



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we had a wonderful church service to celebrate our value of Respect. We believe that acknowledging and celebrating children who demonstrate our core value of Respect is essential. Respect is the foundation of a positive and inclusive school environment, fostering kindness, empathy, and understanding among children. By recognising and celebrating respectful behaviour, in our termly value awards service in Church, we reinforce its importance and encourage all children to embody this value in their daily interactions. Celebrating respect not only boosts the self-esteem and confidence of those being recognised but also sets a powerful example for their peers. Together, we can create a supportive community where every child feels valued and respected.

Do you know your Wren from your chaffinch? Today as part of our courageous Advocacy project, all of KS2 took part in bird spotting and a bird count. At Tilstock CE Primary School, we want our children to be able to name their local British Birds and they want to know how we can help look after them. Bird spotting is a wonderful activity for children, not only because children can learn more about the importance of conserving wildlife and natural habitats, but spotting and identifying birds require patience, focus, and observation, helping children develop these essential life skills. We had a very enjoyable morning and it was great to see the children connecting and respecting nature. Otter Class analysed their results and found that the most popular bird in Tilstock, is a Blackbird! Have a good half-term and see you on Tuesday 25th February!

Mrs Rowena Kaminski
Headteacher



Whitchurch Mayor helping Tilstock children with a mission to feed the community.

We have a group of children who take part in the 'One voice project'. This aims to use the pupils' voice to put change into action in our local community, and is linked to our church school courageous advocacy projects. They are on a mission to plant produce for the local community. To help them with their mission, our children recently wrote to our local Mayor, Andy Hall, to ask if there are any opportunities for us to help with planting and producing food locally. We were over the moon to not just get a reply from the mayor, but a visit from Mayor Hall himself.

Today, we had a productive meeting in our school conference room, sharing plans and ideas, and are delighted that Mayor Hall and the local councillors have given us a very exciting opportunity to help plant produce for Whitchurch within the town centre!

We are extremely excited to start the planning this opportunity and put this into action to support our local town. Well done One Voice children, and watch this space!



Well done to our Respect Award Winners



E-mail Protocol for Parents

We want to continue to support our parents by responding to parental queries at the earliest opportunity, however we are finding an increasing number of emails to staff in the evenings and weekends, with an expectation that emails will be answered straight away.

During the day, whilst staff are prioritising the smooth running of our school and the teaching and learning of our children, we may not be able to respond straight away to emails. In addition, for the wellbeing of our staff, as a Trust, we do not expect staff to respond to emails during their personal/family time.

Expectations for email communications between parents and our staff:

- Typically emails from parents will be responded to during school working hours (8am-4pm).
- Our staff will respond to you as soon as possible and **within three working days**. This does not include weekends or holidays.
- **If a response is urgent, please use another form of communication, such as telephoning the office or using Class Dojo for teachers.**

We will continue to monitor our approach to communication to improve the process further and are welcome any feedback you may have.

Bird Spotting with Otter Class



This term, in worship, we are focusing on the Christian value of Respect

Our chosen worship songs this week were: [Shine Jesus Shine](#) and [From the Tiny Ant](#)
This week in worship we learnt about St. Valentine. [click here](#) to watch together.

WORSHIP



Did you know.....The 'real' St Valentine is believed to have been a priest/doctor living in the 3rd Century at the time of the Roman Empire, who married Roman soldiers against the wishes of Emperor Gothicus. He wrote the first Valentine letter in history.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Click here](#) to view our upcoming events.

Events at a glance:

- Friday 14th February:-** Children break-up for half term
- Monday 24th February:-** PD Day (*no children in school this day*)
- Tuesday 25th February:-** Children return to school
- Thursday 6th March:-** World Book Day
- Friday 21st March:** Red Nose Day
- Wednesday 26th March:-** Mother's Day Service in Church
- Wednesday 2nd April:-** Badger Class Residential 3 days
- Wednesday 9th April:-** Easter Service in Church
- Friday 11th April:-** Children break-up for Easter holidays
- Monday 28th April:-** Children return to school
- Monday 5th May:-** Bank Holiday (*no children in school this day*)
- Monday 12th May:-** Year 6 SATs week
- Friday 23rd May:-** Children break-up for half-term
- Monday 2nd June:-** Children return to school
- Friday 25th July:-** Children break up for Summer holidays



Parent Survey

We are conducting a survey to gather valuable feedback on our School and the Marches Academy Trust. The survey takes about 10 minutes and covers a range of topics. Please click the link below and share your views.

LINK:-
edurio.com/poll/xwrsFm

NEWS



[Click here](#) to view what our students have been up to recently.

Happy Birthday to:-

Trefor, Harri, Avie, Leo

Who celebrate their birthdays this week.

We hope you have a great day celebrating!

