

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

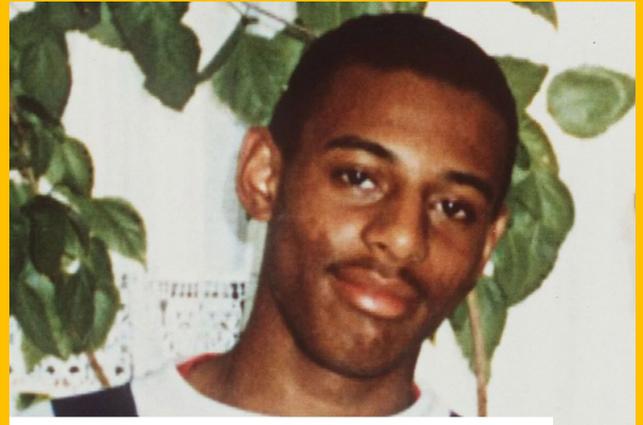
And so, perhaps quicker than any academic year before, we have arrived at the Summer term. As the nights begin to draw out and the temperature warms, we return to school with renewed positivity and optimism about the months that lie ahead. Not least because of the welcome news we are receiving on an almost daily basis about the progress of the national vaccination programme and the successful impact of the measures we have all committed to living under throughout the winter.

Significant challenges both at school and in wider society lay ahead but with those challenges come renewed opportunity and new possibilities. For some, the Summer term brings with it the excitement of transition from Primary to Secondary or from Secondary to college or sixth form. For all of us though, children and adults included, the term also offers us the chance to meet aims and achieve long held goals that we have been working towards.

And so, as the weather continues to warm and society continues to open up, let us continue to maintain our focus on what we set out to achieve all those months ago in September. Let us continue to strive for excellent performance and outcomes and continue to nurture the relationships that have contributed to our shared successes so far this year. Like a long distance runner on the home stretch, we can begin to see the end in sight but to maximise the rewards to come from the effort we have made earlier in the race, we must ensure that our focus and determination remain clear and that we pace ourselves for the final sprint, motivated by the end of one part of our journey and the beginning of the next.

Adam Kohlbeck
Assistant Headteacher (Primary phase)

Prayer and Reflection



A Prayer for Stephen Lawrence Day

God of change and transformation

As we remember our brother,

Stephen Lawrence,

may his legacy inspire

our communities

our institutions

our selves

to be the change

to be the love

to be the people

you create us to be.

Amen.

We remember Stephen Lawrence this week as the 22nd April marked the third annual Stephen Lawrence Day and we continue to pray for all those who work to combat racism and build a just society.

Whole Academy News

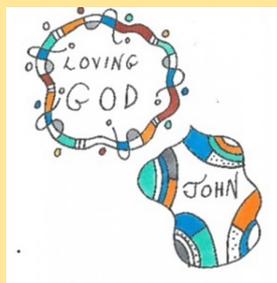
Celebrating Easter as a community

“Each day we have to decide whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders ... Will we bend down and help another get up? “

On Wednesday 30th March the whole school community came together ‘virtually’ to celebrate our Easter Liturgy during Holy Week. We are not yet all able to assemble together physically but we are still very much able to share in prayer and liturgy together. In a year when ‘bubbles’ have been so important we have tried even harder to ensure that our celebrations include pupils from across the primary and secondary phases.



Year 3 started our Easter Liturgy by singing ‘Shine Jesus Shine’ with great enthusiasm. Our prayers and readings and reflection were led by pupils in Year 6 and Year 9 and by Ms Toprak, Ms Eduvie and Mrs Guest.



During our period of reflection pupils across the academy were asked to take the time to ‘pray in colour’ on the prayer cards that had been distributed to classes. They did this whilst listening to ‘On Eagles’s Wings’ which was accompanied by a beautiful illustration drawn by Hanako in Year 8.



Shameema (Y8), Edibeth (Y9) and Lilia (Y9) sang ‘Be Still for the Presence of the Lord’ before our final prayers .



*BE STILL IN
THE PRESENCE
OF THE LORD,
AND WAIT
PATIENTLY FOR
HIM TO ACT...*

PSALM 37:7 NLT

Primary Easter Celebrations

The primary phase celebrated Easter this year by watching a special performance of the Passion. This play tells the story of Holy Week, from Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, the last supper, Jesus' last day with the disciples and to his death on Good Friday.

The play was performed by some of the Year 6 children including Maria, Fodun, Abraham, Sariah, Glory and Dammy, with narration of the story by the Light Bearers.

Each class had prepared a display board, with their own interpretation of one of the Stations of the Cross which tell the story of Jesus' journey on Good Friday. A great deal of thought and time went into the making of the boards, each one being original and reflective of the children in the class. Each class was then able to visit the Stations and with help from Kiarna, Nana, Naylah, Jay-Sean, Romario, John, Jai, Diya, Taurez, Sheena, Derek, Matthew, Rayyan, and Kaylen in Year 6, to pray the Stations of the Cross.

