



St Matthew's RC Primary



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28th May 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done to all our sports stars this week who persevered through the lovely Scottish weather to enjoy some potted sports and flat races! Photos will be uploaded to seesaw for you to share at home.

PE:

All classes will have P.E on Tuesday next week with their class teacher.

We are unable to provide changing facilities so your child must come dressed for P.E. You may wish to provide an extra snack and a water bottle on these days and if it is forecast to rain a change of socks and shoes to keep feet dry.

Fruit

Free fruit will continue to be provided at break time to any child who would like it until the summer holidays. This has been very popular among our learners and is very much enjoyed.

Breakfast

Please ensure your child eats a good, healthy breakfast before they come to school each day. Fruit can be available for those that do not have breakfast, however, we have noticed an impact on focus and behaviour when children come to school with an empty stomach. A good, healthy breakfast each morning will help to prepare them for the busy day ahead. Please get in touch with school if we can help support this in any way.

End of Term Activities

We're beginning to look forward to the end of the school year, and are planning the final week in school. On our end of term 'class party' day, all children will spend some time outside playing games. They will also have the opportunity to do some crafts in the classroom and have a movie afternoon. 'Class Party' day will take place on Thursday 24th June 2021 for all classes. On this day please could you pack your child a 'party' lunch and a movie snack as we are unfortunately not allowed to share food.

We are also planning to have an end of term 'Fun Day' on Wednesday 23rd June with a bouncy castle, inflatable obstacle course and some outdoor games. P1-3, P4/5 and P6 will all have a morning slot with P7 having exclusive use in the afternoon.

All children can come 'dressed down' for these days 😊

P7 End of Term Activities

Primary 7 are busy putting together their end of term leavers assembly which will be shared with the whole school on the last day of term. We will ensure all parents have access to this virtually via vimeo on this day as well. They are also planning a variety of activities throughout their last week which will include a trip to

the park, pizza party lunch, an end of term fun day with exclusive use of the inflatables and a movie afternoon.

Contact with School

In line with our risk assessment, please note that no adults other than school staff or other essential staff are permitted into the school building. If you need to contact the school office, please do so via email to stmatthews_ps@midlothian.gov.uk. Please see above re emergency phone calls to the school. To report a pupil absence, please continue to use the messaging service provided via the school phone.

Class Updates

Instead of a monthly newsletter, classes will now share what they plan on teaching each week to help to support conversations at home and better inform parents of what their children are learning.

P1-3:

This week we had a fantastic time at sports day. Although the weather was a little wet in the morning we managed to get round all of our activities and have some races too. Everyone worked well in their house teams and show great sportsmanship. There are lots of videos on seesaw for parents/carers to watch too. We have also released our butterflies into the world this week. P1/3 were sad to see them go as they have become such a loved part of our classroom over the past few weeks but it was time to let them go out and make new homes. We were very excited to see them fly off into the sky and there is a video on Seesaw where you can see the moment we let them out. This week we have also started some end of term assessments to help us assess where our pupils are and what our next steps are. Some of these will continue into next week too.

Next week we will finish our learning about the lifecycle of a butterfly as we have now released them however we will continue our learning and will be moving onto the next part of our Minibeasts topic. In literacy each group will get a new reading book to take home and we will continue to focus on our set 2 and 3 sounds. We will also continue to practise our sounds in spelling patterns throughout the week and we'll have a little quiz on Friday morning to see if our hard work has paid off and we can remember our words. In numeracy we are going to have a fractions focus week to build up our knowledge and understanding of fractions. We have previously focused on fractions of shapes and are now continuing to learn about fractions of amounts or quantities.

P4-5:

Next week we will look back at the learning we have progressed with over the school year. As a class, we will be working through some end of year assessments, and will be writing about the achievements we feel we have made over P4/5, as well as setting ourselves targets for our next year of learning.

Alongside this, we will continue with our block on statistics within numeracy. Having revisited information handling, we will continue to conduct surveys and create bar charts with the data we collect.

In literacy, having just finished our block on biographies, we will begin to look at creating our own autobiographies, using all the skills we have developed over the year.

P6-7:

This week we have started a new novel study. The book is called Number The Stars and is set in Copenhagen during the Nazi occupation. We are learning about what life was like during the war for children and for Jewish people. The setting of the book also links to our Social Studies topic.

In Numeracy we have been continuing our work on data handling and have learned about Carroll diagrams. We will continue to focus on data handling in the coming weeks, linking it to other areas of Numeracy. We will continue to work on our times tables on Friday mornings.

In Health & Wellbeing we learned about safe and responsible use of the internet. This is a topic that we will discuss further in the next few weeks. We also had a great time at Sports Day on Tuesday. Everyone tried their best and managed to earn plenty of points for their houses.

We would like to thank you once again for your continued support. We will keep you updated with any further information via our usual channels of communication.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A Chidgey".

Anna Chidgey
Headteacher

