

## Virtual School News

Issue 7

Friday 22nd

### Key points

- It was national 'Thank a Teacher Day' this week - see P.2 for more info!
- Do you have a hidden talent or secret skill? If so, we want you to take part in SMA's Got Talent! See P.14 for more info
- This week's fitness challenge is set by Y7 pupil Andrew - check out P.12 where he gives Mr Saunders and the PE team a run for their money!

## Another half term complete!

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Governors and Friends of SMA,

So here we are, nearing the end of May 2020 and what a few months it's been. However, each week it has been a real pleasure to read the weekly newsletter and catch up on all the fabulous achievements of our pupils. It gives a real sense of the very special community that has been nurtured here at SMA – of which I am so proud.

I want to take this opportunity to first thank our parents and carers. We know for many of you it has been a challenging time: isolation, working from home, home schooling, redundancy, furlough and illness, but during this time you have shown resilience, you have offered your help to other members of the community, found teaching skills you never knew you had, stayed in contact with us and sent us some fantastic emails and videos, and we've had some great phone calls.

I also want to thank our staff. They have done the most amazing job working from home in a new virtual world, many teaching their own children alongside learning new skills as 'remote learning' teachers. I am so, so proud of them. Every school day, week after week they have produced a first class package of learning for our children, produced videos for their pupils, replied to numerous emails, spoken to you and /or your child on the phone, visited pupils in their homes, provided emotional support, celebrated and showcased pupils work, run our provision for critical worker children, continued with their professional development, revised planning for Curriculum 2020, and supported me and each other – the list is endless. You may say that is their job, and to an extent I agree, but the manner in which they've done it has been above and beyond. We also have to remember that many of our staff have been dealing with their own issues: home-schooling their own children, postponing weddings, partners on furlough, reduced incomes or redundancy, isolation from partners or serious illness in their own family. However, from the positivity of their daily interactions and the emotional support they have given to children and parents, you wouldn't know the personal challenges they have faced. I am in awe of them.

Lastly I want to say how much we have all missed seeing our pupils and we can't wait to welcome some of them back after half term. Both secondary and primary parents have received letters today detailing the arrangements for their children and we hope that parents will be fully confident that the measures we are putting in place will ensure their child can return to a safe and secure environment.

With best wishes,  
Miranda Baldwin on behalf of the staff at SMA

## 3 Key things we have learnt so far...

### 1. The SMA community is generous

We are so thankful for all the donations we have received for our appeal to raise money for devices for our pupils. We are nearly at the £5000 mark now with so many more pupils online and learning. If you wish to donate click here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/computers-for-pupils>

### 2. Pupil voice is vital!

We are asking pupils to complete a survey for the Academy Council - click on this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/G97LSH2> and have your say!

### 3. SMA teachers are missing their pupils

Teachers continue to do their best to ensure that our pupils do not miss out on their education - we're desperate for school life to resume so we can carry on achieving success together.

# National 'Thank a Teacher' Day!

We say thank you to all of our wonderful teachers at St Matthew Academy and celebrate them on Wednesday 20th May.

Wednesday was a big day for teachers across Britain – the annual 'National Thank a Teacher Day' this year was like no other. Despite the lockdown, teachers in every school in the land have continued to work hard to ensure that they are staying in touch with the pupils they teach by email; through learning platforms like Google Classroom and by phone, to catch up on how everyone is coping in such difficult circumstances.



As you all know, teachers work hard all year but this year teachers have had to work in a whole new way to make sure pupils are getting the brain food they need. Covid-19 has brought about a lot of changes and teachers have been part of that too, bringing lessons into pupils' homes as well as being at school to work with the children of our community's key workers.

If you haven't yet been able to say thank you to your teachers, perhaps you would like to send in a message to the next edition of the SMA Newsletter? If you would like to, it would be great to hear how your teachers have been supporting you over the last few weeks. Look out next week to see if your 'thank you' has made it in.



## What have Y11 been up to?

Whilst we may have waved goodbye to our Y11 pupils in March, they are still very much part of our school community and we have been keeping in touch with them all via Google Classroom. Ms Migon and the team have been keeping them busy with post-16 activities to get them college ready for September.



