



St Joseph's Catholic High School

# Newsletter

Friday 31st March 2023



## Matilda Production

A massive well done to everyone who took part in Matilda this week whether it being on stage, backstage, front of house, car parking, refreshments. It has been a fabulous week and we are sure something that will evoke memories in years to come. More fabulous photos are inside the Newsletter...

## Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all safe and well.

My weekly message is in video format. Please do take a listen and let us know what you think, any feedback is welcome.

To watch the video follow the below link to our website and click on the most recent dated Head teacher Message.

**Please find below the link to our website to view my message:**

[Newsletters - St Joseph's Catholic High School \(st-josephs.slough.sch.uk\)](https://st-josephs.slough.sch.uk)

St Joseph, pray for us

Mr Stapleton



"The glory of God is a human being fully alive!"

## TERM DATES

Polite Reminder regarding upcoming Term Dates, please make sure you are aware:

### Summer Term

Inset Day Monday 24th April 2023

Term Begins Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Bank Holiday Monday 1st May 2023

Bank Holiday Monday 8th May 2023

## Theme of the Week – Holy Week

*There is no Easter without a Good Friday*, goes the saying, meaning that before the glory of the Resurrection, our Lord Jesus had to subject himself to a bitter Passion. The narrative of His Passion dominates the liturgy of Palm Sunday, but more poignantly that of Good Friday. What is the meaning of this commemoration, and why are we still celebrating it after 2000 years? The purpose of this liturgy is to show the church (**that is US**) the attitude that she should have towards the passion and death of Our Lord. The celebration opens with a prostration in silence, to remind us that **in order to understand the death of Christ we must be in a state of interior silence**, a silence which contemplates and adores, to live the last hours of Jesus with inner concentration, because that event, is decisive for our lives. We lay prostrated before that suffering servant whom Isaiah, centuries before, described in detail, **the man of sorrow acquainted with grief, one from whom men hide their faces, the one who has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities.**

The Gospel accounts of the Passion of the Lord are the most precious treasure which the Church guards and cherishes from the very beginning. **Have you ever noticed that these occupy a disproportionate part of each Gospel? Why? Because since the beginning the Passion of our Lord was understood to be the most beautiful manifestation of the love of God. While we listen to it, we understand the real meaning of the words before the washing of feet: *having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. TO THE END.*** Jesus' last words will be: *It is finished*, which does not mean *that's all folks*...it means that **he has pushed the giving of himself to the uttermost, and full payment for our sins has been done.** Nothing could reveal the love of God more than the: the giving of his own son, his only son, his beloved son, on a shameful cross...for us. **It is there that the love story between God and us reaches its climax.** It is in the failure of Christ that we become victors, because it is in His death that our death is utterly and definitively destroyed! This is why Good Friday is not a funeral, and the Church does not allow us to live it as such, but rather a moving contemplation of the extent of God's love.

After having heard the story of this passion of love, the celebration will continue with the Universal prayer, a great invocation which springs from grateful hearts. We approach the throne of glory and pray, earnestly, for the Church and its Pastors, for our brothers and sisters in Christ, for those to be baptised, for believers of other religions, for non-believers, for the whole world. Filled with the bleeding love of Christ we flood the world with it, we pour it out in prayer over all his creation, on those who know him and those who don't, those who love him, and those who don't, so that the seed of Christ's love may penetrate every heart and produce fruits in our lives, in the Church and in the world.

Then we will kiss the cross: those who have listened to the tale of his death for us, and have gathered in prayer, these people now feel the need to CONFESS their faith to him, to show him their love and affection KISSING that cross, kissing the horrible instrument of torture which the blood of Christ made the instrument of our salvation.

Finally, this union with Christ who gave himself so that we may be freed, will reach its completion when we will gather round the altar. That body is not only given up on the cross as a payment for our sins, **but it comes back to us as heavenly food and medicine for immortality. Because the love of God has no limits.**

So, dear friends, when the day comes, try to attend the liturgy of Good Friday, and let it enter into your life, let it nurture it, let it console it, let it sustain your faith, let it increase the joy of being redeemed, and let it make you more willing to respond to such great love by BEING that love to the brothers and sisters around you, in your family, in your church, and in your school. A Blessed Easter to you all!

