

St. Matthew's CofE Primary School



"I am with you always" Matthews 28:20



LOVE



RESPECT



CREATIVITY



FRIENDSHIP

This Term's Value is:

Compassion

"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

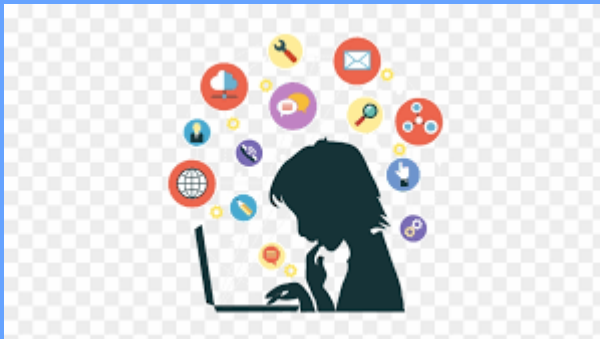
Colossians 3.12

See what we've been up to this week:

Visit the class pages on the school website to find out more

www.st-matthews.bolton.sch.uk

A Note from the Headteacher



Thank you for continuing to support your children with Remote Education. You have all been doing an amazing job and it's great to see so much work being posted back to teachers and all your positive comments about your learning. I hope you are very proud of yourselves... you should be!

Next week is half term! That means it is holiday time so there will be no on-line meetings or any work to do. Your teacher will be back on TEAMS on Monday 22nd February. Enjoy your break and remember to keep safe and follow the COVID guidance.

Miss Ritchie
Headteacher

Dates For Your Diary

Half Term Holiday

15th—19th February 2021

World Book Day

4th March 2021

A message from Mrs Sharples, our Pastoral Manager

Parents- Looking after yourself

Being a parent can be challenging in everyday situations. Now, more than ever, taking care of your mental health is important. Staying at home more or having to work during a difficult situation can put different pressures on everyone. If you're struggling, it's okay to reach out for support from friends, families, school and organisations that are here to help.

Changes to our mental health can sometimes affect children and their well-being. They may pick up on your anxiety or low mood.

This doesn't mean you should hide your feelings. You can try to explain them using phrases like, "It's ok to get big feelings, everyone gets big feelings but it's still the grown up's job to look after the children."

When things are different to what we're used to and everyone is going through a big change, it's important to give children reassurance and support. Looking after your own mental health is vital to their well-being so don't be afraid of doing something for yourself to take care of your own well-being. And reach out if you need help. Staff in St Matthew's are here should you need any support or signposting to other services. Don't be afraid to ask for help; we're all in the same boat.

If you would like a confidential chat or signposting to other support services, please call the school office and ask to speak to Mrs Sharples.

St Matthew's Prayer

Dear God,

Jesus help my eyes to see, all the good you send me. Jesus help my ears to hear, calls for help from far and near. Jesus help my feet to go, in the way that you will show.

Amen

Ethos Team Challenge

Think of a charity that you can donate to.

Reflection Time

In a few quiet moments, bring to mind an occasion when you stopped what you were doing to help someone else. Can you remember how it felt on the inside?

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Attendance Information

(Monday 24th November — Friday 4th December 2020)

Our school attendance for 2020 / 2021 target is 96%

The last two weeks whole school attendance was 95.3%

Rec E—93.8%
Mrs Elliott
Rec S—91.0%
Miss Smith
Y1B—90.9%
Miss Bateman
Y1D—97.6%
Mrs Davidson
Y2B—97.7%
Miss Burkmar
Y2W—95.8%
Miss Walls
Y3F—98.9%
Miss Foster
Y3J—98.3%
Mrs Johnson
Y4C—97.6%
Mr Currid
Y4R—95.2%
Mrs Rotherham
Y5M—91.9%
Miss Manly
Y5R—94.1%
Miss Ramshaw
Y6C/M—92.0%
Mrs Clarkson
Y6P—98.1%
Mrs Phillips

Headteachers Award Winners

Class	18/11/2020	25/01/2021	01/02/2021	08/02/2021
Nur Squirrels				Soha
Nur Rabbits				Joel
Rec Owls	Daniel	Uwais	Lily	Benedicte
Rec Hedgehogs	Caiden-James	Safaa	Magnifique	Robe
Y1 Buttercups	Ahmed P	Moaz	Ella	Jole
Y1 Poppies	Uwais	Ibrahim	Hadiya	Deborah
Y2 Snowdrops	Maham	Daniyal S	Rohullah	Uswa
Y2 Bluebells	Theo	Erno	Sally	Rayyan

Well done everyone!