Ms Migon posted an assembly in each of the Y11 Google Classroom's this week keeping them up-to-date with information about SMA's Got Talent, college destination data; CTK virtual free A-level classes; and of course exciting news about leavers' hoodies and of the Y11 year book!

Look out for the survey coming round where you can vote for colour of hoody you want and the categories to go into the year book. Who will win best bromance? Who will be class clown?



### Transition to Post-16:

In each of the Y11 Google Classrooms you will find the links to A-Level reading lists, subject transition booklets and careers advice to ensure you are ready to hit the ground running when you start sixth form or college.

Have a look at the CTK Virtual Classrooms and scroll through to find the subjects you are interested in taking:

<https://www.ctk.ac.uk/year-11-virtual-school/>

Feeling anxious about how the lockdown will affect your learning and or need advice to stay productive? Join our free in, run by The Scheme, and



connect with other students to share advice and tips on everything to do with life in lockdown and taking your next steps. Every Thursday @ 3pm.

You can sign up through your Google Classroom if you haven't done so already.





## SECONDARY CHALLENGES

Miss Wright has picked Thalia in Y7 as the winner of the Textiles challenge:

“Well done, this demonstrates good use of found materials a fantastic effort shown with constructing two garments!”

### This week's challenge is from Design + Technology:

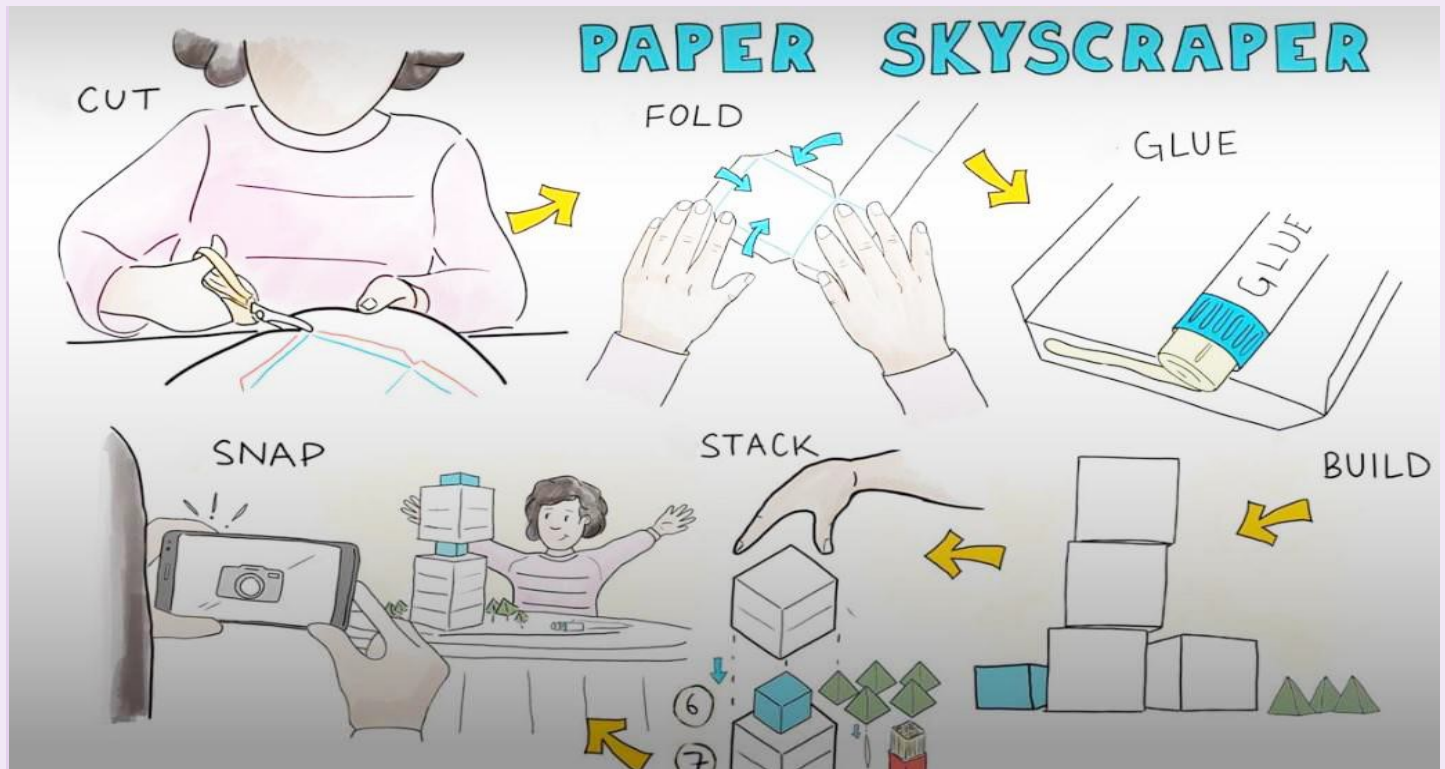
This week challenge is to build a mini architectural model made with paper skyscrapers. You will need:

