



St Matthew's Friday Feature



Friday 14th October 2022

Black History Month



"On Wednesday, 12th October 2022, we had some visitors (Heather and Qamar) visit our school to help us to learn more about Afro-Caribbean Celebration Month.

Heather shared with us her experience of her life in Jamaica before being part of the Commonwealth and told us of her difficulty of getting a job due to discrimination. We also explored timelines and looked at the first monarch who created the Commonwealth and the monarchs following. The Commonwealth has 56 countries and is a group of countries supporting democracy, human right and rule of law.

As soon as our visitors started talking, we were all engaged and memorised by what they had to say. We learnt that every two years there is a conference between all the Commonwealth countries and every four years the Commonwealth games are

held. They were also impressed with our knowledge of the different continents of the world as they talked us through different countries. We learnt about abdication and the meaning of the word abolished.

At the end of the session, they showed us lots of musical instruments - one of which was a didgeridoo. Did you know that you have to train to play the didgeridoo because you need to have strong tongue, jaws and cheek muscles?" By 6KS



10 by 10 and Swimming

As part of Telford & Wrekin Council's 10 by 10 campaign, which encourages children to try ten activities that will help them to discover new talents and opportunities before the age of ten, a new free swimming lessons offer has been launched.

The latest to be launched is a funded programme giving the opportunity for children to learn to swim. Children, resident in the borough and who are aged between five and 10 years and unable to swim 10 meters on their front and back, will be eligible for a free block of lessons (up to 13 lessons).

This offer will be available over the next two years and will be delivered through the council's Swim4Life programme. The lessons will be delivered across the four pools in the borough; Abraham Darby Sports and Leisure Centre, Newport Swimming and Fitness Centre, Oakengates Leisure Centre and Wellington Civic and Leisure Centre.

Parents interested in finding out more about the offer do so on the [10 by 10 website](#).

Applying for Reception and Year 7 School Places

The portal is now open for parents to apply for a school place in either Reception or Year 7 for September 2023.

The closing date for Reception places (born between 1.9.18 and 31.8.19) is the 15th January 2023

The closing date for Year 7 places (born between 1.9.11 and 31.8.12) is the 31st October 2022.

More information on applying for a place can be found on the Telford and Wrekin website

https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20026/school_admissions/3247/applying_for_a_school_place

School Dinners

Unfortunately our dinner till is still not working. Telford and Wrekin Council are working to try and rectify this problem.

However we are aware that not much dinner money is being brought in. If you know your child is having a school dinner please can you ensure that you send them in with payment.

We anticipate that once the till is working it is going to show a huge debt where parents have not been paying and we do not want you to be in the position of having to repay a lot of money all at once.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Well Done

Well done to Max who attending a swimming gala in Worcester recently. He achieved Bronze in 50m breaststroke, Bronze in 500m freestyle and Silver in the 100m individual medley. Brilliant work Max!



Uniform

We have noticed a lot of children not in correct uniform or wearing the correct footwear.

Over the next few weeks we will be checking uniform and sending letters home where necessary for uniform to be corrected.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Charity

Also This year, on Wednesday 19th October, we will be hosting a charity event at school where our children and parents can come and find out more about the charities we support in school.

As part of our Harvest Festival celebrations we are asking for donations of food that will be handed to Telford Crisis Support at this event.

Dates for your Diary

- 19 October - Charity event
- 24 to 28 October - Half Term
- 2 November - Photos of children Who missed last session
- 14 December - Whole school flu Vaccinations
- 19 December to 2 January - Christmas Break
- 3 January - PD Day
- 20 to 24 February - Half term
- 3 to 14 April - Easter break
- 26 to 27 April - Year 2 Kingswood
- 29 May to 2 June - Half term
- 5 June - PD Day
- 7 to 9 June - Year 6 Arthog

Commando Joe

Courage	Brandon
Compassion	Kai
Generosity	Austin
Truthfulness	Robert