# Holy Week

Weekly Reflections  
2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023



## Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (27:26-50)

Then Pilate released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour.

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

## Prayer for the Week

Loving Father, as we contemplate your Son Jesus on the cross, we understand the cost of sin and the greatness of your love for us. Make us ready to accept this great gift by putting our lives at His feet and our will at His service. In Him, who died that we may live, we pray. Amen.

## Saint of the Week

St Isidore of Seville,  
Bishop (VI-VII c.)



Isidore was the learned bishop of Seville when the Visigoths were threatening the great classical cultural heritage of the Spanish peninsula. He very wisely understood that in order to create a sense of national unity, elements of the Visigothic culture had to be integrated and assimilated by the natives. He is one of the reasons why Spain has such a rich and diversified culture. He was certainly

**Learned and Wise**

## Day 2

Why do you think the narrative of the passion of Jesus occupies much more space than the rest of his public life in the Gospel? Why is it so important?

## Day 1

Have you ever been to the solemn liturgy of Good Friday in your Parish Church? If so, what do you remember of it and what struck you most?

### Lent 2023

#### Lenten Fundraising – ‘Access to Shine’ Project and Cafod – Syrian and Turkey earthquake appeal

With only a week left of our Lenten fundraiser please can parents/guardians encourage their child to either submit their fundraising through ParentPay or into the school office. This year money raised through fundraising will be donated to our school charity, the ‘Access to Shine Project’ and to Cafod to support with their current aid appeal for the recent devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

The Go kart racing was cancelled today due to the weather but this will happen on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

LENT CALENDAR					
WEEK COMMENCING ON THE 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2023					
DAY	Monday 03/04	Tuesday 04/04	Wednesday 05/04	Thursday 06/04	Friday 07/04
Theme	Daily bread	Help	Our Father	Faith	The cost of Love
Activity	Today say a little prayer before each meal to thank God for his providence.	Jesus was famous for talking to people everybody else avoided.  Today try to reach out to those who may feel 'left out' at school or at home.	Today read the Lord's prayer and pay attention to each verse:  Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name: thy kingdom come: thy will be done: on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.	Today ask a person who regularly goes to church why their faith is important to them, and LISTEN.	Jesus loved us 'to the end' that is to the point of giving his life that we may have life in him.  Today take five minutes to read again the Passion according to Matthew on the Theme of the Week.

## SHOWCASE OUT LOUD!

**Where:**  
T11

**When**  
After school 15:20-16:00 04/04/2023

**What**  
Do you sing, dance, juggle, play an instrument etc..

Want to showcase your amazing talent!

Join in the fun!!



## Karaoke fundraiser

50p per entry ...£1 to come and watch( Email Mrs Ossei-Brainoo at [j.ossei-brainoo@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:j.ossei-brainoo@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk))  
Treats will be provided

## St Josephs Feast Day – 28<sup>th</sup> April

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April, we will celebrate our Feast Day. Bishop David will be celebrating Mass in the morning. We will be going on a Faith Walk and have some other fun activities planned for the rest of the day. A letter is attached outlining more information about the day so please do have a read.

Parents/carers must consent via ParentPay. The walk is compulsory for all and if any issues please let me know.

## Lenten Fundraising

A massive thank you to all students who have participated in Lenten fundraising event this week.

Your generosity and support mean a great deal to us and will go a long way in helping the work of charities that we support.

Last Friday saw the launch of our very first St. Joseph's Fundraising Friday FIFA Tournament! We witnessed a gripping Year 9 Final which will go to a penalty shootout. 10 Veronica and 7 Mark booked their places in their finals, with wins over 10 Teresa and 7 Jerome respectively. So far, we've raised £21.66, which will continue rising as we conclude the tournament this week.

Thank you to Mr. Whiteside and Mr. Carey for their help in conducting this.



**Word of the Week****“Terminate.”**

This is a verb meaning to bring to an end.

