



Newsletter—Friday 22nd March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Can I just start this week by saying 'thank you' for all of the nice comments I have received about the SIAMS report. Parents, ex-staff from the trust, Trustees and the Diocesan Director of Education have been very generous in what they have said. This means a lot as you are all stakeholders in the school. For me, being a Church of England school is so important and it does

make us different from community schools. The theologically grounded vision is at the centre of all we do and, along with the four drivers (Building Learning Power; Building Futures; Building Community; Building Wellbeing & Self-Esteem) it shapes the way children and staff work each day. The children all know the school vision - 'Let Your Light Shine'. Many know where it is derived from - Matthew 5. 14-16. Quite a few can quote all or some of the verses:

*You are the light that gives light to the world. A city that is built on a hill cannot be hidden. And people don't hide a light under a bowl. They put the light on a lampstand. Then the light shines for all the people in the house. In the same way, you should be the light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things that you do. Live so that they will praise your Father in heaven.*

We're nearly at the end of the term! Next week we 'break up' on Thursday and we will be holding our Easter Service in the church at 2:30pm on Wednesday (27th). Everyone is welcome! Next Tuesday we have our final TEAM review, which will be led by Neil Swait HMI. We feel that the behaviour and learning behaviour in the school is exceptional and hope that Mr Swait will look at this for us. He will certainly inspect our Reading provision. Although this is not a formal inspection with a report, I'll let you know the outcomes as soon as I can.

On 11th July, we will be joining with all other TEAM schools to hold an E-Safety day. Children will enjoy online sessions with "The 2 Johns" during the day and there will be a staff session after school. In the evening we will have an online session for parents and carers. These sessions will be live and fully interactive.

*"John and John spent many years working as Police Detectives in various covert roles tackling Online and Offline Child Exploitation. The '2 Johns' are regarded as experts in their field and every year they work in hundreds of Primary and Secondary Schools interacting with Children, Teachers and Parents."*

Online safety is obviously incredibly important and the need to keep children safe is only increasing with new technologies. Please do save this date (we will let you know the exact timings for the parent and carer session and how to login nearer the time) and take advantage of this free training. If you would like any more information on the 2 Johns then please see their website [esafetytraining.org](https://esafetytraining.org) Any questions, please let us know.

On Wednesday morning, I was privileged to go along with the children from Class Four to an immersive theatre production at St Peter's Church in Ilfracombe. "Desperate Journeys" was absolutely incredible. If I wrote for a week, I would not be able to do justice to this amazing

**Next week—W/C Monday 25th March 2024**

Monday:	Lunchtime Choir Club Rocksteady performance—2.45pm
Tuesday:	No Lego Club No KS2 Art Club <b>Book and a Biscuit</b>
Wednesday:	Lunchtime Drama Club 2.30pm Easter Service
Thursday:	Class 2 PE Lunchtime Eco Club No Y6 SATs Club No KS1 Sports Club
Friday:	<b>Good Friday—No School</b>

performance, nor to the mature, considered way that the children reacted to, and immersed themselves in, the drama. Many thanks to Mrs Kennard for arranging this wonderful, moving and thought-provoking experience for the children.

Many thanks to everyone who donated to Comic Relief in exchange for wearing something red last week. As a school we have contributed over £100 to the overall national total.

Mrs Kennard and myself met with Julia Halpin and Rev Tracey Doyle on Wednesday in one of our regular Ethos Group meetings. With SIAMS, Church Club and the on-going success of our quite, calm prayer space in school, there was plenty of positives on the agenda. However, it was upsetting to hear that there have been incidences of vandalism in the church. Rev Tracey is anxious to be able to keep the church open so that everyone is welcome to go in and enjoy the peaceful space. The church remains open on trust. It seems impossible to me that anyone in the school would have been involved in any negative behaviour in the church, but it is also sad to think that this has happened at all.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend,

Rob Norton  
Head of School

### **Sporting News**

Amelia plays football with the Wildcats team in Chulmleigh, and recently was awarded player of the match. Well done Amelia!

We know that we have many incredibly gifted and talented children in a whole range of fields from ballet to music, from art to rugby, football and netball and from swimming to show jumping and much more besides, so if your child is doing amazing things out so school, please do let us know and we can give them a mention in the letter too!



