

Matthew's C.E (Aided) Primary School and Nursery Centre



'I can do all things because Christ gives me strength' Philippians 4:13

Friday Feature: 28th March 2025

This half-term we are focusing on the Christian Value of Justice



'Learn to do right. Seek justice.' Isaiah 1.17

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a wonderful week. Some of our children attended Experience Easter and other children represented the school at Telford Sings. Our children were amazing role-models and ambassadors—we are very proud of all of them. Please see below for write-ups from the children.

'On Tuesday we had a wonderful time at St Matthew's Church for Experience Easter.

Firstly, we sat down in the pews with the rest of our classmates and admired the beautiful church.

Then the vicar talked to us about Lent and the Easter story. Mrs Barfield, our teacher, formed us into groups of 6. The first station our group visited was about the Last Supper. We drank blackcurrant to represent wine and we ate bread to represent Jesus' body.

Secondly, we went to learn about The Garden of Gethsemane and how Jesus prayed but the disciples fell asleep. On the 3rd station we learned about Palm Sunday and how the people of Jerusalem welcomed Jesus by waving palm leaves. At station 4 we learned about Jesus washing the disciples' feet and why Peter refused. Finally, at station 5 we learned about Jesus' crucifixion outside the walls of Jerusalem.

The vicar told us a story of when he went to Jerusalem and then finished with a prayer and a blessing.

We would like to thank all of the volunteers who made Experience Easter such a wonderful event for us.' by Ryan E and Summer (St Thomas More)

We received the following message from one of our Governors who attended the Experience Church visit this week :

'Please could you extend my thanks to the staff and pupils of the year 5 / 6 class who I joined at St Matthew's Church this morning for their Experience Easter session. The children were a credit to you all; so well behaved and polite. It was lovely to see how they respond to being in Church, and how kindly they interact with the volunteers, as well as what a strong background knowledge many of the children have about Holy Week, Lent and Easter.

I will report back in our next Governors meeting too regarding how well the event went.'



Weekly prayer



Dear God,

Thank you for all of the food and water.
Thank you for the animals and lovely nature.
Thank you for the sea and the sky with all the clouds, rain and creatures.
Thank you for our lovely, kind and caring friends and family.
We are forever grateful.

Amen. 34 St Sophia

Pupils of the Week

Nursery	David
R St Francis	Kobi
R/1: St Teresa	Gurkirat
1/2: St Nicholas	Malia
2: St Joseph	Victoria
3: St Cecilia	Alicja
3/4: St Sophia	Daniel
4/5: St Kateri	Bonnie
5/6: St Thomas	Jacob
6: St Padre	Esme



Readers of the Week



R :St Francis	Fechi
R/1: St Teresa	George
1/2: St Nicholas	Miller
2: St Joseph	Milana and Freya
3: St Cecilia	Nyah-Rae
3/4: St Sophia	Moisey
4/5: St Kateri	Misha
5/6: St Thomas	Samuel L
6 St Padre	Blake

Attendance Award



This week the attendance award has gone to 56 St Thomas More



Telford Sings

"Firstly, at 3:15 pm we went out of school onto the coach to go to Charlton school. It took us around 15 minutes to get there. When we got there we went into the room that we were going to perform in and started rehearsing, we also had to learn a new song called Mr Miller. Mrs Wilson had bought some Union Jack flags so that we could wave them during that song.

Secondly, we went to a classroom so that we could eat our meal. After we ate our meal, we went to the place where we originally did our rehearsal.

All our parents and family were waiting for us to sing. We sang : Janie mama , there was an old woman , Mr Miller, I just got to sing , eye of the tiger , fire and Laura .

We had a fantastic time and everyone commented on how beautiful our singing was and how amazingly mature we all were".