- A4 paper
- Pencil and ruler or printer
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Colouring pens or pencils
- The stencil attached to this newsletter

See the next page for the instructions!



# MISSION: ~~IMPOSSIBLE~~



## Instructions:

1. Print or draw the solid objects in the document "Paper Skyscrapers - Print or Draw.pdf"
2. Colour the objects with architectural textures or fixtures
3. Cut along the red lines
4. Fold along the blue lines
5. Glue the flaps with the corresponding sides to create 3D blocks
6. Make multiple blocks with each template
7. Stack your blocks to create the skyscrapers
8. On a blank paper, draw a layout where you place the buildings
9. Take pictures and send to [fba@stmatthewacademy.co.uk](mailto:fba@stmatthewacademy.co.uk)







## Fancy an edible Half Term challenge? Then have a go at this MFL Cooking challenge:

Over half term, challenge yourself to cook either a **French Crêpe** or a **Spanish Tortilla**.

Try to follow a Youtube tutorial or online recipe in French/Spanish. Both dishes are **three ingredient recipes** (flour, milk & eggs for crêpes and potato, onions & eggs for tortillas).



Send in your photos or videos of you cooking to [aph@stmatthewacademy.co.uk](mailto:aph@stmatthewacademy.co.uk)  
and the winning dish will receive a prize!

# PRIMARY CHALLENGES:

## Observation Challenge:

**Can you find everything that is wrong in this picture?**



**To start you off I will say that the little girl is stirring her cup of tea with a knife!**

Send your answers to Ms O'Neill at  
[ron@stmatthewacademy.co.uk](mailto:ron@stmatthewacademy.co.uk)