### **Summer Term Dates**

First Day of Term—Monday 15th April

Bank Holiday—Monday 6th May

Half Term—W/C Monday 27th May

Non Pupil Day—Monday 3rd June

Last Day of Term—Tuesday 23rd July



### **Birthday Time!**

Happy Birthday to Henry W for the 26th.



## What happened at school this week?

These questions are about what has been happening in each class this week and are designed as 'conversation starters' for you to use with your child. We hope that they will provide a useful prompt to encourage conversations about school - talking for just three minutes each day about school has been shown to have a great impact on children's learning!

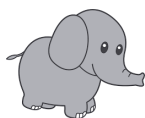


### Learning Lions (Class One)

How can you tell if a number is odd/even? Can you make an odd number using objects? Prove it's odd.

What happened in the story of Tiddler?

What season are we in? What signs of Spring can you see?



### Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you measure items at home using CM and M?

Can you remember your full stops and capital letters when writing a story of your choice?

Can you create a piece of your own Indian Art?

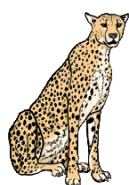


### Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

What did you enjoy most from our 4 weeks of climbing? What skills did you learn?

Can you think of an area to work on from your tests this week?

Tell somebody about your animation story.



### Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

Can you tell someone about algebra?

Are you able to retell the Easter Story to someone?

What was 'Desperate Journeys' about?

## Home Activities and Homework Tasks

**Class One** – Reading.

**Class Two** – Reading for 15-20 minutes each day. Please log reading in yellow Reading Record books.

**Class Three**— Reading log book, correct errors in your arithmetic paper, spellings.

**Class Four** – Reading for at least 60 minutes (Y6) and 45 minutes (Y5). Study times table facts.



## Next Week's Menu—W/C 25th March 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Macaroni Cheese</b> Mixed Vegetables Apple sponge pudding	<b>Meat balls &amp; pasta</b> Peas & carrots Fruit salad and ice cream	<b>Roast Pork</b> Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Veg Fruit Platter	<b>Hunters Chicken</b> Rice and Mixed Vegetables Jam tart and custard	<b>Fish Fingers</b> Golden Fries, Peas & Carrots Shortbread biscuit

### **Class One**

This week in class one we have been learning about the story Tiddler, by Julia Donaldson. We have made fish weavings, played under the sea games to try to understand what it might be like to live in the ocean and wrote about Tiddler's adventures. Our maths learning has led us to explore doubling and odd/even numbers to 10. We've had lots of fun playing games to learn how to spot if a number is odd or even. The children are very excited to see some new growth in our freshly planted raised beds. Spring is definitely on the way! We look forward to seeing you all at the Easter service next Wednesday where we have a special little performance of a well known 'chicken' song. Apologies if your children sing it on repeat all weekend.

### **Class Two**

In Class Two this week, we have been using our creative writing skills. We have been using the story of The Secret Garden to inspire our writing and have used our imaginations to create our own versions. We have developed our sentence level work and have been putting it into practice to write our final pieces. In Maths this week, Year One have been exploring numbers to 50, considering patterns in the number system and starting to discover how to count large groups of objects by grouping into tens and ones. Year Two have been learning about measurement and have learnt how to use rulers accurately to measure centimetres. They have also found out how to use metre sticks and trundle wheels to measure larger objects and spaces. We have been excited to continue our Digital Media Art project this week and have now filmed the scenes for our Bible stories. We will now add music and narration to complete our videos. We look forward to sharing them when they are complete.

On Friday, we took part in an online KS1 Art workshop run by Mrs Laurence. Many of the other Year 1 and 2 classes from across the trust joined in. We developed our drawing skills and created some Indian animal art.

### **Class Three—by Emilia L and Esmay**

This week we went climbing, sadly it was our last session but we had really good fun. We gathered up all our learning and now we are really good climbers!



