children are doing interesting and insightful. Letters have gone out this week regarding Parent's Evening next Thursday, so please hand back the slips with your preferred time if you have not managed to already. These consultations will be via telephone call, and teachers will talk about specific learning achievements and targets for your children as well as whole class learning and goals. Hopefully it won't be long before we can get you all back in the building for face-to-face meetings!

A word from Mrs Syme:

I would just like to take this opportunity on behalf of all our St Matthew's family to congratulate Miss Chidgey on her recent engagement! We are absolutely delighted for her and are excited to celebrate the soon-to-be Mr & Mrs Walton!



School Updates

Covid Updates

Thank you for supporting our school to be a safe place by wearing face coverings at pick up and drop off and by distancing from other households.

Pupils are now permitted to mix with each other in the classrooms and will have more opportunities to participate in group learning activities.

Parent's Evening

This week you will all have received a letter home outlining the plans for Parent's Evening on Thursday 16th September 2021. As we are still not yet able to meet in person, you will receive a phone call from your child's class teacher between 3:30-5:30pm or 5:30-7:30pm. Please return the slip from your letter to the office detailing your preferred time slot as soon as possible.

Labelling Clothes/Personal Items

Please ensure that your child's uniform and personal items are clearly marked with their name. This avoids items getting lost and aids the quick return of items that have been left behind.

PE

At this time PE changing rooms remain closed and children will not be encouraged to change for PE. **We advise that on the days children have PE, they come to school dressed in sportswear. All children will have P.E with Mrs Tait every Tuesday.**

Nut-Free Snacks

Due to severe nut allergies at our school, please do not send your child to school with snacks or lunch items containing nuts. This includes, but is not limited to, Kinder Buenos, Nutella, Daim bars and peanut butter. Please note that any snacks with nuts in them will be sent home with the child.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is available to all learners from Primary 1 to Primary 7, at the cost of 50p per child per morning. Breakfast club will open from 8.30am and children should enter via the top door in the playground. Toast and cereal will be available. Please note that in order to comply with current restrictions, pupils will be required to sit in their classes.

Class Updates

P1-3

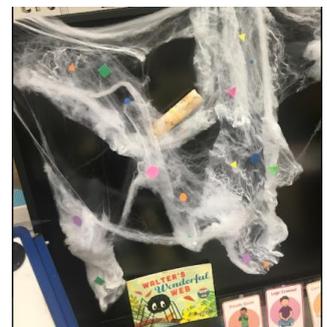
This week..

P1-3 were pleased to see some familiar faces when Mrs Christian and Mrs McCready came in to cover the class as Miss Mac was doing some training. Both teachers were so impressed with the class and had lots of lovely things to pass on to Miss Mac.

On Monday, we came into our classroom to find a giant spider's web with lots of little shapes in it! When we looked closer, we found a letter from a spider named Walter, asking us to help him to learn all about shapes. He also left us a book called Walter's Wonderful Web which we read together. We read about how Walter tried to build his web using different shapes, but it kept blowing away in the wind! This got us thinking about shapes and we have spent lots of time this week talking about shapes and their properties. We went outside to make chalk shape pictures, weaved our own spider webs, and made shapes using our bodies.

As the P1s have continued learning their sounds, the P2s and P3s have learned about types of words called nouns, adjectives, and verbs. We had great fun playing charades with Mrs McCready to practise verbs!

We enjoyed hearing the bible story of the 'Loaves and the Fishes' and we reflected on how we can live our lives like Jesus and help others in need.



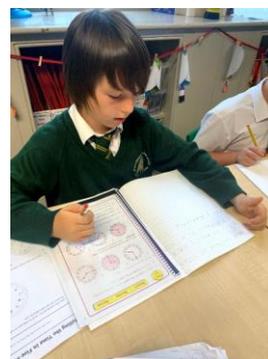
Next week...

Next week we will find out about 3D shapes in the world around us. We will continue to learn and revise our Read, Write, Inc. sounds and apply them in various activities. The class will be invited to try some Scottish foods as we celebrate Scottish Food and Drink fortnight.

P4-5

This week we have been continuing our novel study on 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear' and have been reading some very exciting chapters. We have also been learning about lots of different reading and writing skills through our novel. This week we have been focusing on writing a prediction, a character profile and a story mountain. A story mountain can help us to track the plot of a chapter or story and will eventually be a tool that we use to plan our own stories with too. In numeracy we have completed our last full week on time learning o'clock, half past, quarter to, quarter past and telling the time in 5 minute intervals. Some of us even started to look at telling the time on an analogue clock to the exact minute. In our art lesson with Mrs Christian this week we have completed our entries for the Christmas card competition run by Colin Beattie MSP and will be sending them off soon. In health and wellbeing we also looked at the difference between a fixed mindset and a growth mindset.

Next week we will be moving on to the final week of our novel study and finding out more about what happens to Podkin on his adventures. We will also be applying some of our reading and writing skills when creating a new story and character of our own. In numeracy we will be looking at sequencing numbers, addition and subtraction strategies and multiplication. We will also be continuing to learn about aspects of time in our maths lessons.



P6/7

This week we have been continuing our Midnight Fox novel study and have written poems about the fox. We focussed on using adjectives and imagery to describe the fox in as much detail as possible. Next week we will be concluding our novel study by investigating the debate about fox hunting.

In maths we have been learning about timetables. We have learned how to read and interpret a timetable and how to use them to plan journeys and events. The children made their own timetable for a music festival. From this week onwards we will be having a multiplication/times tables focus on Friday mornings to help the class to consolidate their times tables knowledge.

Following the conclusion of the Paralympics the children researched a Paralympic athlete. They found out about the wide range of disabilities that the athletes have and we discussed the challenges they have faced to become elite-level athletes.

Kind regards,

Chidgey

Anna Chidgey
Headteacher