## Secondary home learning roll of honour...

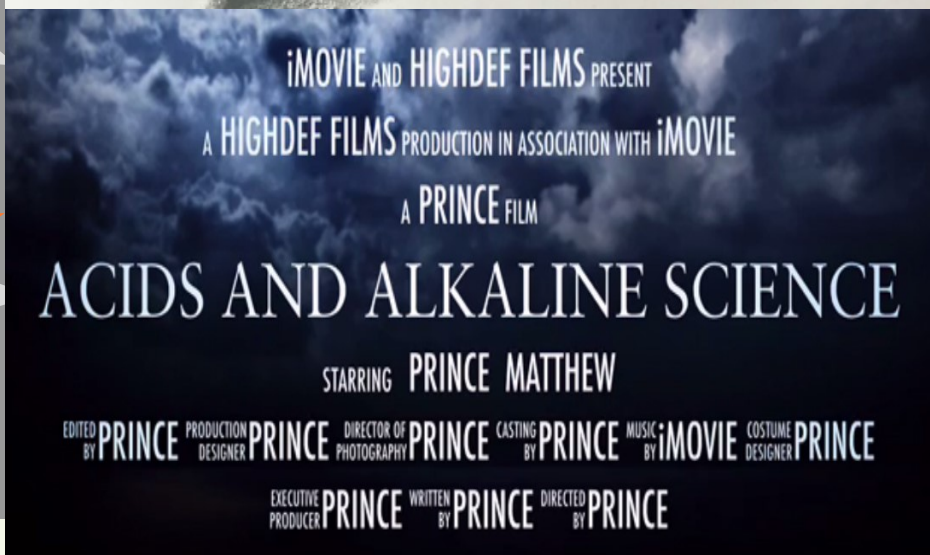
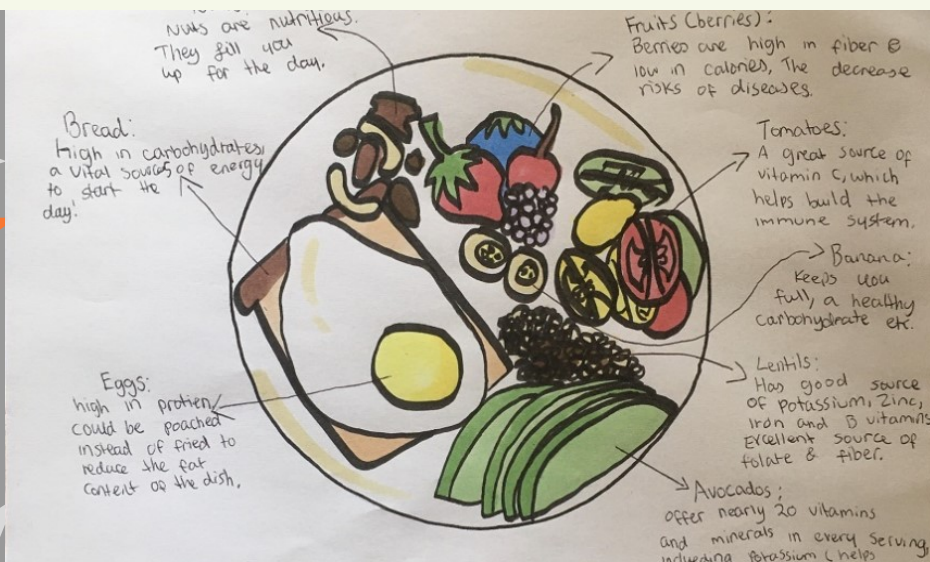
We are so proud of our pupils who have been working hard at home this week to produce amazing quality work. Thank you to our supportive parents who are managing home schooling. Send us snapshots of you working hard at home – we would love to include them!

Will you let your light shine and be awarded a shout out next week? Complete your online tasks and email your teacher any other work completed to make the roll call next week!

**Hanako Y7**  
**Textiles**

**Karen Y10**  
**Art**

**Prince Y7**  
**Science**





## Secondary home learning roll of honour...

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Will you let your light shine and be awarded a shout out next week? Complete your online tasks and email your teacher any other work completed to make the roll call next week!

**Carlos Y10**

**Photographer  
of the week**

**Humanities**

**Stars:**

### Geography Top 3 Seneca:

1. Kavin = 1425 correct answers
2. Vieric = 634 correct answers
3. Kristiana = 475 correct answers

### History Top 3 Seneca:

1. Rapolas = 598 correct answers
2. Tejeri = 411 correct answers
3. Harrison = 307 correct answers



A big well done to Finlay Jamieson, Joel Jeevaruban, Kavin Prekumar and Desree Eseoghene Akpodonor for completing outstanding projects looking at the climate and wildlife of Antarctica. All four put in an incredible amount of work, and really impressed your geography teachers with your geographical knowledge and independence skills!

# Secondary home learning roll of honour continued...

Well done to our top scorers in Hegarty Maths, This is Language, Duolingo, Seneca and Lexia this week. Congrats to our photographer of the week too! Will you make the roll of honour next week?



## St Matthew Academy Hegarty Maths Performance Monday 18th - Friday 22nd May 2020



Top 5 Hegarty Users in SMA		
Name	Year	Number of hours on hegarty
Leslie DAVIES	9	9.6
Akshayan PRABAKARAN	7	7.7
Essence AJALA	10	7.5
Bianca FRATTINI	9	6.4
Daniel BARCOO-JARMOLOVIC	7	6.4

Top 5 MEMRI Classes in SMA		
Name	Year	Number of hours on Memri
8e/Ma1	8	7.6
10ew/Ma1	10	6.9
10ew/Ma3	10	4.9
7e/Ma3	7	4.4
7w/Ma2	7	4.3

