



MacIntyre Academies  
Quest Academy

## DECEMBER 2023 EDITION 2 NEWSLETTER



Term Starts: Monday 8th January 2024



“Quote of the week”

*“It is Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air.”*

*~ W.T. Ellis*

# WELCOME



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of the year, I would like to take a moment to thank all learners, parents, carers and staff for the ongoing dedication and commitment shown to our school community.

I am pleased to share with you the exciting news that we will be welcoming our new Principal, Ms. Laura Thackaberry, on January 8th, 2024. Laura has been actively involved in our school community during the last half-term, making weekly visits and immersing herself in the vibrant atmosphere of our school. Her enthusiasm, commitment, and understanding of our school has already made a positive impact, and we are confident that she will lead Quest Academy to new heights.

Laura brings with her a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective that will contribute to the continued success and growth of our school. I am confident that under her leadership, Quest will thrive, and the learners will continue to receive the excellent education they deserve.

As I bid farewell to my role as the Interim-Principal, I want to express my deepest appreciation for the unwavering support and cooperation you have extended to me. The sense of community at Quest is truly remarkable, and I look forward to returning as Deputy Principal from January.

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to wish each and every one of you a joyous and festive Christmas and a Happy New Year. May this time be filled with warmth, love, and cherished moments with your loved ones.

Thank you once again for your support and partnership. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Warm regards,  
*Tyla Owen*  
Interim Principal



***We are successful because...***

***...the mother of one of our learners said that she is pleased with his support at Quest Academy and that she is proud of his management of the transition to his new school.***

***...the parents of one of our learners said that he is happier each year due to the support and environment at Quest Academy, which enables him to develop and succeed.***



## The Boy Who Slept Through Christmas

by Matt Lucas (Author)

Dive in to this funny and debut heart-warming magical (and musical!!) adventure from star of stage and screen, Matt Lucas – a festive modern classic for young readers of 8-12!

*'Nearly as good as one of my books'* – David Walliams

Leo LOVES Christmas.

And this Christmas needs to be absolutely perfect, because it's the first one without Mum. Only it all keeps going wrong!

- The fairylights are in a tangle
- The Christmas cards aren't finished
- The tree isn't decorated
- And the Christmas cakes have all been destroyed!

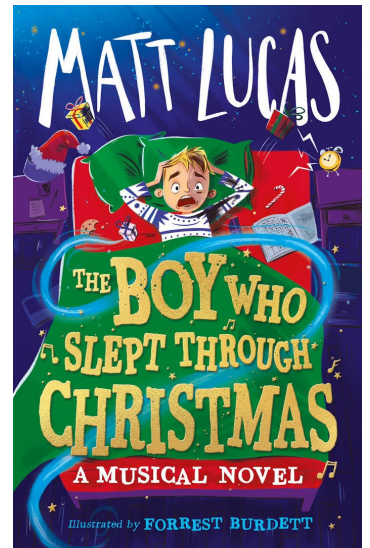
Soon Leo decides he's had enough – he makes a heartfelt wish that it would all GO AWAY.

Then Leo wakes up on what SHOULD be Christmas Day – and it's gone!! All of Christmas! But Leo isn't going to let it escape that easily . . .

Join Leo as he sets out on a mission to undo his wish and get Christmas back in the brand-new festive classic by bestselling author Matt Lucas.

Home Alone meets A Christmas Carol in a hilarious adventure with a big dollop of festive magic. Funny, sensitive and emotional in all the best ways, this warm and seasonal family story touches ever so gently on childhood grief but is wrapped up in a chaotic and heart-warming adventure.

Listen to over 20 original songs, written and recorded by Matt to accompany the story, bringing the joy of a musical to book form!



## The Jolly Elve's Christmas Adventure

by Kat Hall (Author)



***"In a tiny village, covered in snow so white,  
Lived a group of tiny elves, their laughter a pure delight.  
With rosy cheeks and eyes shining bright,  
They loved making toys all day and night."***

*This magical rhyming story will take you on a journey to the North Pole, as the elves are making their way to the little toy workshop. See the fun that the elves have making the toys for Santa Claus to deliver before Christmas Day.*





# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Hi, my name is Grainne (pronounced Grawnna) and I'm the Occupational Therapist working with Quest Academy from January 2023.



I have several years' experience working in schools with autistic children as well as those with learning disability. I am passionate about working in a trauma informed and neurodiverse manner and am also sensory trained.