*“I will terminate any inappropriate behaviour immediately.”*

*“The train terminates at my stop.”*

*“This lesson terminates at 9.45.”*

**Idiom of the Week****"Scrape the bottom of the barrel."**

Meaning: To use the worst people or things because that is all that is available or to dig deep into your reserves to give the last you towards something.

Origin: The barrel being referred to is a storage barrel and the scraping is the removal of the last dregs of the contents. The first uses of the expression refer to scraping the barrel as a means of getting every last small piece, so as not to waste any. The earliest example of the 'last dregs/poorest quality' meaning doesn't include the phrase itself but clearly alludes to it. That's in The California newspaper The Chico Enterprise, November 1930: “We all learn sooner or later in life that the barrels of this life all have bottoms that we soon scrape.”

Examples:

*“Richard is in the team? You really are scraping the bottom of the barrel!”*

*“We will find the energy to continue working our best until the Easter break by scraping the bottom of the barrel.”*

In Spanish: « Raspa el fondo del barril. »

In French: « Gratter le fond du baril. »

**Year 7 News**

Dear Year 7's,

Well done to everyone who had the opportunity to take part in the rewards inflatables on Thursday, fun was had by all. Today we had go Carting around the school for those who had raised money for Lent. A reminder that next week we break up on Thursday at 12.30. There will be a whole school mass on Wednesday in the sports hall.

Finally a massive shout out to all of my Year 7's who took part in Matilda this week. You were all AMAZING: Jessica Lysiak, Carla Comaneci, Julian Wojiejowski, Rio Moore-Flemming, Neve Cullen, Oli Kosiba, Kwame Offie Yebodah, Victoria Pantiln and Colby Lawson

Mrs Dunleavy – Head of Year 7

## Year 8 News

Congratulations to all of our year 8 students who were chosen to participate in the inflatable session yesterday. It was a really fun event with lots of laughter and excitement.

This week the year group have been focussing on raising lots of money for charity as part of our Lenten fundraising challenge. If there are any student who have not yet raised anything, there is still time. Speak to your form tutor for a sponsorship form and try to challenge yourself to raise £10.

Mrs S Miller – Head of Year 8

## Year 11 News – EXAMS

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find attached to this week's newsletter the summer 2023 exam timetable. I will be contacting any students who have a clash of exams to confirm the arrangements for them.

Individual student timetables will be distributed as soon as possible. Dates for the language speaking exams will be confirmed by your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at [a.euden@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:a.euden@st-josephs.slough.sch.uk) if you have any queries.

Kind Regards,

Miss A Euden - Exams Officer

## Year 12 News

**Year 12 Parents Evening** – a date for the diary

We have moved the Year 12 Parents Evening to 8th of June – look forward to seeing you all there.

For Year 12 - Amelia Grigg - Selwyn College Cambridge Visit 27th of April

Amelia Grigg will be visiting us on the 27th of April, at 11am, to deliver a workshop to a group of Year 12 students on what makes a personal statement, fit for the elite universities as well as to explore subject options.

This session is for those:

- Applying to Oxford or Cambridge
- Applying to other Elite universities like Imperial, UCL, Kings
- Applying to Veterinary Science, Medicine or Dentistry
- With 5x Grade 7s at GCSE

If your son/daughter is interested, please ask them to fill out the form here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/zv0v3bTNY0>

Mr G Stack-Clark – Head of Sixth Form

### Drama News



A massive well done to everyone who took part in Matilda this week whether it being on stage, backstage, front of house, car parking, refreshments. It has been a fabulous (albeit tiring) week and I am sure something that will evoke memories in years to come.



