



Look Up

ST MATTHIAS NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term

December 2018



Message from Mr Coombes

My favourite Christmas book is probably How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr Suess

The Grinch and I have 5 things in common with each other.

1. We are irritated by the noise. Especially some Christmassy noise.
2. We both have a dog. Max for the Grinch. Brodie for me.
3. We hang out in places that begin with 'W'. Whoville and Wolverhampton (bit weak I know)
4. And we both - by the end of the story - love Christmas!!

One of my favourite bits in the story is this

**"And the Grinch,
with his grinch - feet,
ice - cold in the snow,
stood puzzling and puzzling:
"How could it be so?"
"It came without ribbons!
It came without tags!"
"It came without packages,
boxes or bags!"
And he puzzled three hours,
till his puzzler was sore.**

**Then the Grinch thought
of something he hadn't before!**

**"Maybe Christmas, he thought,
"doesn't come from a store."
"Maybe Christmas... perhaps
... means a little bit more!"**

This is the pivotal bit in the story where in spite of him playing bad Santa and stealing Christmas - snow men and all - it still comes.

The Whos don't have gifts or any of the Christmassy stuff but they hold hands and sing and are happy anyway.

I imagined how Christmas morning might go for my three boys if I announced that instead of presents we would be holding hands with Daddy and singing. I suspect not so well!

The fifth thing in common with the Grinch - you thought I'd forgotten - is that I do try to reflect on things and then change. In fact, as a school we are constantly doing this. We want to make things better for our children in an ever changing Whoville.

One such change will be how our children use mobile phones in school.

I think they are fantastic things but they are definitely changing how we live and relate to each other.

We have reflected as a school and we think we need to change. We see too many children looking at screens instead of talking to each other or us. We see some children getting upset or even aggressive because of things others have sent to them through their phone. We know people will say or do things online that they would never do in person. In short we need to help our children.

We will continue to embrace the educational value in devices like iPads and even in phones but we will need to work together to change things.

Please find the changes we are proposing attached. Your support and thoughts on what we are doing will be essential. Thank you.

See you next year.

We will work hard to make 2019 a great one.

Grinch.

Name:

Form Group:

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

Christmas- what does it mean to you? Is it the giving and receiving of gifts? Spending quality time with your loved ones? Or simply the tons of turkey and then flopping down in front of the TV? Whatever you're doing I hope you have a great time but let me tell you about the many surprising and different ways that Christmas is celebrated around the world.

From roller skating to Christmas Mass in the morning to cosying up in front of Donald Duck in the afternoon, the nations of the world celebrate Christmas in a surprising variety of ways...

Did you know that in many countries the main celebrations for Christmas happen before December 25th. Children in Germany and Poland put their freshly cleaned boots and shoes by their front doors on December 6th, which is known as St. Nicholas' Day, hoping that St. Nicholas will fill them with gifts and sweets.

In Sweden one of the major festive celebrations takes place on December 13th - which is known as St. Lucia's Day. On this day Swedish girls dress in white and sing songs, handing out 'Pepparkakor' - ginger snap biscuits, all the while carrying crowns of blazing candles on their heads.

Meanwhile in Spain, you may not know but children there receive their Christmas gifts in January - this forms part of the celebration of Epiphany. However, children who have been naughty may find that they have been left a lump of coal - although this is made of sugar! However, that's not as scary as in Japan where 'Santa Kurohsu' is said to have eyes in the back of his head to allow him to keep an eye on naughty children!

As we all know traditions are part of Christmas too - and in some parts of the world the madder the better! Just take the city of Caracas in the South American country of Venezuela - here it is a tradition for the whole of the country to roller skate to an early

morning Christmas Mass. Whilst in Czechoslovakia, women throw shoes over their shoulder to determine whether they'll be lucky in love in the New Year! Here in the UK you will find the mad and the brave taking a Christmas Day dip in the water at Hyde Park - I don't know about you but this makes me shiver just thinking about it.

Of course one of the main traditions in the UK is the annual sitting down at Christmas to watch a bit of Christmas telly - with the EastEnders Christmas special being a particular national institution. Television is just as popular in Sweden - there is no EastEnders though instead many Swedes sit down on Christmas Eve to watch Donald Duck! Yes, Donald Duck. Half of Sweden sits down to watch a series of cartoons and clips from Disney classics, like Cinderella, Donald Duck and Snow White. The cartoons have been airing every year since 1959 and are one of the most popular television events in the country. Me, I can't wait for the Top of the Pops Christmas Special - any excuse to sing along loudly to Slade's Merry Christmas Everybody!