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE



### Winners:

- Name the Stitch - Matthew H
- Name the Yoda and the Hamper - Kyro
- Pikachu - Alfie
- Charmander - Charlie R





# ACADEMIC YEAR 2023 - 2024

## AUTUMN TERM 2023

**Christmas Holiday**

Monday 25th December 2023 to Friday 5th January 2024

## SPRING TERM 2024

**Starts**

Monday 8th January 2024

**Half term**

Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024

**Learners Start Back**

Monday 19th February 2024

Y9 Parents & Options Evening 4 - 6 pm

Thursday 7th March 2024

**Trust INSET Day (no learners on site)**

Friday 8th March 2024

Easter Fayre 2 – 3.30 pm **Term Ends**

Friday 22nd March 2024

**Spring (Easter) holiday**

Monday 25 March 2024 to Friday 5 April 2024

## SUMMER TERM 2024

**Starts**

Monday 8th April 2024

Y7 & 8 Subject Parents Event 4 - 6pm

Thursday 11th April 2024

**Bank Holiday (no learners on site)**

Monday 6th May 2024

**INSET day (no learners on site)**

Tuesday 7th May 2024

**Half term**

Monday 27th May 2024 to Friday 31st May 2024

**Learners Start Back**

Monday 3rd June 2024

**Ends**

Tuesday 23rd July 2024



Learners do not need to bring in their own balls, we have them available. If they do, they will have to be handed in on arrival like tech.

## The Nurture Group 10-Week Programme

**10-week programme for parents/carers at:**

Henry Hinde Junior School  
Cornwallis Road, Rugby  
CV22 7HN

**The Programme starts on the 20<sup>th</sup> November and lasts till the 5<sup>th</sup> February at 12:30 – 14:30**

Being a parent is exciting and rewarding but there are also times when children behave in ways that are challenging.

The Nurturing programme helps deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer, happier life.

The 10-week Nurture Programme gives parents/carers practical tools and information to support you to raise happy, confident, and emotionally resilient children.

To book a place scan QR code:



For any enquires please contact  
ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk



## HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD (HAF)

**The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme** is funded by the Department for Education (DfE) to provide young people who are in full-time education (Reception to Year 11) and eligible for benefits-related free school meals with access to enriching activities and meals, for free, during the three main school holidays: Winter, Spring and Summer:

You can browse **available activities online**. All bookings are made directly with providers. If you need your HAF code to be resent, please send an email, including your child's full name and date of birth, to [hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## MEALS DELIVERY DRIVER REQUIRED

Sheridan Myers undertake the **school meals transport** throughout Warwickshire and are currently seeking a driver for the transport from **St Matthews Bloxham to Quest Academy**. Historically, these positions are ideal for parents at the schools as they fit in well with school hours and holidays.

**Required:** School Meals Delivery Driver in Rugby.

**When:** Monday to Friday, Term Time only, between approx. 11.30am - 12.30pm

For more information, please contact Sheridan Myers on 0330 053 5995 or email [office@sheridanmyers.co.uk](mailto:office@sheridanmyers.co.uk)



## CHRISTMAS QUIZ

- 1) What colour is Rudolph's nose?
- 2) Who helps Santa Claus make toys?
- 3) Where does Santa Claus live?
- 4) What colour are Santa's boots?
- 5) True or False - Elves are tall...
- 6) What flavour are candy canes?
- 7) What do Santa's reindeer pull on Christmas Eve?
- 8) How many times does Santa check his list?
- 9) True or False - Most kids leave out chips and dip for Santa Claus on Christmas Eve...
- 10) What does Sant bring to children who are naughty?
- 11) Where does Santa Claus usually leave presents in the home?
- 12) What two colours are popular at Christmas?
- 13) What beverage company started to use Santa in its adverts in 1931? (and continue to do so)
- 14) What are the names of the original eight reindeers that pull Santa's sleigh?
- 15) What is Santa Claus more traditionally know as in the United Kingdom?





# ARETHA FRANKLIN CLASS GINGERBREAD HOUSE

In Food Tech, Aretha Franklin have been making gingerbread houses. They really enjoyed

making these and  
engaged brilliantly in  
their lesson.



## MUSIC AT THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE



# TITANIC POETRY BY WINSTON CHURCHILL CLASS

The Iceberg has hit me!  
I'm going down!  
This is the end.  
All the lifeboats are leaving,  
Not all full, I'll add.  
I'm crying as I head down to the deep blue sea.  
Chat with the fishes, As i see the sky for the very last time.

~ Rhianna

The gigantic iceberg,  
Icy cold fingers,  
Tragic.  
After sunken deaths,  
Nobody left.  
Icy Deaths,  
Cold fingers.

~ Freddy

The giant iceberg,  
Icy deep ocean fills the ship.  
The ocean is scary,  
A person dies.  
Nobody survives in the sea.  
Into the depths it goes,  
Captain cries for help.

~ Lily F

The Titanic,  
Iceberg.  
Titanic cries, 'Ouch!'  
'Ahh' said the Titanic.  
'Night night', shouts the iceberg.  
Into the ocean Titanic...bloop...bloop...  
Cat.

~ Alec

It was terrible.  
People perishing all around.  
The cold deep blue sea was terrible.  
I put my hand in, and it froze.  
People screaming all around, and then me, just sitting in a lifeboat.  
I watch as expensive jewelry drops into the ocean.  
Babies crying.  
A flare goes up above me,  
Lets hope I make it out alive.

