



St Matthew's RC Primary



32 Carnethie Street
Rosewell
Midlothian
EH24 9AT

Tel: 0131 271 4695
Email: stmatthews_ps@midlothian.gov.uk
Website: <http://stmatthews.mgfl.net>
Head Teacher: Miss A Chidgey
Twitter: @stmatthewsps1

Newsletter 2

December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Congratulations to all our children on the success of the outstanding Nativity performance!

The children have represented St Matthew's around the wider community singing carols and Christmas songs to spread the Christmas cheer! Lots of the public have complimented the children on their behaviour and manners—well done!

Thank you to the Parent Council and Parent body for a very successful Christmas Fair. It certainly got everybody in the festive spirit!

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the fantastic staff team who put in lots of hours behind the scenes, to all our parents who support and work with the school, to members of the community who help to enrich the learning of our children every day and of course, to all our children, for just being you! Thank You!

On behalf of the St Matthew's Family, I wish you all a lovely Christmas, filled with peace, hope and joy!

And also a Very Happy New Year!

Roll on 2020!

Kind regards,

Anna Chidgey

Head Teacher

Bag Packing

Thank you to everybody that was able to help at the recent Bag Packing slot at Sainsbury's.

The public gave our children lots of compliments, commenting on how polite, sensible and helpful they are, and were also very generous in their donations towards our school fund.

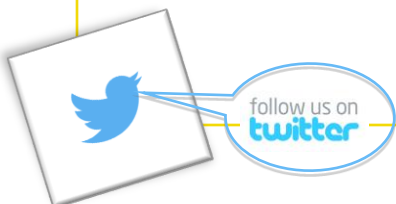
We raised an incredible

****£676.76****

Well done everyone!

As the weather changes and winter draws closer, we kindly request that the children come to school with appropriate clothing for all weather conditions.

We aim for the children to be outside as much as possible for breaks and lunch times to ensure they get fresh air and a movement break, so it is important that they bring a warm jacket with them every day. Hats, scarves and gloves are optional (but with names on would be greatly



P5-7 Newsletter

In Literacy we have been focusing on poetry. We have looked at different poetic skills, such as similes, metaphors, personification and onomatopoeia. We acted out a poem called “Rabbit in Mixer Survives” and have written poems about autumn and underwater creatures. We also entered a poetry competition and recently received the exciting news that a number of the poems we submitted have been chosen for publication in a book!

In numeracy we learned about factors, products and primes and how these link to multiplication and division. In math’s we have learned about money, especially how to work within a budget. We have also been working on measurement, learning how to measure the perimeter, area and volume of a shape.

Due to the continuation of our political topic from Term 1 and preparation for the Nativity, our William Wallace and Robert the Bruce topic has been put on hold until next term. We will also be learning about deforestation in Term 3.



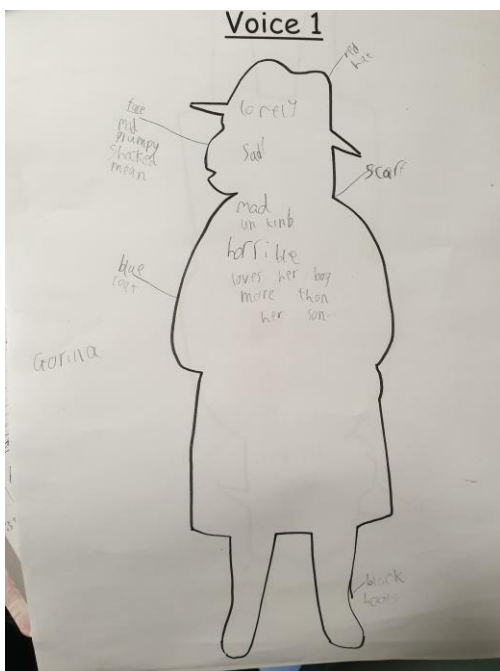
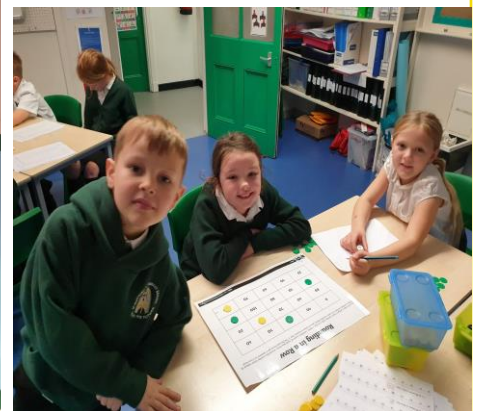
P3-5 Newsletter

Primary 3-5's topic this term is 'Citizens of the World' and the children have been enjoying learning about how to be a good citizen within their community whilst also looking at the bigger picture of helping our planet. They have been learning about plastic and participating in debates about the usefulness VS the harmfulness of plastic. We have also been learning how to take notes as we watch informative clips from David Attenborough and the movie Ponyo.

As part of our topic the children used recycled paper and plastic to create fish for our display. Our novel study this term was a huge success and the children really loved it. Our picture book 'Voices in the Park' was packed with secrets and hidden meaning that the children loved discussing. They had so many brilliant ideas as we studied the perspectives of different characters. The children created some wonderful character maps and wrote their own chapter of the story from a new character's point of view.

In numeracy and maths the children have been working on sequencing numbers in 2s, 5s, 10s and 100s and have been using arrays to help them understand multiplication. They have learned how to use the doubling and halving machine as well as how to partition numbers to make them easier to add. We have been experimenting with different maths games and making posters about our strategies.