I'm sure you all have your own Christmas traditions and whatever you're doing - have a great time. Merry Christmas.

John Paterson
Assistant Head Teacher



STUDENTS SHARE WHAT DIWALI MEANS TO THEM!

As the nights draw in and the evenings get darker light becomes increasingly important to us all. Light as a symbol is used often at this time of the year. For example, we had the lights of bonfire night celebrations and we will soon have the lights of Christmas. Three year 11 students (Karnbir, Anakhpreet and Novnett) delivered school assemblies to explain to students about the significance of light for the festival of Diwali.

Many people think that the festival of Diwali is only celebrated by Hindus, however our students were treated to a presentation about the Sikh celebration of Diwali. The Sikh celebration is centred around Guru Hargobind and his story reminds Sikhs of freedom, human rights and right over wrong. Candles are lit in homes and Gurdwaras during Diwali. This helps to spread the joy and happiness of the festival.

The students made a video to show during assemblies and they

also made a quiz for tutor groups to enjoy! Year 7 students have taken this introduction even further and have been exploring Diwali from Sikh perspectives in their RE lessons.

Mrs Phillips



NEWS FROM PE

I spent a Monday evening at Worcester Warriors rugby club with year 11 student Cheick Kone. He took part in a trial for the under 16 rugby academy. This is totally out of the norm as normally boys his age have to be playing for a club, then if they are identified as 'talented' they have to go to a development scheme with the club for a lengthy period of time. If they are successful they then have an invite to the main academy. After a successful 1st trial the club have offered him a place with their academy till August 2019. The head coach of the academy was really impressed with his attitude and natural ability and has offered him these terms even though it was only his first trial.

At the end of year 11 he will be offered a place on Worcester Warriors Academic and Sporting Excellence course (AASE) where he will attend college at Stourport VI centre. On the course he will have the choice of a range of subjects to study. He will have a strict rugby programme to follow whilst he is on the course. He will also have the option to live with a host family or travel to the college.

Cheick had to take a series of medical and fitness tests and is officially 6ft 5. He didn't look out of place in the set up at all. He was the quickest lad in the under 16 set up too.

A massive opportunity has been presented to Cheick - he just needs to work hard to achieve his grades.

He will be joining Wolverhampton Rugby Club as his parent club and begin to train with me and the seniors on a Thursday after his session with the younger colts.

Mr Humphreys



CONSIDERING THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Students in year 11 have been spreading Christmas cheer by leading assemblies for students across the school. They began by showing a clip from the movie The Grinch. Carefully chosen, it asked the question 'is Christmas really just about the presents?'. Students were then encouraged to try and think more about what they could gift to others and not about what others will be gifting to them. Here is an extract from their script:

There are many people in our city struggling to make ends meet. Imagine how good it would feel to know that you have helped someone else by donating to a local food bank.

There are many children in our city who will be spending Christmas Day in hospital. Imagine demonstrating the spirit of Christmas by donating a gift to the local hospital.

Some of you will have elderly relatives or neighbours who might be spending Christmas alone this year. Could you be kind enough to put a Christmas card through their door...after all it is often the little things that make a difference.

And what about the gift of time. Could you show your appreciation for all of the gifts that you will likely receive from your parents and family by choosing to spend quality time with

them and helping them over the Christmas holidays? Things like washing up dishes and helping with the shopping are sure to make your parents smile.

Christmas began with the gift of a baby called Jesus. As we leave this assembly today we hope that we have inspired you to think about what Christmas is really about and we challenge you, over this festive season, to do something kind for someone else.

Mrs Phillips



ACTS OF KINDNESS

During December students have been performing 'Acts of Kindness.' Students were given an advent calendar with different days having their own individual 'Acts of Kindness'. The idea was to spread a little festive spirit across the school at Christmas time. Take a look at the calendar that we used below.