Headteachers Award

Class	18/11/2020	25/01/2021	01/02/2021	08/02/2021
3J Sparrows	Holly	Siena	Aisha P	Brendon
3F Robins	Bryan	Tyreece	Zareenah	Sophie
4R Goldfinches	Yousif	Tyler	Eleanor	Sakina
4C Woodpeckers	Lolita	Clara	Safaa	Zainab
Y5R Ladybirds	Ruby	Chrispain	Safiyya	Owen
Y5M Dragonflies	Muhammad	Saba	Solange	Mohamed
Y6 C/ M Honeybees	Nasra	Abdullah	Alysia	Mehvish
Y6P	Betina	Kai	Zaid	Khadijah

Well done everyone!

7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

7 Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

Education Endowment Foundation (2018)
Preparing for Literacy: Improving Communication, Language and Literacy in the Early Years. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
Available online: [pdf://literacy-early-years](https://www.eef.org.uk/public/files/default-document-action/download/Preparing-for-Literacy-Improving-Communication-Language-and-Literacy-in-the-Early-Years.pdf)

Education Endowment Foundation (2019).
Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
Available online: [pdf://literacy-ks3-ks4](https://www.eef.org.uk/public/files/default-document-action/download/Improving-Literacy-in-Secondary-Schools.pdf)

Breadmore, H.L., Vardy, E.J., Cunningham, A.J., Kwok, R.K.W., & Carroll, J.M. (2019).
Literacy Development: Evidence Review. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
Available online: [educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Literacy_Development_Evidence_Review.pdf](https://www.eef.org.uk/public/files/default-document-action/download/Literacy-Development-Evidence-Review.pdf)



Education
Endowment
Foundation

Non-screen activities you can do at home

Pobble

25 ideas!

What can you do when there's no school and you're stuck at home? Here are 25 fun ideas to choose from.



1 How many different words can you make from the letters in this sentence, below? Grab a pencil and paper and write a list!

'Learning from home is fun'

2 Thank a community hero. Think of someone that helps you in some way and write a short letter to thank them.

Thanks!

3 Get building! You could build a Lego model, a tower of playing cards or something else!



4 Can you create your own secret code? You could use letters, numbers, pictures or something else! Can you get someone else to try and crack it?

5 Start a nature diary. Look out of the window each day and keep note of what you see. Birds, flowers, changes in the weather, what else?

6 Hold a photo session. Use a camera or a mobile phone to take some snaps. What will you photograph? Your pets or toys perhaps?

7 Build a reading den. Find somewhere cosy, snuggle up and read your favourite book!



8 Use an old sock to create a puppet. Can you put on a puppet show for someone?



9 Make a list of all the electrical items in each room of your home. Can you come up with any ideas to use less electricity?

10 Design and make a homemade board game and play it with your family.



11 Do something kind for someone. Can you pay them a compliment, make them something or help them with a task?



12 Can you create a story bag? Find a bag and collect items to go in it that relate to a well known story. If you can't find an item, you could draw a picture to include.

13 List making! Write a list of things that make you happy, things you're grateful for or things you are good at.



14 Design and make an obstacle course at home or in the garden. How fast can you complete it?



15 Can you invent something new? Perhaps a gadget or something to help people? Draw a picture or write a description.



16 Keep moving! Make up a dance routine to your favourite song.



17 Write a play script. Can you act it out to other people?



18 Read out loud to someone. Remember to read with expression.



19 Write a song or rap about your favourite subject.



20 Get sketching! Find a photograph or picture of a person, place or object and sketch it.



21 Junk modelling! Collect and recycle materials such as yoghurt pots, toilet rolls and boxes and see what you can create with them.

22 Draw a map of your local area and highlight interesting landmarks.

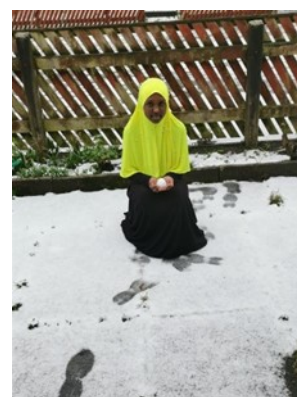


23 Write a postcard to your teacher. Can you tell them what you like most about their class?

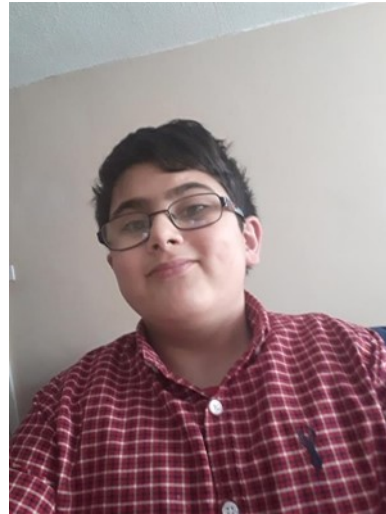
24 Draw a view. Look out of your window and draw what you see.