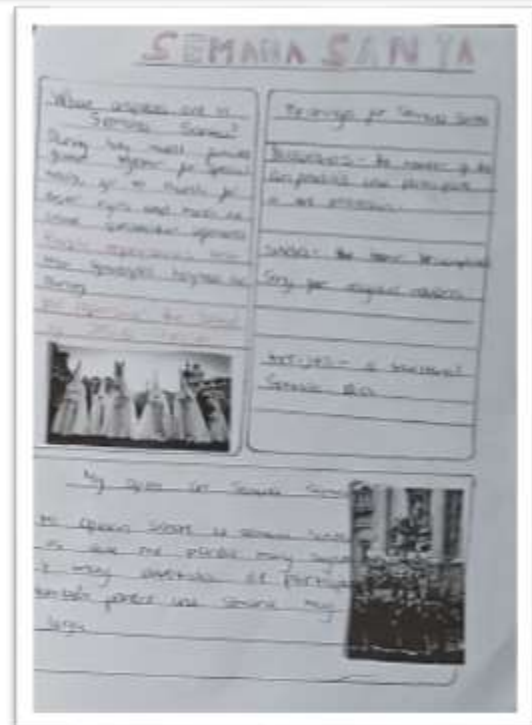
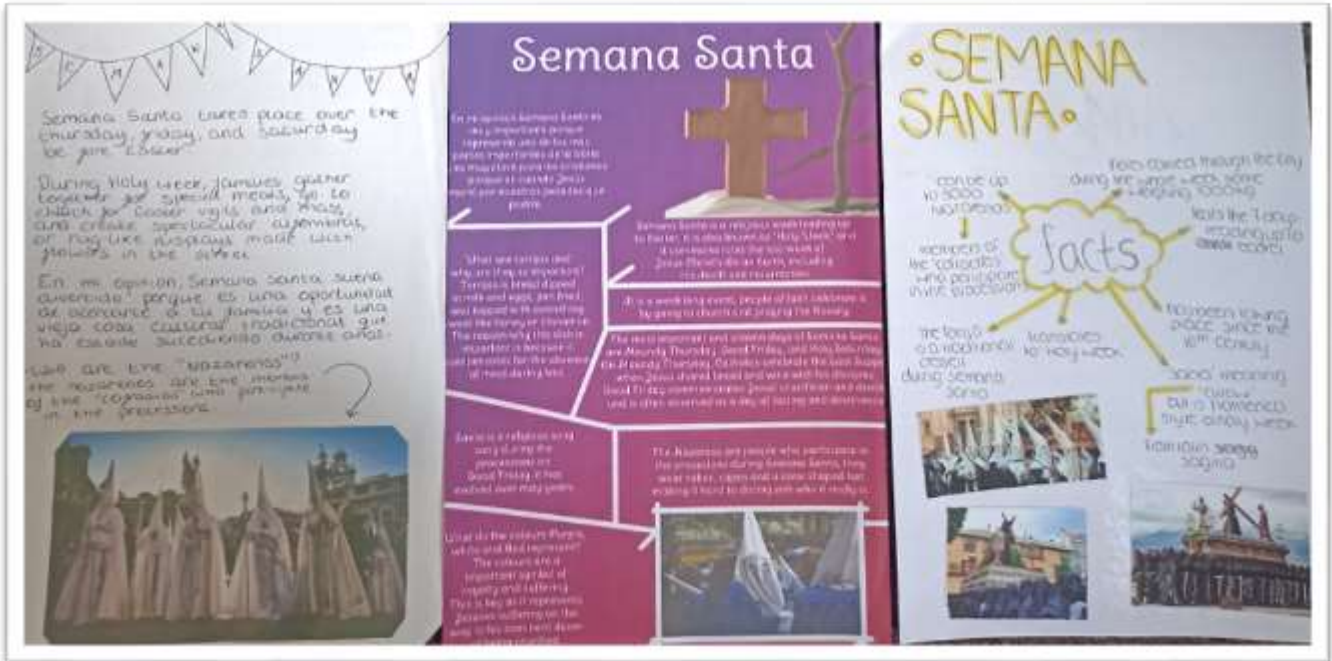


MFL News

'La Semana Santa' is a really important week for Catholic people in numerous cities in Spain. Processions and parades start on Palm Sunday, commemorating the arrival of Christ in Jerusalem.

Our Year 9 students have created these excellent projects explaining the significance of the celebration and the main traditions.

Special mention to Wiktoria Zych, Victoria Galica, Max Oleszak, Kara Cullen and Tyreese Chatyoka for their wonderful posters.