The GIFT of KINDNESS

<p>3rd Act of Kindness #3 Hold doors open for people 😊</p>	<p>4th Act of Kindness #4 Pick up any rubbish you see around school 😊</p>	<p>5th Act of Kindness #5 Be polite all day – please and thankyou 😊</p>	<p>6th Act of Kindness #6 Compliment the first three people you see today 😊</p>	<p>7th Act of Kindness #7 Offer to help a member of staff 😊</p>
<p>10th Act of Kindness #10 Use a reusable bottle/cup 😊</p>	<p>11th Act of Kindness #11 Write down someone's best qualities 😊</p>	<p>12th Act of Kindness #12 Say hello to people as you walk around school 😊</p>	<p>13th Act of Kindness #13 Practice self-kindness and spend 30 minutes doing something you love today 😊</p>	<p>14th Act of Kindness #14 Try to make sure every person in a group conversation feels included 😊</p>
<p>17th Act of Kindness #17 Smile at people as you walk around school 😊</p>	<p>18th Act of Kindness #18 Send a 'Thank you' card or note to someone who is important to you 😊</p>	<p>19th Act of Kindness #19 When you hear that discouraging voice in your head, tell yourself something positive – you deserve kindness too! 😊</p>	<p>20th Act of Kindness #20 Do something for charity – share a charities post on social media, sign up to a challenge or donate what you can – often Christmas can be a really difficult time for lots of people 😊</p>	<p>21st Act of Kindness #21 Think about your neighbours or people you know – are there any people you know might be spending Christmas alone? Send them a card, say hello or do whatever you can to make them feel less lonely over the Christmas holidays 😊</p>



Save the Children CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

This year, St. Matthias' Christmas Jumper Day was celebrated on the final day of term – Friday 21st December. Thanks for all your donations.



GAMING ADDICTION

For many children and young people, the Christmas season is a time for - gaming! New games, new consoles, new phones...and time off school to enjoy them. What's not to love?

For parents, computer games at Christmas can mean many things. Peace and quiet, a break from sibling bickering, a warm glow from giving your child something they absolutely love.

But there's a catch.

Gaming can be genuinely addictive. An addiction is a mental health condition that can ruin a person's life. You can guard against gaming addiction by watching for these tell-tale signs:

- Mood swings
- Getting agitated when not able to play
- Thinking and talking about games all the time
- Not bothering with basics like personal hygiene
- Losing interest in other activities like hobbies or schoolwork
- Increased aggressive language or behaviour
- Less contact with friends, more conflicts with them.

If you spot these signs, don't be afraid to take action. Talk about it. Put some limits on gaming time and make sure other activities happen as well. Play the games together as a family or group of friends and keep consoles out of bedrooms. Offer alternatives – a trip out or a project that involves being together and doing something productive and fun. Keep some times of day game-free. Make conversation about other subjects. Encourage physical activity like biking or football. Keep an eye on how long is spent with the games – most young people don't realise how long they spend on gaming because they get so engrossed. Make sure you know what's on the screen.

Above all, if you are worried about your child's gaming (or your own), don't just let it go. You may hear that 'everyone's doing it' but that doesn't mean your concerns aren't real. Talk to your GP or the school Educational Psychologist. Involve family if that might help. Don't be embarrassed or think that you're making a fuss.

Gaming is there to be enjoyed. Just make sure it stays under control.

Liz Freeman



HEALTH & SAFETY

Christmas is a time when your home is likely to be full of people and it is in the excitement of the season that accidents can easily happen. But one of the good things about Christmas is that there are typically more people around to supervise the children and, with a little more care and forward planning, most accidents could be avoided.

Follow these 12 safety tips to help prevent your festivities being cut short by a trip to casualty:

- Make sure you buy children's gifts for the correct age group and from reputable sources that comply with standards (e.g. The Toys Safety Regulations 2011)
- Remember to buy batteries for toys that need them - that way you won't be tempted to remove batteries from smoke alarms
- Look out for small items that could pose a choking hazard to young children, including parts that have fallen off toys or from Christmas trees, button batteries and burst balloons
- Keep decorations and cards away from fires and other heat sources such as light fittings. Don't leave burning candles unattended, make sure you put them out before going to bed and do not put candles on Christmas trees
- If you have old Christmas lights, seriously consider buying new ones, which will meet much higher safety standards, keep the lights switched off until the Christmas tree is decorated, don't let children play with lights (some have swallowed the bulbs), and remember to switch off the lights when going out of the house or going to bed
- Remember, Christmas novelties are not toys, even if they resemble them, and they do not have to comply with toy safety regulations. Give careful thought to where you display them, for example, place them high up on Christmas trees where they are out of the reach of young hands
- Give yourself enough time to prepare and cook Christmas dinner to avoid hot fat, boiling water and sharp knife accidents that come from rushing, and keep anyone not helping with dinner out of the kitchen. Wipe up any spills quickly
- Have scissors handy to open packaging, so you're not tempted to use a knife, and have screwdrivers at the ready to assemble toys
- Beware of trailing cables and wires in the rush to connect new gadgets and appliances, and always read instructions
- Falls are the most common accidents so try to keep clutter to a minimum. Make sure stairs are well-lit and free from obstacles, especially if you have guests
- Plan New Year fireworks parties well in advance and follow the Firework Safety Code
- Do not drink and drive, and plan long journeys so you won't be driving tired.

