



ST. MATTHEW'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL | 22.12.23

NEWSLETTER



REJOICE!

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rest." Luke 2:14

Wishing you a joyous Christmas filled with love, peace and hope!

FROM THE DESK OF MRS SIME

I would like to thank each and every one of our school community for a wonderful first term of this academic year. There has been so much joy and excitement packed into the last four months as well as celebrating our successes.

As we prepare for Christmas, we recall that Advent is a time of hope, waiting, compassion and kindness, as we await the coming of Jesus. During this time it is important to take to a moment to reflect and give thanks for the many blessings bestowed upon us, but also to pray for those members of our school community and families that maybe facing challenges during this time.

May the gifts of peace, love, and happiness find you all during this most blessed season of Christmas.

Warm Regards,

Mrs Sime

PE DAYS – SPRING HALF TERM 1

We return to school on **Tuesday 9th January 2024**, at 08:45 am. PE will now take place twice per week as follows:

Year	Indoor PE	Outdoor PE
Year 1	Tuesday	Monday
Year 2	Monday	Thursday
Year 3	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 4	Tuesday	Wednesday
Year 5	Pine – Monday Willow (Swimming Thursday)	Tuesday
Year 6	Friday	Thursday

CHILDRENS UNIVERSITY

LIVERPOOL
children's
UNIVERSITY
Winter Challenge 2023

Activity 1 Winter Reading Challenge Go to the website below to create your profile. Read 3 or more books and complete the challenges set. Send a picture of your certificate and you will receive 3 credits. winterini.org.uk	Activity 2 Active Challenge Take part in one of the Sport England challenges, you could try the socks in a box challenge, the wall ball challenge or any others you like the look of. Don't forget to send a picture. https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/competition/socks-in-the-box-60-second-challenge	Activity 3 Create some characters. Save some used cardboard toilet rolls and create some characters with them. You could decorate them as a snowman or penguin or create your own characters. Here's some ideas: https://whatmomslve.com/kids/christmas-toilet-paper-roll-crafts-for-kids/	Activity 4 Tasty treats! Have a go at making a winter tasty treat...you could make marshmallow penguins or snowmen biscuits... https://www.eatsamazing.co.uk/category/fun-food-for-kids/creative-food-tutorials/winter-themed-recipes
Activity 5 Scavenger hunt! Why not get outside for a walk and take pictures of as many of the following things that you come across: Shadows, a tree stump, a puddle, a squirrel, a worm, fallen leaves, a spiders web, a log, some ice, a feather, a road sign, some birds. I look forward to seeing what you've seen.	Activity 6 Write a winter themed story Use your imagination to write a winter themed story. Think of an idea, create your main character then decide where the story is set. Have a beginning, middle and end! https://readingeggs.co.uk/articles/2015-05-19-story-writing-for-kids/ I can't wait to read them all!	Activity 7 Create a snow globe Have a go at making a snow globe by recycling a used jam jar or similar, find a small figure that could go in it and follow the instructions on this website https://www.bbgoodfood.com/howto/guide/how-make-snow-globe Don't forget to send a picture.	

Collect extra Children's University credits during the Christmas holiday by completing this challenge. Each activity is worth 1 credit. Send evidence of your activity to Liverpoolcu@elevate-ebp.co.uk This could be a photograph, video, a work sheet, or writing about what you did. Remember to include your name and the school you attend!

SCIENCE FAIR

We are holding a Science Fair on Thursday 19th January 2024 from 3:30-4:00pm in the School Hall. Parent's are warmly invited to celebrate their children's work.



PENSIONER'S CHRISTMAS

On Wednesday 20th December 2023 we hosted an afternoon Christmas party for the elderly members of our school community. We were featured on Helen Jones' BBC Radio Merseyside Show and you can listen to this on BBC Sounds, [20/12/2023 from 14:52pm](#).

SCHOOL UNIFORM

As a reminder, it's important that your child wears the correct uniform to school each day. Please ensure that your child does not wear trainers unless it is their designated PE day. In the event that your child is not in the correct uniform, staff may contact you. Please refer to the Uniform Policy for more information.

Additionally, the school's PE kit is outlined in the uniform policy. Please make sure that your child does not wear tights, leggings, or any other clothing that is not part of the School PE Kit.

For the safety and security of all students, smartwatches are not allowed on school grounds. These items are valuable and the school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

World Gifts 2023



Class	Amount	What we bought?
Reception	£17	Happy Queen Bee, Emergency Water, Tree for Life
1 Birch	£5	Emergency Water
1 Oak	£5	Emergency Water
2 Alder	£14	Teach someone to Read. Happy Queen Bee
2 Fir	£16	Soup Kitchen, Emergency Water
3 Elm	£28.35	Chirpy Chickens, Trees for Life
3 Cedar	£10	Super Soup Kitchen
4 Maple	£10	Teach Someone to Read
4 Ash	£21.25	Chirpy Chickens
5 Pine	£15	Emergency Water, Vegetable Garden
5 Willow	£15	Tree for Life Soup Kitchen
6 Sycamore	£6.75	Vegetable Garden
6 Chestnut	£5	Happy Queen Bee

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19th January 2024 - Science Fair
30th March 2024 - Parent's Evening

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

All assemblies will begin at 2:15pm in Church.

17th January 2024 - 2 Alder
24th January 2024 - 6 Chestnut
31st January 2024 - 3 Cedar
7th February 2024 - 4 Ash
21st February 2024 - 5 Pine
28th February 2024 - 5 Willow
6th March 2024 - 4 Maple
13th March 2024 - 6 Sycamore
14th March 2024 - 1 Oak
20th March 2024 - 1 Birch
21st March 2024 - 2 Alder
27th March 2024 - 3 Elm



CURRICULUM UPDATE

We have had another busy half term. Staff have worked hard to offer an exciting, fun and engaging curriculum. As well as fantastic R.E. going on, as was reflected in our recent inspection, lots of amazing things have been happening in all other subject areas.

Reception's vehicle text this half term has been 'Star in a jar', they wrote their own poster to find the lost star. During their healthy living topic, they made vegetable soup and had a visit from the dentist. Year 1 produced some fantastic writing based on the story Rapunzel, learnt about levers in DT to produce their own moving picture and went on a walk to Windsor Gardens to enhance their geography topic on our local area.

Year 2 went on their first residential to CHET, studied the book, The Night Gardener to support their fiction and non-fiction writing, worked on their map skills in geography and produced some fantastic Christmas tree decorations in DT.

Year 3 have been working hard on multiplication strategies in maths, have been learning all about rocks and fossils in science and have designed and made Christmas boxes in DT.

Year 4's driver text this half term has been 'Leaf'. Children have used this text to support their narrative writing, they have been working hard on their times tables, multiplication and division strategies in maths and have been studying rivers in geography.

Year 5 had fun exploring different bridges in DT before designing and making their own bridge, they worked hard on learning all about forces in science and fractions in maths.

Year 6 loved their DT topic on gingerbread sculptures, having the opportunity to not only make but also eat plenty of gingerbread! They continued to learn to play the ukulele and immersed themselves in their vehicle text, 'A story like the wind'.

Years 1, 3, 4 and 5 have had the opportunity to visit the museum or art gallery which has supported their learning and we look forward to more trips and visitors to enhance our learning in the coming term.

Look out for our Spring Topic Maps on seesaw when we return from the Christmas holidays. These will provide you with all the exciting things we will be learning about throughout Spring term 1.