### **Class Four**

This week in Class Four, we have been trying our hardest to complete our Easter Stories. First we watched a short, animated video of the story. This was both entertaining and informative. We bullet-pointed the information into notes, thought about the different sections and then began writing the story. On Wednesday, we took a coach to a church in Ilfracombe to take part in a drama about a refugee's journey. The drama was very power and, at times, we felt worried for what would happen next. It made me feel lucky that we don't have that sort of trouble in this country (Amelia). It made me feel really bad for the refugees - to think that they have to go through all that (Amaya). It reminded me about the war in Ukraine and how unfair that is (Sonny). It made me feel upset - nobody should have to go through that (Lorelai). In maths we have been learning about algebra. This is when letters can be put into a mathematical expression to represent any value. As well as all of this, we have been reading about Liverpool's docks. We answered questions; made a glossary and improved sentences. (Written by various members of the class)



### Stars of the Week!

Class One— Reuben for great teamwork.

Class Two— Megan for consistently putting her best efforts into her school work.

Class Three— Evelyn for persevering whilst climbing and learning the climbing knot.

Class Four— Amelia W for working hard throughout the term and always trying to improve.

### Reading Stars

Class One— Beauden for confidence in sharing your reading with a friend.

Class Two— Amelia for reading with fluency and expression to the whole class.

Class Three— Megan for her focus and attention to detail when reading the test questions this week.

★ Class Four— Karl for working hard to improve reading comprehension skills.



**HIGH BICKINGTON SCHOOL PTA**

# **Easter Bingo**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March @ High Bickington  
Community Centre**

**Doors open 5.30pm  
Eyes Down 6.30pm**

**£10 per book  
Incl. flyers**

**Soft Drinks, Tea, Coffee  
snacks available**

For more information contact Donna on 07855424778





All the government  
childcare offers in one place

[childcarechoices.gov.uk](https://childcarechoices.gov.uk)



## IMPORTANT MESSAGE – DO NOT MISS OUT ON WORKING ENTITLEMENT FUNDING!

The working entitlement funding for 2, 3 and 4 year-olds is available for eligible families. It is important that if you have a child who will be 2 or 3 years old before 31<sup>st</sup> March or if your circumstances have changed, that you apply to HMRC (Childcare Service) now.

Please set-up or visit your [Gateway Account](#) immediately to apply or reconfirm. If you are unsure if you are entitled to the working entitlement, please check the [Eligibility Criteria](#).

It is important that you allow good time as any queries with new applications or reconfirmations could cause delays and any codes issued in April 2024 **will not be funded** in summer term 2024. Any start dates from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 will not be funded until autumn term 2024 and only then if you reconfirm by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

If you have a code that needs to be reconfirmed, this should also be completed **now**, and if you are unsure, it is your responsibility to log into your [Gateway Account](#) and check. If you are newly eligible or are given a new code at reconfirmation, you need to take your 11-digit code to your provider who will complete a verification check and then confirm your funded space.

When eligibility ends, children who have accessed the working entitlement can continue to access their entitlement in the grace period. However, new children, who are 2 or 3 years old before 31<sup>st</sup> March, or start at a new setting, cannot start to use the working entitlement funding in the grace period if they are no longer eligible.

As part of the eligibility check with HMRC, you will be asked if you would like to register for Tax Free Childcare. You cannot register for Tax Free Childcare if you are in receipt of Universal Credit, Tax Credits or Childcare Vouchers. If you do register, your benefits may be stopped, and it can take several weeks to reinstate.

If you have problems accessing the system or completing your check, please call the HMRC Helpdesk on 0300 1234 097 (your provider and Devon County Council cannot assist with new applications or reconfirmations).

You may be able to access further help with childcare costs. Please visit the [Childcare Choices Website](#) for more information.



VACANCY FOR A MOBILE CATERING ASSISTANT  
HIGH BICKINGTON C OF E ACADEMY

**JOB TITLE:** MOBILE CATERING ASSISTANT

**REQUIRED:** 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

**HOURS PER WEEK:** 7.5 (1 HOUR 30 MINUTES MONDAY-FRIDAY)

**WORKING WEEKS:** 38 WEEKS

**STATUS:** PERMANENT / PART TIME

**STARTING SALARY:** £11.79

**GRADE:** B

**CLOSING DATE:** \*12 NOON ON TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024 *\*(AN EXTENSION HAS BEEN APPLIED)*

**INTERVIEWS:** TBC

Do you hold a full driving license and would you like a different sort of job, one which is interesting and gets you out and about? This is an unusual opportunity which involves transporting and delivering nutritious meals to the High Bickington Academy foundation stage unit (new site linked to the community centre) from High Bickington Academy (main site). This post will be fully supported and managed by our Business Manager and Head of High Bickington Academy.