CHERYL GOULD MEMORIAL TRUST AWARDS FOR SENIOR LEADERS

I was honoured to receive the Cheryl Gould Memorial Trust Award for Senior Leaders at the Mayors Parlour on 9th October 2018. Awards were presented to myself, Gary Gentle and Alison Grennan for displaying a number of characteristics within our work that were important to Cheryl Gould. These included a commitment to partnership working, supporting collaborative work across the city, a fierce ambition for our City's children and young people and the communities that they come from, a love of sport and inter school sport opportunities and a passion for outdoors education.

Mr Coombes



THE JITSU ATEMI NATIONALS

The Jitsu Atemi Nationals were held on Saturday 20th October 2018 in Telford. Jitsuka from across the country came together to train and compete. Last year St Matthias won the shield so we were looking to retain that honour with a new team of competitors.

The day proved to be a great success. The training was well received and we all agreed that we had learnt lots to improve our Jitsu. In the competitions we had great success:

- Bekim won his class and can boast he is National Champion.
- Antonia and Shakira both came in with good 3rd place trophies. Antonia was looking to retain her title but lost out this time around. Shakira, in her first Nationals, proved a revelation!! Well done both.
- Kaylem came in second place – an exceptional achievement that we expect him to build on.
- Other team members did us proud with 4th place or medal ranking – Navneet, Tom, Miiko, Michelle and Chloe all performed well and on another day would have made the podium.
- Charlie won the top grade competition and made us all proud. Especially his Dad!



The end of the day saw us take on MacDonalds. A challenge we were all equal to!



CELEBRATING SUCCESS AND ACHIEVEMENT AT ST MATTHIAS

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved two significant achievements during this first academic term: no behaviour points and 100 percent attendance- a fantastic effort. These students will be receiving a special reward in the new year. Well done to all - you are a credit to yourselves and the school.

Year 7

Elvis Adjei
Namita Bhalla
Anneka Birdi
Sofia Fialio
Peter Gonderton
Kitija Grinhofa
Nicola Gronek
Luke Groves
Dylan Hayden
Maria Heathrow
Ruby Hulme
Maja Jankowska
Anupreet Kaur
Manveer Kumar
Michael Perez Garcia
Katy Poulton
Grace Price
Tea- Rhiannon Rainbow
Rokeebat Rao
Alex Singh
Freddie Woodall

Year 8

Aya Ali
Karem Al Saleh
Badhan Angel
Philip Edgeley
Linden Grinhofa
Connor Groucutt
Keira Hennessey
Jessica May James
Kiera Jassi
Joud Kamel
Wiktorina Lewy
Ntando Malaba
Sunaina Middu
Filip Narkiewicz
Chloe Pain
Amelia Petgrave
Kai Sekhan
Atul Singh
Prabdeep Singh
Daniel Sund

Year 9

Melody Alves
Bethan Austin
Kavita Deo
Daniel Hartill
Marya Jamal
Kayleigh Johnson-Rush
Linda Kingji
Anusha Lal
Abhinoor Mann
Cody Price
Sara Radu

Year 10

Nicole Black
Eisha Chand
Antonia Chira
Georgia Coffman
Praise Jumbo
Palak Kumar
Chelsea Mangwandii
Sandro Martinez-Miralles
Valentino Martinez-Miralles
Alex Poulton
Prabhdeep Rai
Jack Rhodes
Madison Sault
Davina Twumasi

