



St Matthew's Church of England Primary School

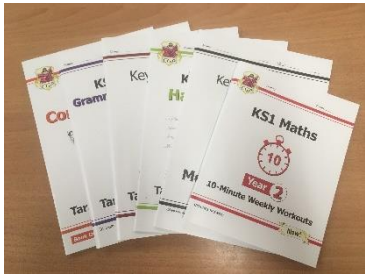
Whatever you do, do it with all your heart. Colossians 3:23

News from St Matthew's

Spring Term 2021

Remote Learning

Our pupils worked hard at home, using workbooks provided by the school and accessing online lessons via ClassDojo.



Home Visits

Mrs Cameron, Miss Hood and Miss Moss visited our families at home to offer support and advice. We also made regular phone calls and flagged up useful services to promote positive mental wellbeing.



Oh no we didn't!

Oh yes we did! We enjoyed watching Peter Duncan's online panto, Jack and the Beanstalk, just before Christmas.



Key Worker and Vulnerable Pupils

The school remained open for the children of key workers and vulnerable pupils. New friendships were made as the children worked with pupils from different year groups.



Here to help



01473 251614

Together with

every mind
matters



It was wonderful to welcome all the children back to school on Monday 8th March. We spent time catching up and telling each other what we had done during lockdown.



We quickly settled back into established routines and were careful to follow all the safety guidelines in our Risk Assessment.

Comic Relief

We had a Non-Uniform Day to raise money for Comic Relief. We collected

£300

**RED
NOSE
DAY**

Children's University

Pupils received certificates for their hard work during the Autumn term. Look at this wonderful picture produced by Evelina in Year 4 for one of the CU challenges!



Weekly Collective Worship

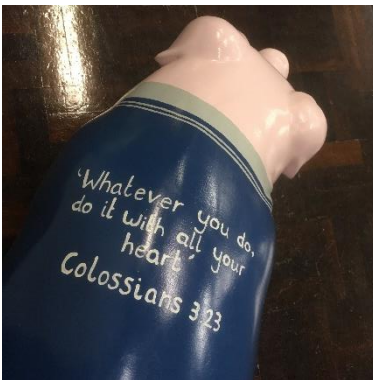
Nick and Ruth from St Matthew's Church shared an online assembly every Thursday.



Mr Gates, Mrs Cameron and Miss Hood sent out a story time video every Friday.



A big thank you to Miss Thomas, one of our amazing Teaching Assistants, for revamping our pig.



Children's Mental Health Week 1st - 5th February 2021

We thought about what it means to express ourselves and talked about the importance of good mental wellbeing, especially at this difficult time. We encouraged families to watch a special online assembly and flagged up relevant resources on ClassDojo.



World Book Day

Miss Zych dressed up for her home learning videos!



Potato Storybook Characters

We used potatoes to make models of our favourite story book characters for World Book Day.



Former St Matthew's Pupil, Jesse

Reported in the Ipswich Star on 12th March 2021 by Andrew Clarke

Ipswich dancer Jesse Baggett-Lahav is the latest dance talent to be snapped up by a national company following in the footsteps of other local stars such as Gary Avis, Helen Crawford and Vincent Redmon.

The 17 year old, Northgate High School student, has just passed a challenging audition to be selected to join the National Youth Dance Company, based at Sadler's Wells in London.

Jesse, who says that he has danced for as long as he can remember, is following a family tradition as his parents Amit Lahav and Helen Baggett are directors of Ipswich-based physical theatre company Gecko.

Jesse said: "It's a tremendous honour to be chosen to join the National Youth Dance Company. I feel so happy. I can't believe it's real, but I am looking forward to joining the company and working with artistic director Alesandra Seutin to create something amazing later on in the year."

He said that the audition process was nerve-racking because it was conducted completely online, over Zoom, so he didn't have the physical interaction with the other dancers.

In the end Jesse said that the audition process went better than he expected. "I think they prepared us well and because you are the only person in the virtual room you don't worry about what everyone else is doing, you just get on with what you are going to do and it obviously worked."

He said that at the moment they are going to continue to work digitally with workshops and exercises until government guidelines will allow them to perform together. Then they are hoping to stage a performance in London during the summer which will then tour the UK – hopefully including a visit to DanceEast.

He said: "I hope that the tour will include Ipswich because I first saw the NYDC as a member of the audience at DanceEast and I can't wait to be part of the company when they next come back."



Jesse says that he has ambitions to be a dancer and performer but would also love to do some choreography at some point.

He said: "At the moment, the world is just full of possibilities. I have got to finish my A Levels, also I am on the CAT course until I'm 18. They finish together and at that point I'll be in a better place to decide exactly what it is that I want to do. At the moment I'm just so chuffed to have got where I am."

<https://www.ipswichstar.co.uk/news/ipswich-dancer-joins-national-youth-company-7821332>