



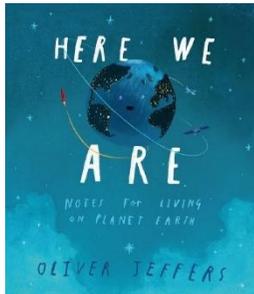
St Matthew's Church of England Primary School

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

News from St Matthew's

Autumn Term 2020

'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers



The whole school completed a special unit of work during the first two weeks of term using this book. It helped us to talk about issues arising from coronavirus and reminded us of the importance of working together as a community.



Goodbye Year 6

We bought personalised hoodies for all the children who left Year 6 in July. Mr Gates and Mrs Cameron delivered them to their homes and were pleased to hear that they have made a good start at high school.



Oracy

Oracy is a whole school priority this year. The children are developing their speaking and listening skills in lessons and every Thursday each key stage has a special Oracy assembly.



Miss Moss, a member of staff that many of you know and love, is now our new Family Support Worker.



Staff changes

Miss Emery has settled in well at her new school in Hertfordshire.

Miss Wilkinson joined us to teach in Year 1. She is a former St Matthew's pupil and also did her training with us.



We donated 1,364 books to a school in Ghana which is being supported by the charity **Futurestars**. We also donated some goal posts which we cannot use because we don't have a field!
This charity combines sport with learning.



Children's University

We successfully relaunched the Children's University in October, with 55 pupils from across the school signing up to take part. They are enjoying a range of fun learning activities at home and we have received positive feedback from many parents.



Wellbeing Award for Schools

Wellbeing has been a priority at St Matthew's for some time. We are currently working towards achieving the Wellbeing Award for Schools in recognition of the support we offer to pupils, parents and staff.

Here are some of the comments from our survey...

Pupils

"We get to talk to people at school. When we're not happy the teachers know. I can talk to my teacher or TA if I'm worried. Miss Moss (FSW) and Josh (Chaplain) are there too."

Parents

"My son is happy every day and he goes to school with a smile on his face. He enjoys lessons." "The teachers have a wonderful disposition which is evident in discussions with them."

Staff

"We are a caring team who value all children and adults in school."

"The whole school is very good at making everyone feel part of a team. The team looks out for each other and always offers to help where and when needed. The culture of the school is very focused on all aspects of wellbeing in this respect."



The Big Anti-Bullying Assembly 2020

We enjoyed watching this assembly and spent time thinking about who we could talk to if we were being bullied.



Police Project in Year 6

As part of PSHE lessons, Year 6 are regularly visited by two local police officers to discuss issues such as online safety, gangs and county lines.



Talented Photographer

Congratulations to Khamanai, one of our Year 6 pupils, who had his amazing photography featured on the Ipswich Star Website.

<https://www.ipswichstar.co.uk/news/nacton-shcoolboy-khamanai-fox-de-silva-moon-wildlife-photography-1-6888273>



Well done
Khamanai

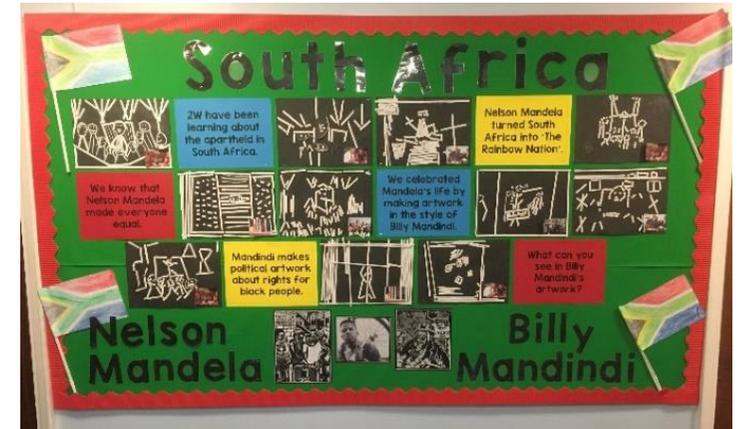


Black History Month

We celebrated Black History Month through Collective Worship, English, History and PSHE lessons.

We created displays to share information about key black people who have made a difference to society.

Daily ClassDojo posts were sent to parents, providing information about significant individuals for them to share with their children at home.



We retained the School Games Mark for another year.



We are participating in a virtual Cross Country Running competition with other schools in the area.

We were given the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk Award in recognition of our efforts during the pandemic.



We also achieved the Intermediate level of the International School Award.



Jigsaw – PSHE Scheme of Work

In September we introduced a new scheme of work for PSHE and RSE, following full consultation with parents and governors. This covers all statutory guidance and offers a cohesive approach across the whole school.

Half termly themes are introduced through Collective Worship and followed up in subsequent lessons in class.

Every year group compiles a PSHE scrapbook to show what we have been learning. We also share things with parents on ClassDojo.



Following COVID guidelines / HSE

We are continuing to implement all the government's recommendations regarding COVID. A representative from the Health and Safety Executive visited us on 22nd October and was satisfied that we were doing all we can to keep pupils and staff as safe as possible.



Science Day

On 13th October we were visited by a Scientist called Jackson Kavanagh. We went over to the church and he talked to us about several black scientists who have made important contributions to society. What do you know about them?



Dr Charles Richard Drew



Mae Jemison



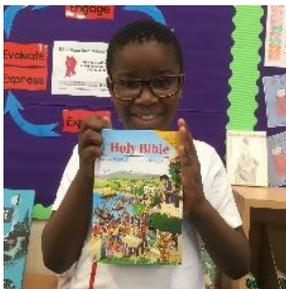
Elijah McCoy

We have been working hard to catch up with learning that was missed during lockdown. However, our curriculum has remained broad, balanced and creative.



Church School Council

The Church School Council is up and running and helped lead the Harvest Service via Zoom.



All seven members meet regularly with the RE Leader to look at our scrapbooks and discuss RE lessons.

Community

We thought about the importance of community during Collective Worship



Josh and Mirin, our Chaplains, lead the TLG coaching programme at St Matthew's, which links church volunteers with individual pupils in school

St Matthew's Church Pop Up Shop

We are working with St Matthew's Church to support a 'Community Pop Up Shop'. This is a type of food bank and helps those members of our school in need.



Harvest Appeal for FIND



Children in Need



Remembrance Day



Some classes celebrated Diwali, by dressing up, making lamps, exploring rangoli designs and henna patterns.



Evan and Veronica won a competition to design our school Christmas postcards. The cards were sent out to colleagues and friends.



We recorded another Christmas song written by Mr Warren and made an accompanying video. Look out for it on our YouTube channel soon.

We also entered the Diocesan Christmas banner competition.



Ipswich Star didn't produce the *First Class Supplement* this year, but we still took these lovely pictures of our new Reception children and shared them with the parents.

Bumblebees



Ladybirds

