



## St Matthias Newsletter – Term 3 2023/2024

*It's the end of another term and we have a lot to celebrate. A number of pupils have returned to a new mainstream school and, while we're sad that they have left, we're very proud of the journey that they've been on. We also hosted our Parent / Carer events and want to thank all families who came to discuss their children's progress. We are always open to feedback so if you were unable to attend or have some feedback for the team, please get in touch. Have a fabulous Half term!*

Ms Morrison

### Fishponds Focus

#### A journey through Ashton Gate Stadium

Last week, our Jupiter Group, made up of Year 11 students, had the incredible opportunity to attend a Careers Event hosted by Bristol City Football Club's charity, The Robins Foundation. The trip provided our students with a valuable learning experience, opening their eyes to the exciting world of sports management and the multitude of career opportunities available to them.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the VIP treatment and grand tour of Ashton Gate Stadium. Our students were given an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the inner workings of the stadium, soaking in the atmosphere of one of Bristol's iconic landmarks. Before the tour, they were briefed on the various BTEC courses available to school leavers, setting the stage for a day filled with valuable information and inspiration.

Throughout the event, our pupils actively engaged with the providers, asking questions and eagerly absorbing knowledge about the qualifications and opportunities on offer. We are grateful to Bristol City Football Club's charity, The Robins Foundation, for organizing such an insightful and engaging event, and we look forward to future collaborations that empower our students to pursue their passions and achieve their dreams.



## Enrichment

Our students have been delving into the classic board game of Risk. If you're not familiar, Risk divides the world into territories, challenging players to achieve world domination by strategically eliminating opponents and capturing territories. Not only does this game offer a fun experience, but it also stimulates critical thinking, enhances geographical awareness, and fosters strategic planning skills among our students.



## AQA Awards

All of our students here at Fishponds have been working hard in PSHE to achieve an AQA Award. These awards allow all students to engage with learning and have their achievements formally recognised. Students are rewarded with a certificate each time they successfully complete a unit of learning. They can build up a portfolio of certificates to evidence their skills, knowledge and experience.

At the moment, a large number of our students has already obtained a Level 1 certification through AQA, but one pupil in particular has shown outstanding commitment to their learning and completed 3 levels and is already working towards an accreditation in PSHE. We are incredibly proud of them and their achievement and we would like to congratulate them on such an amazing job. Well done Jaymie!

## Parents Evening

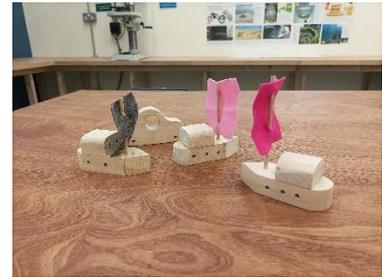


Hard to believe but it's already half way through the academic year. The end of term 3 always brings Parents Evening and the opportunity to discuss your child's progress in lessons with the teachers. Thank you to those that were able to attend. However, we know it isn't always easy or possible to be able to come into school for a chat because of other commitments. If you were unable to make it on the night but would like to speak to the teachers after school, then please call reception to arrange a telephone call or meeting.

## Brentry Bulletin

### A new subject!

Brentry has this term been able to add Design and Technology to its curriculum. Pupils have been focusing on wood working in the newly equipped room downstairs. It has been enjoyed by all the pupils who have been getting to grips with the belt sander, pillar drill and hand tools to construct toy wooden boats. It's been a really positive start with some really promising talent - especially from Kaycie and Darcy.



### New Staff!

At Brentry we have welcomed a new science teacher onto the staff team following the departure of Miss Grant. Mr Thomas has fitted in very quickly and with excellent adaptability and has been delivering lessons on energy stores and energy transfers. In addition, Mr Edwards, Miss Rashford and Mr Famurewa have all recently been officially appointed as members of the support staff and have become very valued members of the team.

### Parents Evening



Parents' evening was held this term at Brentry. It was great to see this well attended and it's always very pleasing to be able to share positive comments with parents and show them examples of the excellent work being completed by pupils at Brentry.

### Offsite



The highlight of this term's reward trips was undoubtedly the visit to, "Locked in a Room" at Bristol Harbourside. Pupils worked in teams to solve clues and puzzles in order to escape from their locked rooms in under an hour. Both groups came agonisingly close to completing the challenge, and showed excellent teamwork and cooperation.

This term has also seen a careers trip to Ashton Gate stadium where pupils learned about BTEC qualifications and possible future career and education pathways.

There was also an art trip to Bristol Museum where pupils visited the top floor gallery for future inspiration as well as spending time looking at the other museum exhibitions.

### Enrichment

Enrichment afternoons have gone very well this term - Health and Beauty has been particularly successful, where pupils especially enjoyed making bath bombs and nail design. Other activities include learning a variety of traditional card games, hobby club and the ever-popular baking.



## Rush Hill Round Up

### Go to work on an Egg!



St Matthias Academy has secured funding for the next year to help supply breakfast items across our 3 sites.

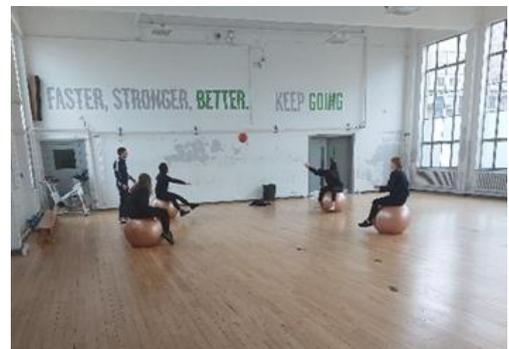
The items on offer include, bread, crumpets, bagels. Different flavoured porridge and a selection of cereals.

This will help give all of our pupils a great start to each morning and prepare them for a day full learning. Sadly, no eggs!

### Whole School PE & BMX'ing



Twice a week we visit a leisure centre around the corner. We have full use for the gym, sports hall and dance studio. As you can see from the pictures, pupils have made full use of the big space. Sports and BMX are part of our fitness curriculum. It supports our pupils' well-being, raises self-esteem and confidence as well as helping to build social and communication skills.



### Post Rush success

MJ was a year 11 pupil here at Rush hill last year. He joined boxing to help with self-discipline and control whilst building self-confidence. Here he is pictured with Mr Leach, our PSHE teacher and a boxing trainer in his spare time, after winning his first fight for Sartan Boxing Club.