25 Get reading! What would you most like to learn about? Can you find out more about it in books? Can you find a new hobby?

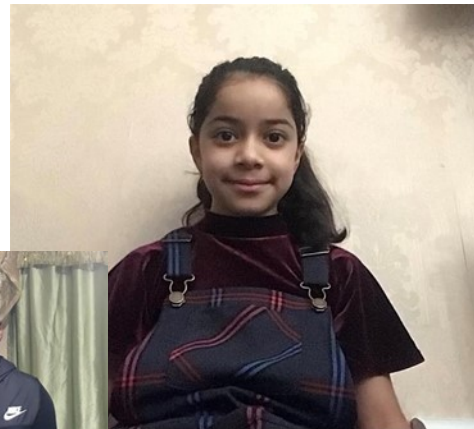
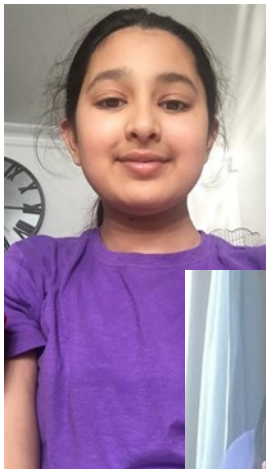


Class 6P decided to have a snow day competition this week. We all went outside to enjoy the snow and take a picture to share the things we saw and did.
Well done Year 6!



BE YOURSELF
ACCEPT YOURSELF
VALUE YOURSELF
FORGIVE YOURSELF
BLESS YOURSELF
EXPRESS YOURSELF
TRUST YOURSELF
LOVE YOURSELF
EMPOWER YOURSELF

On Friday 5th February,
6P wore favourite colour
to encourage self-
expression.
Well done 6P!



Y4

Y4 have been busy looking at different types of rocks. We have been out rock hunting and doing some observational drawings. We also had to make an erupting volcano. We had lots of fun!



Y4

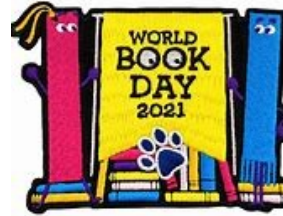
In English we have been reading Charlotte's Web. We had to create our own spider and web.



Y4

Y4 have been making their own fossils. Zayn has made a fabulous horse fossil.





*** WORLD BOOK DAY – THURSDAY 4TH MARCH 2021 ***

It's that time of year again, but obviously things are a little different to normal!
We're trying to keep it as fun as possible for everybody, whilst also celebrating reading.

Here's what we have planned:

Dress up as a book character for live sessions! (This is not compulsory but it would be lovely to see as many children as possible dressed as their favourite characters!)

Potato Challenge! The Children are invited to decorate a potato as a book character – more information to follow after half term.

Other exciting book-themed activities. The teachers have planned some lovely engaging activities for the children to enjoy on the day.

HALF-TERM READING CHALLENGE!

During half-term, even though there will be no live sessions or work being set for the children (wahoo!), it is still very important for the children to continue reading.

Therefore, please encourage as much reading as possible! Make sure that reading records are signed and shown to the class teachers via Teams. Can they read a book a day?

Here are some useful websites with access to FREE E-books:

<https://bookriot.com/free-childrens-books-online/> (This link takes you to a website with a list of lots of other websites that allow access to free books for children)

https://www.amazon.com/Best-Sellers-Kindle-Store-Childrens-eBooks/zgbs/digital-text/155009011/ref=zg_bs?encoding=UTF8&tf=1 (Amazon do have a huge selection of books on kindle free of charge. It is completely free but a grown-up will need an amazon account.)

https://fe.bolindadigital.com/wldcs_bol_fo/b2i/productOverview.html?b2bSite=5632&browseItemId=395055&fromPage=1

(This is the Bolton library website. If you are a member – it is completely free to join – you are able to borrow e-books. You can also order for collection of actual books from the library, like a click and collect service.)

Have a lovely half-term everybody and remember... KEEP READING!