~ Leo

I feel sad and scared,  
As I fill up helplessly.  
Wishing passengers would go already,  
and leave me to my loneliness.  
I know this is the last day I will ever see.  
As I float down to dance with the fishes,  
I will always have my fond memories.

~ Charlie S.





# HEALTH & SAFETY AUDIT

On the **16/11/2023** we had a health and safety audit take place on site. The report has been published and we are now in a position to share the themes/ outcomes with you.



## *The auditor described Quest Academy as follows:*

“The Quest Academy is a very well-maintained school with some extremely impressive achievements and practices, most notably the arrangements in place for promoting, managing and support for mental health and stress in the workplace..... This has resulted in an excellent score of **97.58%**, one of the highest scores ever achieved in an **EdSafe audit** and well above the average of 84.39%. All staff should be congratulated for this achievement.”

So in light of the commentary above, we wanted to thank all staff for observing the importance of Health and Safety within the workplace, this was truly well reflected within the audit notes and they should all be very proud of their contribution to this end.

In particular, a massive well done and thank you to **Victoria Scranage, Alan Brabazon** as well as those directly involved in the audit process.

## CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE FOLLOWING STAFF



Hazel Floralde, Jackie Brooks, Laura Read,

Mary Doherty, Ian White, Shelley Campos and Sarah Cahill

For being with us over five years

### Compassion

Jade King, Nathan Johnson, Diane Noel, Vittoria Ekwueme, Faisal Shehzad

### Ambition

Ruth Pike, Gemma Bachelor, Gary Percy, Sophie Scott, Philip Etumuse

### Partnership

Sam Love, Leanne Neasham, Sam Townsend, Tonya Greenhill, Olga Janosne

### Team

Technicians (Discovery) - Family Footings (Quest) - Office Team (Venture) - Triangle class (Endeavour)



Quest Academy is currently working to achieve the Wellbeing Award in Schools.

In order to evaluate our current provision, we need your input. Your views are important in helping us understand what we are doing well and how we can do even better.

Please follow the link below to complete the survey. It should only take a couple of minutes.

All responses and suggestions will be carefully considered and used to plan a range of improvements. If you have any queries about this survey, please contact us.

Thank you! [Click here](#) Or copy and paste the following

<https://app.awardplace.co.uk/stakeholder-evaluations/user-survey/658036156b437>

**Evaluation submissions are valid until 12/01/2024.**

## AMAZING WORK SACHA!



At Quest we love celebrating our learners both inside and outside of school. Music Teacher, Zoe, went to see learner, Sacha play with his band on Thursday 21st December, and came back with some fantastic pics of him in action, Zoe reported back to school saying , *'they were amazing!'*

Well done Sacha!

## TASTY WORK CHARLIE!



Charlie's treasure chest cake!

## MORE FABULOUS FOOD TECH WORK!







**Attendance:** At Quest Academy, we seek to ensure that all our learners receive a full time education which maximizes opportunities for each learner to reach his or her true potential: we feel that good attendance (95% or above) and good punctuality too are a vital part of this and we want all learners to strive towards this.

Government statistics have proven that children with poor attendance are 47% less likely to meet their potential examination results compared to learners with good attendance.

We have a desire to strive towards 100% attendance for all of our learners and expect all parents/ carers to actively support us in ensuring that their children are in school, safe, at all times. We also aim to hold all parents / carers that give low priority to good school attendance accountable.

**Lateness:** Pupils must attend registration on time to be given a present mark. Registration starts at 8.50am until 9am. Arrival after the start of morning registration will be given an 'L' code. After 9.30am a 'U' code (unauthorised absence) will be given.

### Quest Contact Details:

Quest Academy  
Anderson Avenue  
Rugby  
Warwickshire  
CV22 5PE

E: [quest.office@macintyreacademies.org](mailto:quest.office@macintyreacademies.org)

T: 01788 593 112



**How to contact members of staff:** Please contact Reception if you would like to speak with a member of staff. You will either be transferred or reception will email the member of staff to let them know that you have called.

**Reporting pupil absence and lateness:** Please can we remind parent/carers to call school on **01788 593 112**, before 9am if your child may be late or is unwell. You will also need to contact the taxi company to let them know. If your child is absent for more than 7 days you will need to provide a doctors certificate. If we do not receive a doctors note and have not seen your child we will have no alternative but to refer the matter to the Safeguarding Board in line with our safeguarding procedures.

## PRIVACY NOTICE

MacIntyre Academies collects and uses pupil information which complies with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This is Europe's framework for data protection laws – it replaces the previous 1995 data protection directive, which UK law has previously been based upon.

**Please note that limited personal data is used and stored as per the MAT Retention Policy.**

You can read the full details of our [Privacy Notice](#) in the policy. This includes more details of our legal basis for the use of specific information.