As a rural school, High Bickington is a closely knit and harmonious community of staff and pupils, all appreciative of good food and company. They enjoy sharing meals together and have a deep understanding of where food comes from and the quality of the provision at the school. The post holder will have the opportunity to develop this further and will be a valued member of staff. All training will be provided.

This is a fantastic opportunity to join a team where you will be valued, welcomed, and supported within a friendly staff environment. Additional benefits include: Membership of a generous pension scheme (TP/ LGPS). Access to Medigold Occupational Health who provide our employees with a range of free health and wellbeing benefits including access to Thrive; a mental wellbeing app. Free Seasonal Flu Vaccinations, Cycle to work and IT schemes, a Competitive Salary, Wellbeing and Long Service days.

TEAM Multi-Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and expects all its staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A DBS check will be undertaken and references taken up before interview. All shortlisted candidates are subject to a pre-employment online search prior to interview.

An application form should be fully completed; we do not accept CV's.

Full details and application form can be found on our website [www.teamacademytrust.com](http://www.teamacademytrust.com)

Applications should be hand delivered, posted or emailed to Sam Stobbs, via [vacancies@team-mat.org.uk](mailto:vacancies@team-mat.org.uk)





## VACANCY FOR THE DIRECTOR OF INCLUSION TEAM MULTI- ACADEMY TRUST

**APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CANDIDATES FOR THE ABOVE POST THAT WILL COMMENCE ON 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**

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JOB TITLE: DIRECTOR OF INCLUSION

STATUS: PERMANENT | FULL TIME

SALARY RANGE: LEADERSHIP SCALE 12-18

CLOSING DATE: 12 NOON 17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

INTERVIEW DATES: 25<sup>TH</sup>/ 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

**Do you have a passion for ensuring all children thrive in a positive, inclusive environment?**

**Are you committed to transforming the futures of children and their families through the power of education?**

The Director of Inclusion at TEAM Multi – Academy Trust is an exciting **new** role, and of significant importance in realising our aims to continue our drive towards excellence. And offer a world-class educational experience for every child within the trust.

The Director of Inclusion will champion the support of our SENDCos, closely monitor the SEND and pastoral team's efforts, and embody our ethos of inclusivity and support for all students. The responsibilities will include, but not be limited to:

- Strategically leading and enhancing our SEND provision to ensure all children achieve their fullest potential.
- Elevating inclusive teaching practices through targeted training and mentorship.
- Meticulously evaluating interventions to guarantee their efficacy and impact on student progress.
- Overseeing the SEND, Pastoral teams, and teaching assistants to foster a cohesive approach to inclusion.
- Serving as the trust's mental health lead, advocating for a school-wide emphasis on well-being.
- Refine and develop the trusts systems, processes and policies in relation to SEND, mental health and medical needs.
- Work with external agencies, MATs and schools to promote the work of the trust.

This is a fantastic opportunity to develop and implement a strategic approach to inclusion across the trust, working alongside a dynamic leadership team in providing the vision and effective leadership for inclusion that creates a culture of high performance, and continuous improvement for all, driving the trust's commitment to equity and excellence for all learners.



The ideal candidate will be a qualified teacher with substantial experience in a senior leadership role within a school or trust and the ability to make an immediate impact. Evidence of the successful implementation of strategies to improve inclusive teaching and learning practices to raise the standards of achievement for all learners and the effective management of change will be key to success in this role, as will be the ability to create positive personal impact.

Working as part of a strong senior leadership team, you would have the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues to implement effective and innovative strategies to support our young people.

We are excited to recruit a Director of Inclusion who leads by example, is child centred and has a passion for SEND and Inclusivity.

### **TEAM MAT: WHERE COLLABORATION MEETS EXCELLENCE**

TEAM MAT is a forward-thinking trust with a proven track record of success. We foster a collaborative spirit where schools work together to share best practices and drive for continuous improvement. Our vision for the SEND provision is nothing short of excellence and will embody our ethos of inclusivity and support for all children.

### **JOIN A TEAM THAT VALUES YOU**

If you would like to work and contribute to a trust that is committed to providing children with outstanding learning experiences, aims to continually develop and grow, and where teamwork and the professional development of all staff is important, we would encourage you to apply.