Top 2 Hegarty Users in Year 7 SMA	
Name	Number of hours on hegarty
Akshayan PRABAKARAN	7.7
Daniel BARCOO-JARMOLOVIC	6.4

Top 2 Hegarty Users in Year 8 SMA	
Name	Number of hours on hegarty
Angellima BAANAH-JONES	5.8
Victoria ADEBARI	5.7

Top 2 Hegarty Users in Year 9 SMA	
Name	Number of hours on hegarty
Leslie DAVIES	9.6
Bianca FRATTINI	6.4

Top 2 Hegarty Users in Year 10 SMA	
Name	Number of hours on hegarty
Essence AJALA	7.5
Shemmy ADEPOJU	5.8

Average hours per student this week:  
0.7

Aim: 3 hours!  
You can do it!!

SMA is rank 129 out of 1669 schools using Hegarty, we were rank 60 last week...  
AIM: To be back in the top 100 schools by next week!



### This Is Language Top Scorers:

French – Lydia Y9

Spanish – Rohanna Y9 + Prince Y7

### Lexia Top Scorers:

Mohammed Y7 = 196 minutes

Jaden Y7 = 181 minutes

### Seneca Top Scorers:

Aminata Y8 = 3h 20m

Tomiwa Y9 = 3h 35m

# Primary home learning roll of honour...

We are so proud of our primary pupils who have been working hard at home this week to produce amazing quality work. And big thank you to our parents for making home schooling possible! Will you let your light shine and be awarded a shout out next week? Complete your tasks and email your teacher any other work completed to make the roll call next week.

Reception Star Learner of the Week:  
Bumblebees = Samuel

Y1 Star Learner of the Week:  
Dragonfly = Thiago

Y2 Star Learner of the Week:  
Butterfly = Harmony

Y3 Star Learners of the Week:  
Cheetahs = Louise  
Panthers = Guilia

Y4 Star Learner of the Week:  
Tigers = Caleb

Y5 Star Learners of the Week:  
Wolves = Rashika  
Lions = Sebastian

Y6 Star Learners of the Week:  
Eagles = Zunaira  
Jaguars = AJ

Fodun in Y5 wrote and recorded her own prayer: check it out on Twitter. AJ in Y6 shared his lovely creative writing this week.



Hearing the sound of the melody, it brought him back to his childhood memory, when he got his present. Excited by the sight of the present, with eager anticipation he ripped it open with his heart galloping like a horse. As he opened it, to his surprise, he saw a toy wooden horse. Affectionately, he snatched the toy horse and started galloping. As he galloped around the piano, his shoes changed from grey to blue representing the mood change as he rode the horse.



# Supporting our critical keyworkers' children...

Thank you to our wonderful staff who have gone above and beyond to support our critical keyworkers' children by providing these families with a crucial service and safe space.

**St Matthew Academy** @StMattAcad · 17h

For this morning's maths lesson with the key worker children, we looked at data collection and fractions. Children grouped the sweets then worked out the fraction of each type of sweets in a heroes tub. [#LettingPupilsLightShine](#) [#Lewisham](#) [#KeyWorkerChildren](#)



**St Matthew Academy** @StMattAcad · 17h

The key worker children have created an acrostic poem for National Thank a Teacher Day (Wednesday 20th May) as well as a dance to say thank you to all the teachers at SMA. [#LettingPupilsLightShine](#) [#Lewisham](#)





# Chaplaincy

## Respond and Request

*Set aside 10 -15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.*

## Taken from the Gospel for Sunday 24th May 2020 - The High Priestly Prayer of Jesus (John 17:1-11)

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you; and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him, let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him. And eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I have glorified you on earth and finished the work that you gave me to do. Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with that glory I had with you before ever the world was. I have made your name known to the men you took from the world to give me. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now at last they know that all you have given me comes indeed from you; for I have given them the teaching you gave to me, and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you, and have believed that it was you who sent me. I pray for them; I am not praying for the world but for those you have given me, because they belong to you: all I have is yours and all you have is mine, and in them I am glorified. I am not in the world any longer, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.'

## Our Prayer for this Half Term as we aim to be Curious and Active.

Lord God,

We thank You for our school family and our wider community.

Thank You for all that You have given us to explore and be curious about in our lessons and in our leisure time outside of the curriculum.