SMA Stations of the Cross



Every class had the opportunity to participate in a variety of Easter activities from making prayer lanterns and Easter cards to chocolate Easter nests. Everyone really enjoyed taking part. The Easter Bonnet parade was a great success with every child participating and some amazing designs across the year groups. Prizes were awarded in each class for innovative designs but all the children made a great effort and many more deserved prizes!

Making Easter biscuits



Easter bonnet winners



Charity News

Lenten Fundraising!

We are very proud to have raised **£939.43** through our 'Walk for Water' campaign, Easter Egg raffles, Krispy Kreme doughnut sale, Easter biscuit decorating and Trainer Day for CAFOD and the Catholic Children's Society!

We would like to thank all of our families, staff and pupils for helping us achieve this fantastic amount! Families and staff for encouraging the pupils to participate, and for supporting the fundraising events, staff for donating eggs for the raffle and pupils for selling raffle tickets, Krispy Kreme doughnuts and participating in the events. It was fantastic to see an array of trainers in a number of colours being worn to support CAFOD and the Catholic Children's Society in the secondary phase on the last day of term and we know that pupils in the primary phase thoroughly enjoyed their Easter activities including biscuit decorating as part of their fundraising on the last day. Pupils at St Matthew Academy have really demonstrated that they know how important it is to be of service to others through their fundraising this Lent.

We also know that next time we will need to order more Krispy Kreme doughnuts as they sold out at lightning speed this time around!





Get your child's voice heard and make a difference

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, is launching a once-in-a-generation review of children's lives.

It's called 'The Childhood Commission' and it will identify the barriers preventing children reaching their full potential and propose policy solutions to address them.

At its heart is 'The Big Ask' – the largest ever consultation held with children.

In this survey the Children's Commissioner is asking children and young people what they think is important for their future and what is holding young people back. The Children's Commissioner will use what children and young people tell her to show the Government what they think and what they need to live happier lives.

It's an exciting opportunity to help us think big and it's a chance for every child in England to have their voice heard.

The survey opened on 19th April and ends on the 19th May. We will be inviting all pupils to take part in the survey in school over the next couple of weeks. If you would like to find out more about the survey please click on the link below.

[Find out more and take part](#)

What to ask kids instead of "How was your day?"

Instead of:

What did you learn at school?

Instead of:

What did you do today?

Try this:

Did you enjoy art or science more today? Why?

Try this:

I love hearing about your school day.

When questions are broad, it's easy for a child to feel unsure of how to answer. Being specific facilitates a detailed response and opens the door for further discussion.

Sometimes questions are overwhelming. Just letting your child know that you're interested, gives them permission to share when they are ready.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental Health
Awareness Week
10-16 May 2021



During Mental Health Awareness Week 2021 the Mental Health Foundation is asking us to

- **Experience nature:** take time to recognise and grow your connection with nature during the week. Take a moment to notice and celebrate nature in your daily life. You might be surprised by what you notice!
- **Share nature:** Take a photo, video or sound recording and share the connections you've made during the week, to inspire others. Join the discussion on how you're connecting with nature by using the hashtags #ConnectWithNature #MentalHealthAwarenessWeek
- **Talk about nature:** use our tips, school packs, research and policy guides to discuss in your family, school, workplace and community how you can help encourage people to find new ways to connect with nature in your local environment.

At St Matthew Academy we will be leading assemblies, and encouraging our pupils to 'Connect with Nature' that week and sharing how we are doing this on our Twitter pages.

What to ask kids instead of "How was your day?"

Instead of:

☘ Did you have a good day?

Instead of:

☘ Did you eat your lunch?

Try this:

☘ What did you do that made someone smile today?

Try this:

☘ Who did you sit by at lunch today?

◆ Show your kids that school isn't just about academics. Kindness matters. ◆

◆ Allowing your child to discuss friends they may have a hard time getting along with, opens opportunities to discuss how others make them feel. ◆

House News



Overall:

1st Romero 1016 pts
2nd Teresa 1000 pts
3rd Mandela 752 pts

Achievement Points WB 29th March

1st Romero 1301 (10 pts)
2nd Teresa 1275 (5 pts)
3rd Mandela 1121 (3 pts)

Attendance WB 29th March

1st Teresa 92% (10 pts)
2nd Romero 91.5% (5 pts)
3rd Mandela 90% (3 pts)

Catholic World News

Pope Francis Prayer Request for April

Pope Francis' prayer request for April is for Fundamental Rights: We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

The month of April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit. The first 3 days fall in Lent and the liturgical colour remains purple. The remainder of the month of April falls in the Easter season which is represented by the liturgical colour of white.



