



St Matthew's Church of England Primary School

Whatever you do, do it with all your heart. Colossians 3:23

News from St Matthew's

Autumn Term 2022



We had a fascinating time using a range of film clips to inspire our Maths. Reception watched a bit of **Ratatouille** and then used a range of skills to help them do some cooking. Year 1 watched **The Lion King** and **Cars** to inspire counting and investigating sizes. Year 2 also watched Ratatouille which engendered a lesson all about halving numbers.

Year 3 watched **The Bee Movie** spotting and naming all different kinds of shapes. In Year 4 they watched **Sing** and then used this to help them write and answer their own word problems. Year 5 used **Back to the Future** and written methods to find out about the years Marty McFly travelled to and what he might have seen there. Year 6 created their own **Jurassic Parks**, with minimal bloodshed or loss of life!


A very successful week all round!



Mrs Challen-Johnson, one of our Speech and Language HLTAs features in the latest issue of 'The Link' magazine.



The Link



School Spotlight



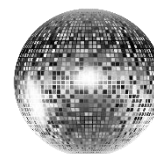
A huge thank you to Lorraine Challen-Johnson a SaLT HLTA from St. Matthews Church of England in Suffolk, who got in touch to share her tips for successful intervention groups.

TOP TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL SPEECH/LANGUAGE SESSIONS

- 👍 10 second (or more) rule! Always give the child time to process and answer.
- 👍 Remind children that it's ok to say, "I don't know / I don't understand / Can you say that again please?"
- 👍 Give specific praise. "Good listening / good looking / good thinking / good talking."
- 👍 Give specific feedback. "I liked the way you said that tricky word."
- 👍 If a child is struggling to answer, take the pressure off them by asking, "Are you still thinking or would you like some help?" (I also find that **looking away** when a child is unsure what to say, helps avoid them feeling on the spot.)
- 👍 Provide a **forced alternative**. "Is it a book or a ball?" (When using a forced alternative, always provide the **correct answer first**, as many children will simply repeat the last word they hear.)
- 👍 With EAL children, ask them, "Can you say the word in Polish / Portuguese / Roma?"
- 👍 Say the first sound of the answer. "The clouds are in the s..."
- 👍 Mime or point to the answer.
- 👍 Tell the child, "It rhymes with hop." (I tend to not use this approach with EYFS children as they can find it too difficult.)

Luna

Whilst we've been glued to our screens watching *Strictly Come Dancing*, Luna from 1M has been up in Blackpool demonstrating her own dancing talents.



She had a wonderful time in the Winter Gardens and got through to the last 11 out of 22. We're so proud of you, Luna! It's a 10 from us!



Wagamama

The Year 4 classes visited Wagamama in September to find out more about Asian cuisine and to learn how to use chopsticks!



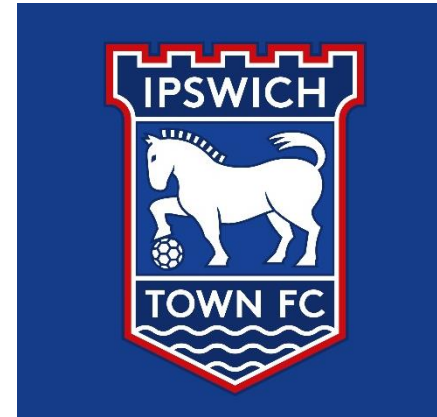
Harvest

We celebrated Harvest with a special assembly in St Matthew's Church. As usual we collected food to donate to charity, and were supported by our local branch of Tesco. Half of the donations were given to the FIND food bank and the other half was given to the Top Up Shop which takes place every Thursday in the church next door.



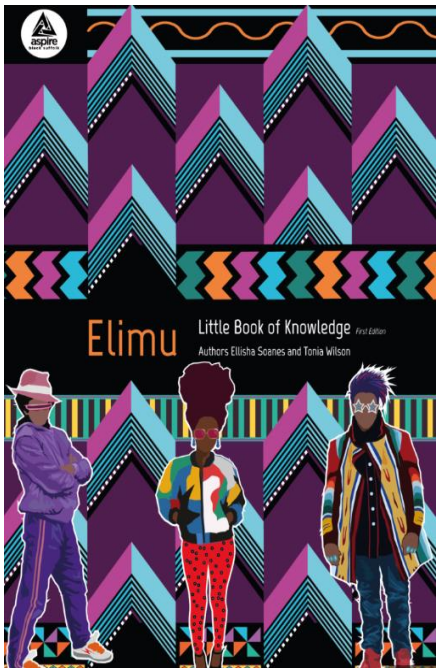
Sports Clubs

Multi-sports Clubs have started again this term and our football teams continue to go from strength to strength, taking part regularly in local competitions. The older children also got the chance to have a kick around with Ipswich Town footballer George Edmundson.



Black History

Following on from the Aspire workshops we hosted last term, every child in the school received a book of activities celebrating diversity and black culture.