Year 11

Kaci Collins
Jasmine Filalio
Robbie Hickman
Lianne Holmes
Mikolaj Kaczmarek
Babanpreet Kaur
Ebivideep Kaur
Prabjot Kaur
Alex Maiden
Ashraf Mohammed
Aiza Muzaffar
Bradley Nabbs
Skye Neill
Danielle Pain

Charlie Powell
Abigail Ryder
Kareena Sidhu
Damanpreet Singh
Harvir Singh
Karnbir Singh
Kirndeeep Singh
Shane Tandy
Abigail Taylor
Melissa Zyberi

THANK YOU

To mark the centenary of the end of WWI, students took part in the Royal British Legion 'Thank You' campaign. Students wrote thank you letters to those who made great sacrifices for our country during WWI. We thanked poets and writers who described the horrors of the war. We also thanked the inspirational women who played a huge role in WWI, helping to change the role of women in Britain too. You can read a selection of our letters on the website: <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/remembrance/ww1-centenary/thank-you/whos-already-involved/>

Click on the school logo to see the letters.



UNIFORM GUIDELINES

1. SMART TAILORED BLACK TROUSERS

All trousers need to be full length and tailored. No jeans, canvas or legging type material allowed. No tight fitting/skinny trousers



2. PLAIN BLACK SKIRT

All Skirts **MUST** be below the knee length and worn with black tights only. No inappropriate or front splits, zips or decoration allowed.



3. WHITE SHIRT

(Tucked in at ALL times)



4. SCHOOL TIE - BOYS SCHOOL SCARF - GIRLS

Tie - £5.50 Scarf - £5.50



Remember

- skirts must be below the knee length
- no black boots
- no tight fitting trousers
- coats must be completely black

5. FOOTWEAR

Black leather type shoes - No large heels, boots, trainers/trainer type or canvas shoes

Examples that are ACCEPTABLE



Examples that are **NOT** ACCEPTABLE



School uniform must be worn with pride at all times. This includes wearing the correct footwear, blazer or coat to and from school. Students might not be allowed into school if not appropriately dressed, alternatively they will be isolated until the uniform is rectified. Please contact school if any of the guidance needs further clarification before making any purchases.

6. BLACK SOCKS

Socks worn under trousers need to be completely black.



7. BLAZER

£33.00



8. JUMPER / CARDIGAN

Black woollen V neck jumper or cardigan. Optional.



9. COATS

Coats must be plain black with no large logos. No hoodies or similar to be worn on school premises.

Examples that are **ACCEPTABLE**



Examples that are **NOT ACCEPTABLE**



Different colours/patterns are **NOT** acceptable.



10. CAPS

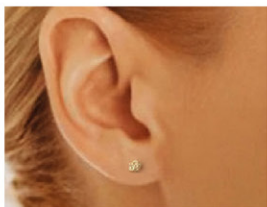
No caps to be worn on school premises.

11. HAIR

Only plain black hair accessories

12. JEWELLERY

Stud earrings only.
No facial piercings.



13. NAILS

Not Allowed



Allowed



SPECULAAS BISCUITS

- A biscuit from Europe, in particular Belgium, Holland and Germany
- They were baked in moulds with different designs on them
- They have been known as Dutch Windmills cookies



Ingredients

- 100g plain flour
- 2 teaspoon mixed spice
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 50g soft brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon milk
- 75g butter/margarine
- 2 tablespoon candied peel, finely chopped
- Flaked almonds, to garnish (optional)

Method

- Preheat the oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas 4
- Line a baking tray with baking paper
- Weigh the flour and margarine, place into a mixing bowl
- Weigh the sugar, add to the flour and margarine
- Add the baking powder, salt, mixed spice, candied peel and milk
- Mix together until well combined.
- Using your hands bring the mixture together as a dough
- Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured work surface and roll out to a 0.5cm thickness.
- Using a cookie cutter, cut out shapes or circles from the dough and place them onto the lined baking tray. Decorate the tops of the biscuits with flaked almonds, if using.
- Transfer the biscuits to the oven and bake for 15-18 minutes, or until golden-brown. Set aside to cool on a wire rack, then serve.

This term, year 8 students took part in the National Young Mathematician of the Year competition. Ntando Malaba, Amarachi Ileukwu, Cobie Ellis and Ellie Thomas were picked to represent St. Matthias and compete with local schools for a chance to go to the grand final at the University of Cambridge.