Engineering Careers Event

Wednesday 28 April 2021
4.45pm to 5.45pm at CTK Emmanuel

Visit ctkemmanuel.ac.uk
to book your place



- Discover diverse engineering career routes and specialisms
- Hear from existing students and staff about their course and work placement
- Take a video tour of our state-of-the-art facilities
- Learn about our 45-day work placements with employers
- Understand the engineering study options at CTK and beyond
- Ask any questions you may have

DID YOU KNOW?

The average salary for an Electrical Engineer is **£52,000** per year, which is **76% higher** than the UK's national average salary.*

WHERE DO ENGINEERS WORK?

Engineers build skyscrapers, create robots and robotic systems, design and test mechanics, design and supervise large construction projects and invent and change ways of working in the world.

Did you know that all the big tech companies like Facebook, TikTok and YouTube are constantly recruiting engineers to keep their platforms running smoothly?

Engineers are at the forefront of the world's future, whether that means working in health and medicine as a bio engineer, in robotics or artificial intelligence, in the RAF or aviation engineering, discovering the next carbon neutral technology, working in oil or gas around the world, or joining a tech start up in cloud solutions and software.

FAMOUS ENGINEERS • Jeff Bezos (Amazon Founder) • Christina Koch (NASA Astronaut) • Sundar Pichai (Google CEO) • Mary Barra (CEO, General Motors) • Kimberly Bryant (CEO, Black Girls CODE)



→ You can study engineering at all levels, progressing to full-time Russell Group universities or apprenticeships.

Engineering Careers

- Software Engineer
- Biotech Engineer
- Chemical Engineer
- Electrical Engineer
- Electronic Engineer
- Mechanical Engineer
- Civil Engineer
- Environmental Engineer
- Marine Engineer
- Bio Engineer
- IT Engineer
- Aviation Engineer



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www.ctkemmanuel.ac.uk





Ideas TO CONNECT with your "CHILD"

 Big Life Journal

- Talk about when they were small
- Create a new recipe
- Make a Big Life Board**
- Make paper airplanes
- Play "Gratitude Alphabet Game"**
- Go on a special date
- Take a yoga class together
- Play "Let's Chat" discovery game**
- Play a new board game
- Make a fort
- Make affirmation bracelets**
- Camp in your garden
- Play "My Nature Adventures Bingo"**
- Create a family manifesto
- Make homemade ice lollies
- Work on a jigsaw
- Find animals in the clouds
- Build a Brain Poster**
- Go on a twalk (walk + talk)
- Play charades
- Play "Toss & Talk" ball game**
- Make pizza
- Watch old family videos
- Fly a kite
- Play "Reading Bingo"**
- Blow "Self-Love & Gratitude Bubbles"**
- Cuddle and chat
- Learn a magic trick
- Paint positive words on rocks
- Create "My Big Life Bucket List"**
- Make "Love & Connection Cube"**
- Play in the rain
- Create your song list
- Learn how to jump rope
- Plan a holiday together
- Make a time capsule
- Start a new family ritual
- Go berry picking
- Make "My Special Memories Tree"**
- Make a bird feeder
- Draw family portraits
- Have breakfast for dinner
- Have a Big Life karaoke party**
- Learn to skip stones
- Have a pyjama day
- Go for a bike ride
- Go for a scenic drive
- Create an obstacle course**
- Have an "un-birthday" party
- Colour inspiring messages**

The printable kits are available at biglifejournal.com

● Growth Mindset Printables Kit
● Resilience Kit

● Growth Mindset Activity Kit
● Self-Esteem & Confidence Kit

Safeguarding our pupils at St Matthew Academy

At St Matthew Academy our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mr Young supported by Mrs Wickliffe (secondary) and Ms Chick (primary), and our Child Protection Officer is Mrs Laker. Pupils can contact any of our Safeguarding Team during the school day.

Worried about a child?

You can phone or write to MASH about your concerns. Phone immediately if you believe it is urgent.

- Lewisham MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) **020 8314 6660**
- Or call **999** or **101** if you believe a child is in immediate danger
- Childline **0800 11 11** www.childline.org.uk
- NSPCC **0808 800 5000** www.nspcc.org.uk

Term Dates

Summer Term 20/21

Monday 19 April 2021 to Friday 28 May 2021

Half Term: Monday 31 May 2021 to Friday 4 June 2021

Monday 7 June 2021 to Wednesday 21 July 2021

Autumn Term 21/22

Friday 3 September 2020 to Friday 22 October 2021

Half Term: Monday 25 October 2020 to Friday 29 October 2021

Monday 1 November to Friday 17 December 2021

Spring Term 21/22

Tuesday 4 January 2022 to Friday 11 February 2022

Half Term: Monday 14 February 2022 to Friday 18 February 2022

Monday 21 February 2022 to Friday 1 April 2022

If you have any comments, queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Tel: 020 8853 6250