Guided by Your Holy Spirit, inspire us as we journey through this half term, as we seek to put our learning into action.

Help us to be active like the Disciples and courageously cast our nets out into the deep, ready to be engaged within the wonderful world You have created, as we strive to change what we can, with Your help, for the better.

In the Name of Jesus, Your Son, we make our prayer. Amen.

**St Matthew, Pray for us!**



Click on the picture or on the link below



for games, quizzes and so much more.

Hours of fun guaranteed thanks to our friends from the Wednesday Word. <http://>

Can't make it to church this Sunday? Why don't you try creating your own domestic liturgy?  
<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/prayers-for-home/sunday-liturgy-for-families>

You can also live-stream Mass and Spiritual Communion within the Diocese by clicking [here](#).





# Reading Corner...

Don't forget to join in with the virtual book club and take part in the writing competition. Send us pictures of you or your family enjoying a good book – audio counts too!

## COMPETITION TIME!



Got a lockdown story to tell? If so, enter this short story competition to be in with a chance of winning a £150 gift card!

Enter here [https://canarywharf.com/arts-events/events/short-story-station-writing-competition-apr-may-2020/?instance\\_id](https://canarywharf.com/arts-events/events/short-story-station-writing-competition-apr-may-2020/?instance_id)

The deadline is Sunday 31st May.

Who said the  
quote?  
"The man who has no  
imagination has no  
wings"  
Email your guesses  
to

## Staff Reading Recommendations This Week:

Ms Philips is reading 'Beekeeper of Aleppo' by Christi Lefteri: "I'm really enjoying this book. It is opening my eyes to how difficult life is for refugees who are seeking safety. It makes me realise how extremely lucky we are!"



## Secondary recommended read of the week:

'Coyote Summer' by Mimi Thebo

## Primary recommended read of the week:

'The Wild Folk' by Silvia V. Linsteadt



# Don't get bored!

Don't forget to send your fitness and nutrition enquiries to Mr Saunders at [Isa@stmatthewacademy.co.uk](mailto:Isa@stmatthewacademy.co.uk). You can also access his workouts @StMatthewPE and on Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnYeTk1maTgWbADQBO-ffK7gjYpXzrjKh>

Sporting Brilliance Scholar Andrew in Y7 has prepared this week's fitness 'Colour Cone Challenge.' send us pictures of you completing them!



The idea of this first challenge is to build your Fitness. I have included instructions and picked the exercises to use in my outdoor space which is concrete.

## Steps:

1. Place 4 coloured cones in a line an equal distance apart suggest about 1 metre. Order of cones is red, blue, yellow and white.
2. Starting at red kangaroo jump to the blue cone, complete the exercise described in the following table and run back to red.
3. Jog to the yellow cone, Complete exercise described in the table and run back to red.
4. Sprint to the white cone, complete exercise as described in the table and run back to red.
5. Repeat steps 3 to 5 a total of three times changing the exercise from the table on each turn.

Cone Colour	Blue	Yellow	White
Run 1	Lunges x 10	Squats x 10	Michael Jordan's x 10
Run 2	Air Kicks x 10	Burpees x 10	High Knees x 10
Run 3	Open the gate x 10	Star Jumps x 10	Tuck Jumps x 10

As you get Fitter you can increase difficulty by:

- Increase Reps of each exercise at each cone
- Increase distance between cones
- Add difficulty e.g.: Carry weights, squat jumps instead of just squats etc
- Repeat the cycle two or more times.

Remember to warm up with stretches and stay hydrated by drinking water.

**Andrew Martin M1**

**Stay home, Protect the NHS, Save lives**

# Don't get bored!



Well done to Mr  
Hawkins who  
won last week's  
challenge!