NUT Free School

We children in school with a nut allergy which means that all staff and parents must be vigilant about ingredients we use in school and items put into lunch boxes. No nuts or snacks containing nuts should be put into packed lunches.

Peanut allergy is the second most common food allergy in children and this is increasing. It now occurs in 1 in 50 children.

As we now have a pupil in school who suffers from a severe nut allergy please could I take this opportunity to explain to everyone that our school has now become a "Nut Free School. " If our pupil comes into contact with a nut product, they can suffer life threatening consequences. It can be easily initiated from a simple handshake or touching of a pupil's table who may have had some nuts in their food. Therefore children **must not** bring nuts or nut products as snacks into school at any time.

We ask that you do not provide your child with any products containing nuts in their lunch box: Some examples:

- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Nutella
- Peanut butter
- Cakes made with nuts
- Muesli bars
- Baklava
- Any nuts

School will be making regular checks on the children's lunches to ensure these rules are being followed.

Whilst we know some children like to bring in cakes/chocolates for their classmates to celebrate their birthday we ask that they do not bring in anything that contains nuts, if they do then unfortunately they will not be handed out and will be sent home unopened, which could lead to lots of disappointment.

We have a rule not to use nuts in any of our food prepared on site at our school. Our suppliers provide us with nut-free products, however, we cannot guarantee freedom from nut traces.

Please help us in providing a nut free school and assisting those parents who have a child who may have a life threatening reaction by children **not** bringing nuts or nut products as snacks into school at any time.

Many thanks for your support.



Free School Meals

Even if your child is currently receiving Universal Free School meals, because they are in either Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, if you think that you might be entitled to standard free school meals, because you meet the criteria below it is very important that you still apply for them.

You can get further help on how to apply at the One Stop Shop in Bolton Town Hall.

What are free school meals? They are school dinners for children between the ages of 4 and 16 who attend full time school (but not private schools). They may also be awarded to some children outside this age range who attend full time school or nursery.

Do I qualify? To qualify you or your partner must be getting one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Universal Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit only (but no award of Working Tax Credit) and have an annual income, as assessed by the HM Revenues and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190.

What evidence is required & how do I apply? You need to provide an up to date document showing that you are getting one of the above benefits. You do not need to make a separate claim if you are already getting or have applied for Housing Benefit / Council Tax Support. We will use the information and evidence you have already provided to confirm your entitlement,

If you would like to make a claim this can be done by;

- Telephoning 01204 331590 or
- Visit our website www.bolton.gov.uk (search for free school meals)

In addition from **September 2014** children who are attending full time at any Sixth form college (not private) may also be eligible.

Washing your hands

Step 1 Wet hands under warm running water.

1



Step 2 Add soap to aid cleaning and to kill germs.

2



Step 3 Rub well for at least 15 seconds.

3



Remember

Rub the front and back of your hands well and between your fingers!



Step 4 Rinse well under warm running water.

4



Step 5 Dry hands with clean paper towels.

5





**...my child
has COVID-
19
(coronavirus)
symptoms***

- Child shouldn't attend education / childcare settings
- Child should get a test
- Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result
- Inform education / childcare setting immediately about test results

**...when child's test
comes back negative**

provided they have been fever free for the 48 hours before returning to education or childcare, and feel well



**...my child
tests positive
for COVID-19
(coronavirus)**

- Child shouldn't attend education / childcare settings
- Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms)
- Inform education / childcare settings immediately about test results
- Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - *even if someone tests negative during those 14 days*

**...after 10 days, once
child feels better, and
has been fever-free
for at least 48 hours**

They can return to education or childcare after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.



**...somebody
in my
household
has COVID-
19 (coronavirus)
symptoms***

- Child shouldn't attend education / childcare settings
- Household member with symptoms should get a test
- Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result
- Inform education / childcare settings immediately about test results





**...when household
member test is
negative, and child
does not have
COVID-19 symptoms***



**...somebody
in my
household
has tested
positive for COVID-19
(coronavirus)**

- Child shouldn't attend setting
- Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - *even if someone tests negative during those 14 days*

**...when child has
completed 14 days of
self-isolation, even if
they test negative
during the 14 days**

		childcare
 <p>...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend education / childcare settings • Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days • Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too 	<p>...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we / my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not take unauthorised leave in term time • Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel • Provide information to education / childcare settings as per attendance policy <p>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend education / childcare settings • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days 	<p>...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend education / childcare settings • Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team • Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	<p>...when education or childcare setting / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to the setting again</p>
 <p>....I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only people with symptoms* need to get a test • People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive 	<p>...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met</p>