The first round was in October and the competition tested the student's problem solving abilities, mathematical skill and teamwork. Up against some very skilled competition, the team excelled and impressed the judges enough to make it through to the regional finals in November. The finals put the students through their paces with puzzles that would challenge any mathematician. The students made a valiant effort but unfortunately the team did not make it through to the grand final.

The organisers were impressed with the students none-the-less giving the following feedback:

'The team showed fantastic team work skills and were probably the strongest on the day for working so well as a team!'

So a big well done to the fantastic students who took part, we will try again next year!

Mrs Hastings
Head of Mathematics



MATHS COMPETITION

Entries to be handed in to Mrs Hastings – deadline January 18th.
Entries will be put into a prize draw.

A big well done to the winners from the last competition: Nicole Black, Valentino Martinez - Miralles and Mrs Smith!!!

Three different positive integers
add to make sixteen.

$$\square + \diamond + \nabla = 16$$

The smallest numbers also add
to make the biggest number.

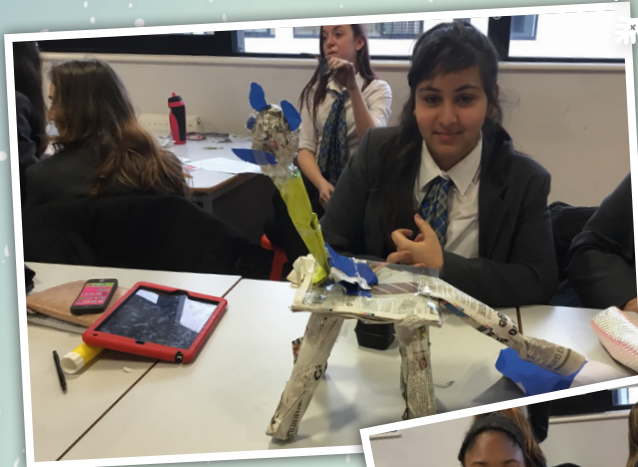
$$\square + \diamond = \nabla$$

Find all three possible solutions
to this problem.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT

This week in PSHE year 7 students have been involved in lots of practical activities designed to develop their future employment skills. In an apprentice style task students were put into teams and chose their own dynamic team names. They then set about completing challenges designed to demonstrate their teamwork, communication, creativity, time management and problem solving skills. The activities culminated in a challenge to build a giraffe using only newspaper and a role of sellotape. The winning giraffe would have to be able to stand by itself. The students had a great time and threw themselves into each activity...Alan Sugar might have some stars of the future right here!

Mrs Phillips



MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Most students will at some time have a medical condition that may affect their participation in school activities and for many this will be short-term. Other students have medical conditions that, if not properly managed, could limit their access to education.

Most children with medical needs are able to attend school regularly and, with some support from the school, can take part in most normal school activities. However, school staff may need to take extra care in supervising some activities to make sure that these students and others, are not put at risk. The school is committed to ensuring that children with medical needs have the same right of access as other children.

There is no legal duty that requires schools and staff to administer medication, this is a voluntary role. The 'duty of care' extends to administering medication in exceptional circumstances, and therefore it is for schools to decide their policy for the administration of medication.

Parents should, wherever possible, administer or supervise the self-administration of medication to their children. It is helpful, where possible that medication be prescribed in dose frequencies which enable it to be taken outside of school hours. For example, medicines that need to be taken 3 times a day can be managed at home. Parents should be encouraged to ask the prescriber about this. However, this might not be practicable and in such a case parents may make a request for medication to be administered to the child at the school.

Following a couple of incidents in school where students have taken paracetamol without the knowledge of staff or their parents please see below guidelines regarding medication:

- **Prescription Medicine** - Parents must complete a parental agreement for the school to administer medicines. Medication should be provided in the original container dispensed by a pharmacist and include the prescriber's instructions for administration. The container should include the full name of the child, name of medicine, dosage, written instructions provided by prescriber and the expiry date.
- **Non-prescription medication** - the school will only administer medicines when specific written permission has been obtained from parents / carers and the administration documented. If a student suffers regularly from acute pain, such as migraine, the parents should authorise and supply appropriate painkillers for their child's use, with written instructions about when the child should take the medication. A member of staff should notify the parents that their child has requested medication and supervise the student taking the medication if the parents have agreed to it being taken. Under no circumstances should students carry non-prescription medicine with them in school.