P.3-5 have been working really hard in preparation for the nativity by practicing in school and at home. Well done!



P1/3 Newsletter

This term P1/3 have really enjoyed reading their novel study, *The Owl Who Was Afraid of The Dark*. We have been learning new vocabulary and adjectives as well as learning all about nocturnal animals. The main character Plop even came to visit us in our classroom and wrote us some lovely letters. P1/3 really enjoyed reading lots of new books during Scottish Book Week and loved getting a little bag of new stories to take home.



We have also linked our novel study with our topic this term and have been learning about the Sun, Moon and Stars. The pupils have been learning lots of new facts about the night sky and have enjoyed learning about how the Earth and the moon move together around the sun. We also created a dark corner in our classroom and projected some images of space to study as well as some bright stars.



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Dates for your Diary

7 th Jan	-	P1/3 Swimming - 10.45 – 1.00 pm @ Loanhead
7 th Jan	-	P3/5 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
13 th Jan	-	P6's John Muir Award – Woodland Skills 12 – 3 – Group 1
13 th Jan	-	Parent Council Meeting – 6.30 pm
14 th Jan	-	P1/3 Swimming - 10.45 – 1.00 pm @ Loanhead
14 th Jan	-	P3/5 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
21 st Jan	-	P1/3 Swimming - 10.45 – 1.00 pm @ Loanhead
21 st Jan	-	P3/5 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
22 nd Jan	-	P5-7 Skiing 1 – 11.00 am
24 th Jan	-	Burns Night – 5.00 pm
28 th Jan	-	P1/3 Swimming - 10.45 – 1.00 pm @ Loanhead
28 th Jan	-	P3/5 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
29 th Jan	-	Disney's "Lion King" at the Playhouse Theatre – leave at 12.45 and return approx. 5.30 pm
30 th Jan	-	P5-7 Skiing 2 – 11.00 am
4 th Feb	-	P1/3 Swimming - 10.45 – 1.00 pm @ Loanhead
4 th Feb	-	P3/5 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
5 th Feb	-	P5-7 Skiing 3 – 11.00 am
7th Feb	-	Finish for February Holiday at 12.25 pm
17th Feb	-	All Resume at 8.50 am
18 th Feb	-	P1/3 Swimming - 10.45 – 1.00 pm @ Loanhead
18 th Feb	-	P3/5 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
18 th Feb	-	Parent Council Meeting – 6.30 pm
19 th Feb	-	P5-7 Skiing 4 – 11.00 am
20 th Feb	-	Parent Evening
25 th Feb	-	P1/3 Swimming - 10.45 – 1.00 pm @ Loanhead
25 th Feb	-	P3/5 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
26 th Feb	-	P5-7 Skiing 5 – 11.00 am
26 th Feb	-	Ash Wednesday Mass - 12.00 pm
3 rd Mar	-	P1/3 Swimming - 10.45 – 1.00 pm @ Loanhead
3 rd Mar	-	P3/5 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
4 th Mar	-	P5-7 Skiing 6 – 11.00 am
10 th Mar	-	5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
17 th Mar	-	5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
17 th Mar	-	Parent Council Meeting @ 6.30 pm
24 th Mar	-	Stations of the Cross @ St Matthews RC Church 9.30 am
24 th Mar	-	5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
31 st Mar	-	5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade

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Dates for your Diary cont'd

- 4th Apr** - **Finish for Easter Holiday at 12.25 pm**
20th Apr - **All Resume at 8.50 am**
- 21st Apr - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
21st Apr - Parent Council Meeting – 6.30 pm
28th Apr - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
- 5th May - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
5th May - Parent Meeting Re – Communion at Our Lady Church Hall, Bonnyrigg – 7.00 pm
- 7th May** - **Finish for May Bank Holiday at 3.15 pm**
8th May - **Holiday – School Closed**
11th May - **All Resume at 8.50 am**
- 12th May - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
12th May - P1 Induction 1 – 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm
14th May - Sports Day 1 - 1.00 pm at Rosewell Park (If inclement weather will be postponed to 21st May)
- 15th May** - **Finish for May Bank Holiday at 12.25 pm**
18th May - **In service Day – Pupils off**
19th May - **All Pupils Resume at 8.50 am**
- 19th May - P1 Induction 2 – 9.30 am – 11.00 am
19th May - Parent Council Meeting – 6.30 pm
19th May - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
20th May - Parents Evening
21st May - Feast of Ascension Mass @ St Matthew's RC Church 12.00 pm
21st May - Sports Day 2 - 1.30 pm at Rosewell Park
25th - 29th May - Whole School Camp 3 or 5 days at Winmarleigh Hall, Lancs
26th May - P1 Induction 3 – 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm
26th May - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
30th May - First Holy Communion @ St Matthew's RC Church 6.00 pm
- 2nd Jun - P1 Induction 4 – 10.00 am – 2.00 pm
2nd Jun - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
9th Jun - P1 Induction 5 – 9.00 am – 3.00 pm
9th Jun - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
10th & 11th Jun - Transitions Days High Schools
16th Jun - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
23rd Jun - 5/7 Swimming – 1.30 – 3.30 pm @ Lasswade
25th Jun - Leavers & Awards Assembly – 2.00 pm
25th Jun - End of Year Disco – 6.00 pm
- 26th Jun** - **Finish for Summer Holiday at 12.25 pm**

All dates and times are correct at time of print but may be subject to change.