



St Matthew's News



Head Teacher's message

Welcome to our 2nd Issue of St Matthew's News and our final half term of 2023— what a jam packed half term it has been!

Your children have continued to flourish in this half term, where we are still calling them to be inspired by their learning and the knowledge on offer in their classrooms. I am very proud of the way our community has continued to support each other and the school on the run up to the Christmas holiday.

I want to say a huge well done to the children and teachers involved in the creation of the Christmas Cantata—what a beautiful performance it was and a perfect way to end our half term. But WOW, reception—your nativity performance blew us away. Parents you must be so proud

Remember, you can watch the recording of both performances on google classroom.

Have a peaceful and blessed holiday and remember we are here if you need anything. Have a wonderful Christmas to those who celebrate.



A big thank you to... our house captains



This year, we had a fantastic Christmas Fair, where our children were able to sell their produce from Design and Technology week. They worked with enthusiasm to ensure their products were ready for sale for the Christmas Fair. Thanks to the House Captains, the fair ran seamlessly. Through practicing their skills of democracy, they came to a decision to raise money for Aston and Nechells food bank.



Design and Technology Week



This half term, we have had Design and Technology week. Our children made products to sell at our Christmas Fayre. We know that design and technology is a subject that involves innovation, purposeful planning and meticulous creation. Take a look at some of our pictures from the week



The Nativity

As always, the Reception children blew us away with their wonderful Nativity. Telling the story of Jesus' birth is a big job and my gosh, the children did not disappoint. Well done to the children and the magnificent teachers who supported them: Mrs Taylor, Mrs Sohal and Miss Ghaffar.



Our Christmassy Events: Stringcredibles, the Christmas Cantatata and our singing at Aston and Nechells Parish

Through the season of advent, we have been celebrating the run up to Jesus' birth by taking the time to reflect during this time of the year.

We welcomed the Stringcredibles, as we do every year, to remind us of the beauty and power of music. We rehearsed and performed the story of Jesus' birth through our Christmas Cantata. We welcomed Ashley Wagner from the St Martin's cathedral.

The choir also sang as part of the Christmas Carol Service for Aston and Nechells parish.



Ovid Competition

Latin for: *A natural born leader, but with a kind heart and soul*

On Monday 4th December, 3 of our KS2 children went along to the University of Birmingham after they had been shortlisted by Mrs Taylor as the winners of the St Matthews entries for the Ovid Competition. Ovid is a competition run by Classics for All, an organisation who want to put the teaching of Latin on the agenda.

Our three shortlisted entries were

Aaron Y3, Yasmin and Ahmad Y6 and amongst so many other children from secondary schools, our children truly impressed!



Next Half Term

What's coming up in Spring 1

Dates for your diary

Our Spring 1 Assembly will be held by

Year 3 and the theme will be Holi



Dates for your diary

Monday 8th January and Tuesday 9th January—Training Days—School closed to children

Wednesday 10th January—Term Starts for pupils

Art Week—Monday 29th January—Friday 2nd January

Thursday 8th February—Holi Assembly for Y3 and Y3 parents. The assembly will be filmed and uploaded to google classroom.

Thursday 8th February—NSPCC Number Day

Friday 9th February— Parent Consultation day

POETRY BY HEART

In Spring 1, we will launch the Poetry by Heart competition as part of our reading for pleasure sessions.

Children can choose contemporary or historic poetry and learn it by heart. Their performance will be filmed and sent to be hopefully shortlisted as a winner!

The deadline to send entries is on **Thursday 28th March**.

NSPCC Number Day: Thursday 8th February



We will be celebrating by having a day of maths based learning.

We will be dressing up to raise money for NSPCC: numbers, shapes, patterns!

Your children can pay £1 to wear something mathematical

Safer Internet Day—Tuesday 6th February

On this day, we will be talking to your children about the need to practice being safe online. We will be using age appropriate resources to talk the children through choices that can be made to make sure the internet is used in a positive way to help the children get the most out of their learning.

