



Newsletter—Thursday 28th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

January 3rd seems quite a long time ago now and the children have packed much into the three months since. There have been many stand-out moments: residential to London and SGH; zoo trips and play trips; musical performances; climbing and a couple of big inspections! But it is in the day to day routines and learning where the children have excelled and shown such great resilience. The learning behaviour and attitudes of the children have been outstanding (as they were in the Autumn Term) and all children have made progress. All have contributed in lessons and all have maintained high quality books of their written work. It is a joy to see the pride that they take in their learning and in the school. Thank you to all of you for working so hard this term - you have all earned a well deserved two weeks off!

We know that positive behaviour and attitudes, excellent learning behaviour and high standards of work characterise every day at HB, but it is always reassuring to have our perceptions moderated and subsequently endorsed. Mr Swait's TEAM inspection visit on Tuesday did just that. In the course of his visit, Mr Swait watched phonics teaching and 1:1 reading sessions in Classes One and Two; guided reading in Classes Three and Four and examined the school's provision for History. The outcomes were very positive and I include extracts of Mr Swait's visit note below:

*In the Reception class, the teacher provides children with precise guidance to ensure that they articulate phonemes correctly. She delivers the session with interest and enthusiasm, promoting a clear love of reading. Children demonstrate a strong recall of the phonemes, graphemes and common exception words that have previously been covered. They concentrate intently on their learning and are keen to do well. Children apply their knowledge of letters and sounds with a high degree of success when segmenting and blending unfamiliar words. In the KS1 class, the teacher ensures that pupils have sufficient time to practise today's new phoneme / grapheme, making good use of call and response. Pupils focus well on their learning demonstrating high levels of engagement. They successfully draw on their prior knowledge to segment and blend. KS2 teachers are highly skilled in the teaching of reading. They ensure that pupils receive well targeted instruction and guidance to improve their literacy skills. Learning within whole class reading sessions is suitably demanding, well-paced and active. The overall quality of pupils' work in history is of a consistently high standard. Pupils present their learning with care and diligence. Evidence in books aligns with curriculum intent. The depth of learning and coverage is exceptionally strong. Pupils demonstrate an excellent level of knowledge and understanding associated with the units of study that have been covered.*

Thank you all for your continued support this term. Educating your children is an enormous privilege and, as educators, we know that educating your children works best when you take part in that education. With that in mind, it is encouraging that so many parents read with their

### Next week—W/C Monday 15th April 2024

Monday:	First Day of Term Lunchtime Choir Club
Tuesday:	No Lego Club No KS2 Art Club
Wednesday:	Lunchtime Drama Club After School Church Club
Thursday:	Class 2 PE Lunchtime Eco Club No KS1 Sports Club No Y6 SATs Club
Friday:	Class 3 PE Class 4 PE 3.00 celebration collective worship No KS2 Sports Club

children; work on times tables or number bonds with them and talk about learning that they have completed each week (the 'Three Questions' in the letter support these conversations). Staff have been able to speak with most parents at parents' evenings this term and there have been numerous other occasions when staff have talked to parents about the progress of their children as well. The two Book and a Biscuit afternoons this term have been well attended too. These half-termly events have become very important as they give children the chance to Let Your Light Shine and talk parents through the work they have completed in their books. The children are rightly proud of their achievements and the progress that the books demonstrate ... they deserve the chance to show them off! We will have two more BaaB afternoons in the Summer Term - please do come along.

We are all back on Monday 15th April and I know the Summer Term will be as packed with opportunities for everyone to 'Let Your Light Shine' as this one has been.

Have a wonderful Easter break with plenty of chocolate (or sweets)!

Best wishes,  
Rob Norton  
Head of School



### **Notices and messages**

Please note that there are no school run after school clubs the first week of term. There is Church Club on Wednesday 17th.

New menu for the summer term—please see attached with this newsletter.

Nursery Fees—A reminder that In line with Devon County Council, we will be increasing the charges for non funded nursery places. From 1st April additional 3/4 year old sessions will increase to £5.22 an hour, and additional 2 year old sessions will increase to £6.30 an hour.

### **Summer Term Dates**

First Day of Term—Monday 15th April

Bank Holiday—Monday 6th May

Half Term—W/C Monday 27th May

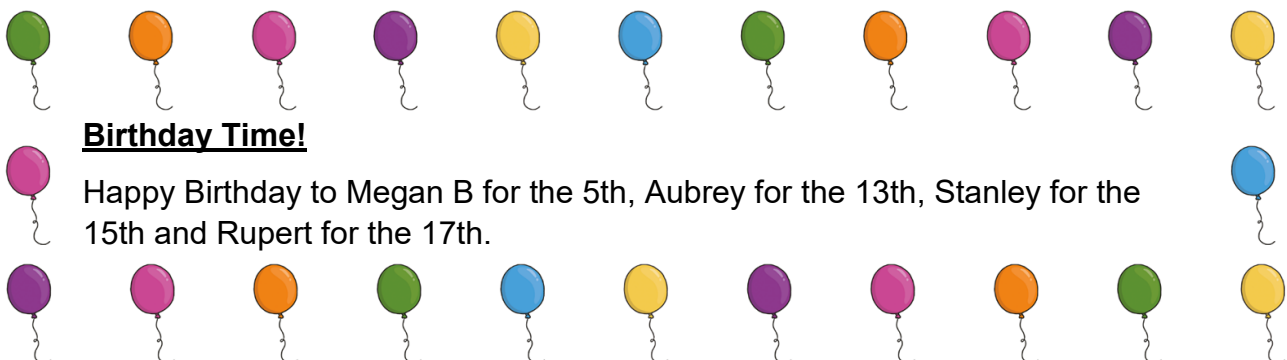
Non Pupil Day—Monday 3rd June

Last Day of Term—Tuesday 23rd July



### **Birthday Time!**

Happy Birthday to Megan B for the 5th, Aubrey for the 13th, Stanley for the 15th and Rupert for the 17th.





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**





BARNSTAPLE  
TOWN COUNCIL

FREE

Easter



CRAFTING WORKSHOPS

WEDNESDAY

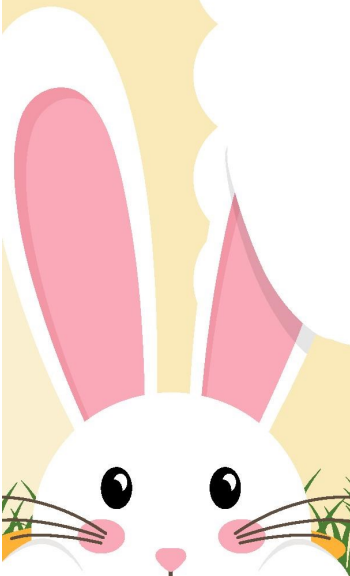
3RD & 10TH APRIL 2024



11AM-2PM



GUILDHALL,  
BARNSTAPLE





**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)