New books

We won £100 worth of multicultural books published by Penguin. This has increased our already impressive collection in the library.



Panathlon Challenges

Our KS1 team came second in the local inter-school Panathlon and our KS2 team came first!



Royal British Legion

We sold poppies to raise money for the Royal British Legion and had a special assembly for Remembrance Day. Our Chaplain organised this quiet place for reflection.



Parental Engagement

It has been wonderful to welcome parents back into school again for...

Bring an Adult to School



EYFS story sessions



Class Assemblies

Reception

The children have been enjoying their topic work about favourite stories. They had a tea party having read 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'. They were also inspired to make bread having read 'The Little Red Hen'.



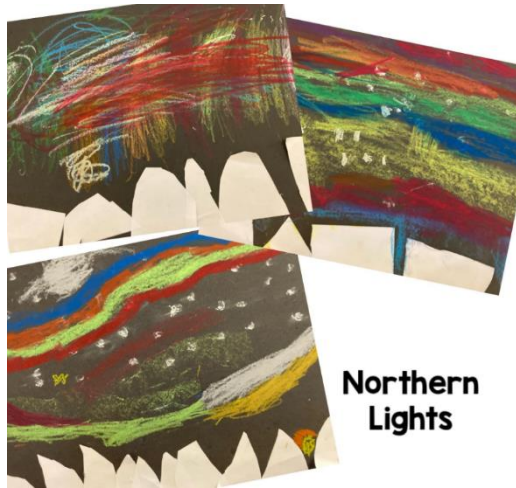
Year 1

The current topic work about Kenya has been really exciting, offering the chance to explore the culture and food from this country.



Year 2

This half term Year 2 have been learning about the Polar Regions. English lessons focused on the book 'The Emperor's Egg' and they also explored the theme through Art, Geography and Science lessons.

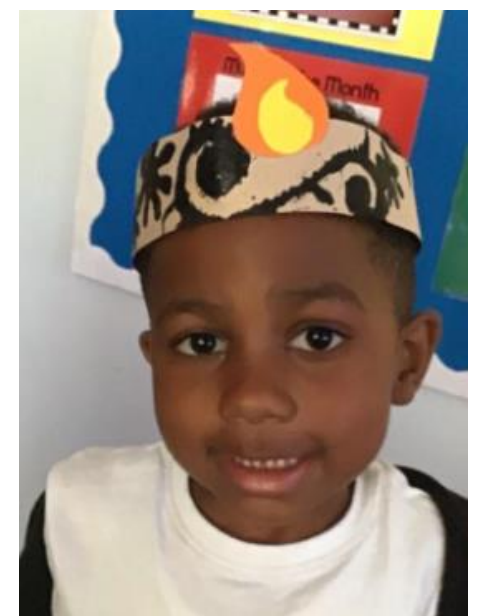


Northern Lights



Celebrating Diwali

All the children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 took part in a special Diwali celebration, organised by Mrs Kaur, one of our teaching assistants.



Year 3

Devising their own scientific investigations is just one of the many exciting lessons enjoyed by Year 3 this term.



Class 3HW led a wonderful assembly about Children in Need. We loved their singing. As a school, we raised £320 for the BBC charity.

Year 4

Science was high on the agenda in Classes 4Q and 4W as well.



The Year 4 Christmas song promises to be another hit this year.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fXvO2hSovM>

The children in Year 5 have really immersed themselves in their current topic work about space. This included a visit to the Space Centre in Claydon to learn what it takes to be a real astronaut.



Years 5 and 6 were lucky enough to be involved with a Macbeth themed workshop led by the Red Rose Chain Theatre Company. The children were thoroughly engaged, dramatic and a little bit scary!



Year 5 and 6 have also had very successful **Bring an Adult to School** sessions. Thank you to everyone who attended. One parent said...

"I really enjoyed the lesson with my child. It was fun and informative".

Christmas Wishes

In Collective Worship we found out how Yoko Ono used to write wishes on pieces of paper and tie them to a tree. She encouraged lots of other people to do the same.

We took the idea and adapted our Christmas tree. Some of the wishes included...



"I wish my dad could come home for Christmas."

"I wish that everyone in the world was happy."

"I wish to end world hunger and for my Grandma to come and visit me."



Christmas Choir

Mrs Dorrington took the choir to sing at the *Golden Days Cafe* at the Ipswich Town Football Stadium. We received a lovely email saying, *"The children were brilliant and performed so well, with everyone commenting on how well behaved and polite they were. They were a credit to your school."*



Christmas in EYFS

The children in EYFS really enjoyed their first Christmas in school. As well as making cards, tree decorations and calendars they had an amazing time at the Christmas party.

The parents came to watch them perform 'The Sleepy Shepherd'. This showed just how much progress they have made since joining the school in September. Well done Ladybirds and Bumblebees!