## Can you do the maths puzzle below?

Send your answers to  
[kng@stmatthewacademy.co.uk](mailto:kng@stmatthewacademy.co.uk)

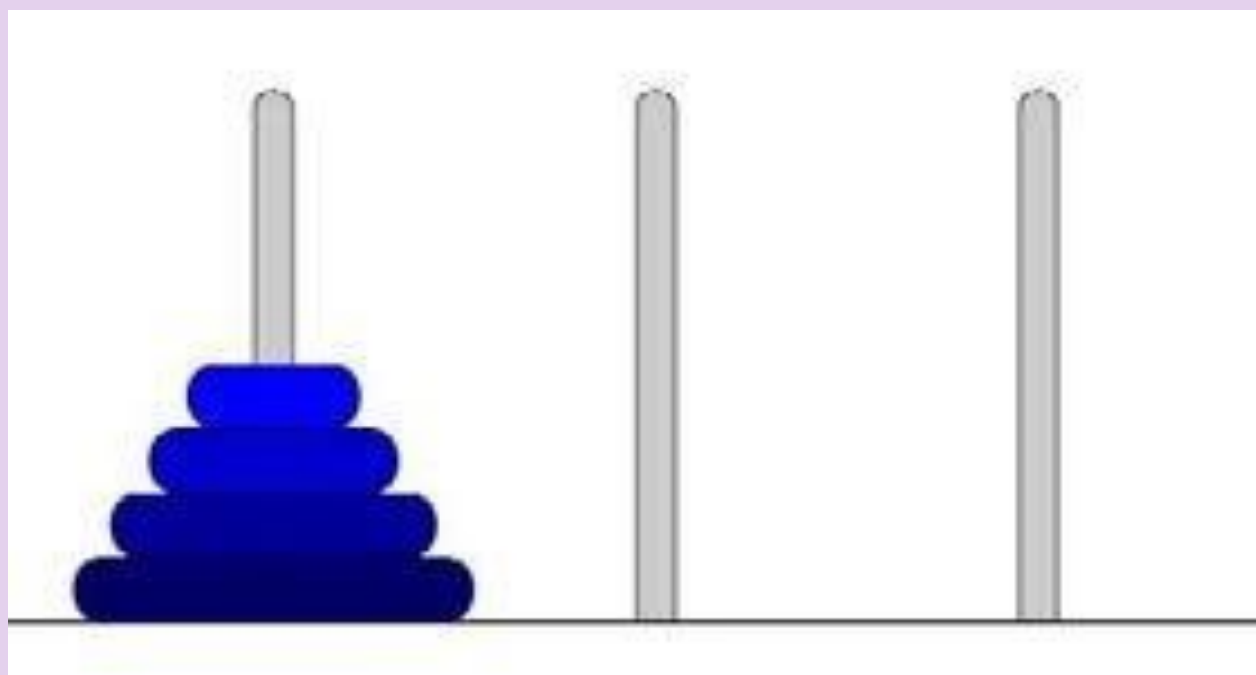
### The Tower of Hanoi

A puzzle consisting of 4 discs each smaller than the next, placed in a stack on the end one of three vertical pegs. The aim is to move all the discs to the other end column.

The rules are:

1. Move discs one at a time onto *any other* column.
2. Never put a larger disc on top of a smaller disc.
3. Cut out 4 paper circles and practice using dots on a piece of paper for the pegs.

*Work out how to do it in the fewest moves. Make a video to show how quickly you can complete the puzzle, or take pictures showing all your workings*



# Final thoughts for the week...

Thank you to our staff and parents for your support in making this difficult time as 'normal' as possible for our pupils.

If you wish to donate to raise money for devices for pupils please follow this link:

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/computers-for-pupils?mem-ber=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=customer&utm\\_campaign=p\\_email%2Binvotesupporters](https://www.gofundme.com/f/computers-for-pupils?mem-ber=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_email%2Binvotesupporters)

For more information about anything else, please visit:

SMA Website:  
[www.stmatthewacademy.co.uk](http://www.stmatthewacademy.co.uk)

SMA Twitter page:  
[@StMattAcad](https://twitter.com/StMattAcad)



twitter.com 801425053

We are excited to host our very first Lockdown Talent Show open to all pupils in Primary and Secondary. Want to enter? Here's how:



Secondary:

1. Join the Google Classroom (code: 5pwsek4)
2. Upload a 1 minute video of you doing your talent

Primary:

1. Film a 1 minute video of you doing your talent
2. Upload it to Seesaw or email it to Ms Barallon

Deadline: 3.20pm Friday 5th June

Good luck!