CHEWING GUM

Our school is owned and managed by a private company. It is no longer owned by the local authority. One of the company's rules is that no chewing gum is allowed on site. Students have been informed of this and are reminded in form time and assemblies.

During the holidays the cleaners spend a large amount of time cleaning chewing gum from under chairs, under tables, carpets, vinyl flooring, etc. We have been informed that our school will be charged for removal of chewing gum in the future.

Please ensure that your child refrains from bringing chewing gum into school.



MACMILLAN CAKE SALE TOOK PLACE ON 24TH OCTOBER

Thank you to everyone that contributed by making, buying, selling or helping out to decorate the cakes!! We had a food room full of brilliant year 8's the evening before, getting all the cakes ready for sale and lots more giving up their break to help sell them.

So far we have raised £221 in memory of my fabulous mom so others can be helped by Macmillan. Thank you to those staff that gave so generously and made and donated cakes. I will always be grateful for the support and I know my mom would have been too.

Mrs Baker



MOBILE DEVICES AT ST MATTHIAS SCHOOL

New Guidance Spring Term 2019

The use of Mobile Phones and iPads in lessons

Students must not:

- Search any sites or topics other than those specified by staff
- Send any communications or post any material other than that specified by staff
- Film or take photographs without permission from staff
- Listen to music

The use of Mobile Phones and iPads around school

Students must not:

- Use their Mobile Phone or iPad at any other time apart from during lessons

This means Mobile Phones, iPads or headphones should **NOT** be seen or heard at any point during the school day apart from in lessons.

Consequences

The Mobile Device will be confiscated and will need to be collected by an adult.



FOOD ALLERGIES

Students with severe or multiple allergies need to have specific menus created to their needs. Any student with multiple allergies or a dietary preference (such as a vegan) that requires an exclusion menu must complete and return an Allergy Menu Request form and provide a photograph. Following receipt of the form AiP catering company will create an exclusion menu with parents and agree food choices for the student.

Nut Allergies

Children with nut allergies only do not need to complete a form. The school kitchen operate nut free kitchens.

Diabetic Students

Parents need to complete the Carbohydrate Request form and return it to the school. AiP catering company will provide carbohydrate counts and portion sizes for all menu options.

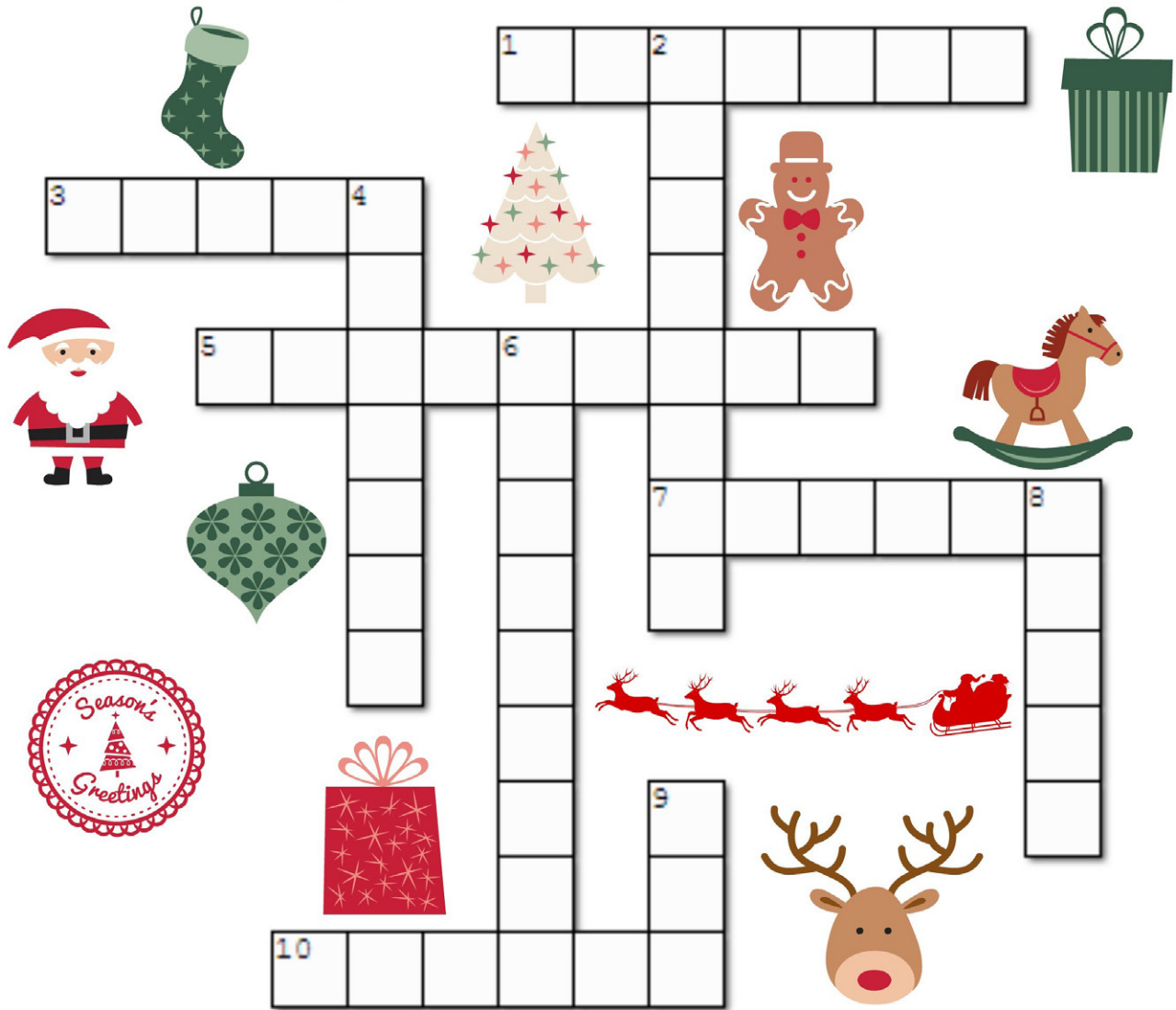
All forms and information are available on the school website <http://www.st-matthias.com/> or from school reception*. If forms are not returned the school nor AiP catering company cannot take responsibility for the management of your child's allergies.