Future Dates

Wednesday 2nd April	Autism Awareness Day—wear blue And £1 donation
8th and 9th April	Parents Evenings
Friday 11th April	Break up for Easter
Monday 28th April	Back to school
Monday 5th May	Bank holiday
Friday 23rd May	Break up for half term
Monday 2nd June	PD Day
Tuesday 3rd June	Back to school
Friday 18th July	Break up for summer



World Autism Awareness Day

2nd April 2025



On **Wednesday 2nd April** it is **World Autism Awareness Day** and St Matthews are celebrating. We would like the children to **dress up in blue** and **donate £1** towards supporting children with Autism.

The children will be learning about what Autism, what it is like for children with Autism and how we can support those we know.

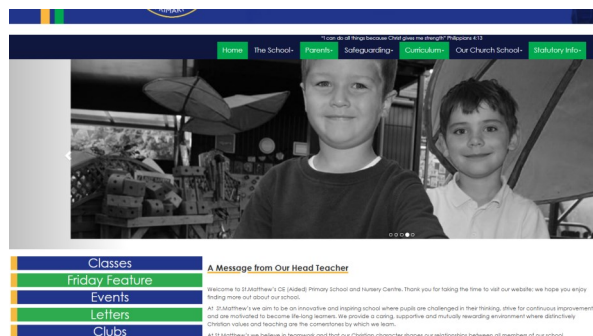
Thank you







Class overviews

On the parent survey you stated that you would like to know more about the what the children are learning in school. Please see our school website where there are half-termly overviews from each class.

The website is at: <https://www.stmatthewscofe.com/>

Please go to the left hand side where the tab **classes** can be found. You can then click on your child's class and find the overview.



Science	RE	Maths
<p>As Scientists, we will...</p> <p>Carrying out a variety of experiments including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> measure which material was the most waterproof observe when in which change occurs in the natural world. find which material will protect an egg from breaking. find which material is the most absorbent. investigate how different materials can be magnetised. 	<p>For spiritual and moral development, we will...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know that faith is about having trust and confidence and may include holding a strong belief in the teaching of a religion. Explain how faith made a difference in the lives of those people explored, and could still make a difference to people today. Retell the story of one person who was motivated by faith. Talk about the name of the school or parish church. When named after a particular saint, read their story and how their faith inspired others. Discuss examples of people in the local community who work to help others because of their own personal faith. 	<p>As mathematicians, we will look at...</p> <p>Measurements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know the relationship between units of measure for length, mass and capacity. Know how temperature is measured. 
<p>Wiring</p> <p>Test, trace and label the 'Tunnel by Anthony Browne. We will only read the story, write setting and character descriptions then read the story from their book perspective.</p>  <p>The Tunnel</p>	<p>Grammar and punctuation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subordinating and co-ordinating conjunctions Capital letters, finger spaces, question marks and exclamation marks. Adjectives for expanded noun phrases Spelling, i.e. ment, 3rd, 4th Using apostrophes for possession and contraction. 	<p>Reading</p> <p>In reading we will be reading a selection of different texts including 'The Tunnel' and focusing on the SPiRKS Vocabulary ladder</p> <p>Predict Explain Retrieve Summarise</p> 
<p>ICT</p> <p>As design technologists, we will...</p>	<p>Music</p> <p>This unit explores beat and rhythm work using crochets and squares. Beginning with on-the-spot actions, followed by stepping the duration, rock notation is introduced and pupils go on to create their own 4-beat patterns, which they will loop creating an accompaniment to perform the rap to.</p>	<p>Geography</p> <p>As geographers we will...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> name 5 of the four countries that make up the UK. name the four capital cities of the UK. locate the UK on a map of the world. name 5 of some famous landmarks in the UK. Name 5 of some of the cities in the UK and draw they live close to. Name the four parts of a compass. Name 5 of some of the rivers and mountains of the UK. 
<p>Computing</p> <p>As computing scientists we will...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collecting data in tally charts and using attributes to organize and present data on a computer 	<p>PE</p> <p>As dancers, gymnasts, athletes, players and owners we will...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn multi-skills dance 	

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-18 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18
CENSORED

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact with strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app; it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people; compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 100 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 102 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the "TikTok Now" feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-18s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs: increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



National
Online
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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