We actively welcome visits to our schools. Should you have any further questions or wish to arrange a visit, please contact our CEO Ian Thomas via [ceo@team-mat.org.uk](mailto:ceo@team-mat.org.uk) or Director of Education Dan Polak via [dpolak@team-mat.org.uk](mailto:dpolak@team-mat.org.uk)





VACANCY FOR 0.4 FTE SENDCO  
TEAM MULTI- ACADEMY TRUST

**INVITATIONS ARE INVITED FROM BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CANDIDATES  
FOR THE ABOVE POST THAT WILL BECOME VACANT ON 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**

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JOB TITLE: 0.4 FTE SENDCO

STATUS: PERMANENT/ PART TIME

HOURS: 0.4 FTE / 13 HPW

SALARY RANGE: MPS/ UPS (PLUS SEND ALLOWANCE)

CLOSING DATE: 12 NOON ON MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

INTERVIEW: WEDNESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

We are seeking to appoint a dedicated, highly motivated, and resilient SENDCo with a proven track record for raising standards. We pride ourselves on being an inclusive Multi-Academy Trust with high expectations and a commitment to providing the very best for all our children. This is an exciting time to join the trust as we develop to make a significant contribution to the Trust SEND Vision.

We are looking for someone who is committed to working with families and agencies to ensure best outcomes for the children in our care; is a fully qualified teacher with experience of acting as SENDCo or who holds the National Award for SENDCo; has experience of working with pupils with a range of special educational needs and has an excellent understanding of the SEND Code of Practice.

If you would like to work and contribute to a trust that is committed to providing children with outstanding learning experiences, aims to continually develop and grow, and where teamwork and the professional development of all staff is important, we would encourage you to apply.

We actively welcome visits to our school. Should you have any further questions or wish to arrange a visit, please make contact with our CEO Ian Thomas via [ceo@team-mat.org.uk](mailto:ceo@team-mat.org.uk) or Director of Education Dan Polak via [dpolak@team-mat.org.uk](mailto:dpolak@team-mat.org.uk)

*Team Multi Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. Offers of appointment are subject to the completion of pre-employment checks including an Enhanced DBS check and satisfactory references.*

An application form should be fully completed; we do not accept CVs.

Full details and application form can be found on our website [www.teamacademytrust.com](http://www.teamacademytrust.com) or the Devon jobs website [www.devonjobs.gov.uk](http://www.devonjobs.gov.uk) Application should be hand delivered, posted or emailed to Sam Stobbs: [vacancies@team-mat.org.uk](mailto:vacancies@team-mat.org.uk)





# Activity Morning

**St Peter's Church  
Roborough**

**March 29<sup>th</sup> 10.30am – 12.30pm**

**a family fun morning of crafts,  
activities, food, music & story.**

**For more information contact  
Jacque 01805 603602**





**WE NEED YOU.**

We are looking for keen and enthusiastic volunteers to join our Local Governing Bodies (LGB) as a school Governor and/or a Trustee.

#### **Governor**

The role of a School Governor is key in ensuring the school offers high standards of education for all children.

Each school within TEAM Multi -Academy Trust has its own Local Governing Body. The LGB meet once or twice a term and are encouraged to join in with our school visits and learning walks throughout the school year. This is a voluntary position and training is available for this role.

#### **Trustee**

Our Trustees oversee the strategic direction of the Trust schools along with holding the senior school leadership to account and monitoring the trust's finances– amongst many other aspects of school performance.

They can draw on their own expertise from all aspects of business and industry and have specific interests as part of their role such as – Curriculum, Personnel, Admissions, Finance, Safeguarding, Premises or SEND. They meet approximately 6 times a year as a whole group and are active within a range of committees and individual portfolios.

VOLUNTEERING IN THIS WAY BRINGS MANY REWARDS. YOU WILL ENJOY WORKING ALONGSIDE LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE AND GET REAL SATISFACTION AT USING YOUR SKILLS TO CREATE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR CHILDREN.

**If you are interested in volunteering or to find out more about being a local governor at your school or a TEAM trustee, then we would love to hear from you. Please email [vacancies@team-mat.org.uk](mailto:vacancies@team-mat.org.uk)**



For more information, please visit our Governance section on our website: [www.teamacademytrust.com](http://www.teamacademytrust.com)