The school kitchen have listings highlighting the 14 EU regulated allergens present in their menu. Further extensive ingredient lists are present on site or with AiP Quality and Nutrition Manager. This information is available from the Quality and Nutrition Manager at allergens@ainp.co.uk.

** By returning this form you are providing AiP consent to hold your personal information. This will be held in a secure place until they no longer require the details. This information will not be shared.*

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

USE THE CLUES TO COMPLETE THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



Across

1. One of Santa's Reindeer
3. Santa's Helpers
5. December 25th is _____.
7. Christmas Drink
10. The name of a popular snowman.

Down

2. Christmas Month
4. He hates Christmas!
6. You hang them by the chimney.
8. On Christmas morning we unwrap our _____.
9. ___ to the world!



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Answers

Across: 1 - Rudolph, 3 - Elves, 5 - Christmas, 7 - Eggnog, 10 - Frosty
Down: 2 - December, 4 - Scrooge, 6 - Stockings, 8 - Gifts, 9 - Joy

HEALTHY EATING

PROMOTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

All students are encouraged to eat a healthy balanced diet. Students are therefore not allowed to bring in items such as: large bars of chocolate, family sized packets of crisps, packets of biscuits or any sugar / energy drinks. Chewing gum is not allowed in school.



No chewing gum

Drinking in lessons

Clear, unflavoured mineral water can be drunk in lessons. This must be in a clear bottle. This is healthy and stops any learning time being wasted discussing what type of drink it is.



Random 'Snack Attacks' will be introduced to check that none of these items have been brought to school. If any are found they will be confiscated and families will be notified.

Change



Students are increasingly asking for change. This can be very time consuming to facilitate and we frequently run out as all cash is banked daily. We have concluded that some parents are giving their children notes assuming that they bring them into school to put onto their accounts. A lot of these students aren't doing this – they appear to want to keep the cash, spend it at the shop and put the minimum amount of money on their account. We will no longer be giving students change.



Communicating with School

Where possible if you need our support can you please call and arrange an appointment. It's easier to support you if we know about it in advance. This enables us to have the correct information and staff available.



Every Day Counts!

St Matthias expects students to attend 100% of the time! A student not in school is missing valuable learning. Please do everything you can to ensure your child is in school every day learning!

Important Dates

Christmas Holiday

Monday 24th December -
Friday 4th December

Term starts as normal on
Monday 7th January

On time (9.00am)
smart uniform and fully
equipped!