## Homework superstars

Eldrich Pailan	7c
Karolina Strycharczuk	10P
Sophie Wood	10V
Timothy Banas	11P
Pamela Lopez	11P
Simone Soriano	11P
Wilette Katta-Worae	13J
Angel Omale	13J
Iyanu Sanni	13M

## PE News



## EXCITING OPPORTUNITY!!!! Watford FC Girls Coaching 25<sup>th</sup> April



Watford FC Professional ladies team are coming to St Joseph's Catholic School on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April!

**Professional first team coaches** and **players** are coming in for the day to coach girls during school hours. This will take place at Slough Town FC.



This fantastic opportunity is available to every girl in the school from all abilities, including 6<sup>th</sup> form.

This is a great opportunity to try a **new sport** for the first time or potentially **be scouted** for those who already play for a club!

If you would like to be a part of this incredible opportunity, please tick your name on the sheet provided by the form tutor. Enjoy!!!

### Year 11 Netball

The Year 11 GCSE netball team played 3 matches against Eden Girls School. The girls played exceptionally well and showcased great teamwork and camaraderie winning all 3 games: 9-2, 12-5 and 17-2.

Well done to: Megan, Martyna, Abi, Sophie, Mia, Patrycja, Athena and Tia. POM: Tia



### Year 7 Netball

The Year 7 netball team played their final match of the season against Westgate. The girls finished on a high winning their game 13-3. All of the girls played fantastically well and were determined until the final whistle. Well done to: Joanna, Eilis, Isabella, Annabel, Viki, Maya, Chloe and Miah. POM: Miah



### Electives News - The Model United Nation Competition

Last week Thursday and Friday, a group of Year 9, 10, and 12 students participated in MUN Halcyon International School in London. Not only they enjoyed their first MUN experience but also, their performance was brilliant! They even managed to win! Our Year 12 student, Aiden Daliling got rewarded as the best delegate representing the USA in Security Council. It was truly unforgettable, and they look forward to competing for the next MUN!

Mr. A. Romero - Head Of Year 9



### Rewards Day – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March

On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 200 students took part in the end of term rewards day. These were students who had won a fortnightly challenge this term, or who had the highest number of combined points (positive – negative) in their year group. Following the success of our rewards day in December, the same company came back with some new inflatables for the students to enjoy. It was a really fantastic day and the students excelled themselves; the zorbs were a firm favourite and we got some fantastic photos as you can see! Congratulations to the students involved, and keep working hard for more positive points!



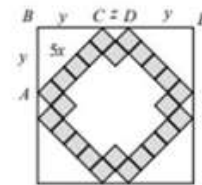




# #IcandoMaths

**Solution to last Week's Puzzler**

**B** Let the length of the sides of each small square be  $x$ . Then the shaded area is  $24x^2$ . Let the perimeter of the square be divided into eight line segments, each of length  $y$ , and four line segments of length  $z$ . Some of these are labelled in the diagram. By Pythagoras' Theorem in triangle  $ABC$ :  $y^2 + y^2 = (5x)^2$ , that is  $2y^2 = 25x^2$ .



So  $y = \frac{5}{\sqrt{2}}x = \frac{5\sqrt{2}}{2}x$ . Similarly, in the triangle with hypotenuse  $CD$ :  $x^2 + x^2 = z^2$ , that is  $2x^2 = z^2$ . So  $z = \sqrt{2}x$ . Therefore the length of the side of the large square is  $2y + z = 5\sqrt{2}x + \sqrt{2}x = 6\sqrt{2}x$ . So the area of the large square is  $(6\sqrt{2}x)^2 = 72x^2$ . Hence the required fraction is  $\frac{24x^2}{72x^2} = \frac{1}{3}$ .

**Solution to the Break time Teaser:**

**B**  $1^6 = (1^3)^2$ ,  $3^4 = (3^2)^2$ ,  $4^3 = 64 = 8^2$  and  $5^2$  are all squares. However,  $2^5 = 32$  and is not a square.

**Problem of the week**

The diagram shows a square, its two diagonals and two line segments, each of which connects two midpoints of sides of the square.



What fraction of the area of the square is shaded?

- A  $\frac{1}{8}$       B  $\frac{1}{10}$       C  $\frac{1}{12}$       D  $\frac{1}{16}$       E  $\frac{1}{24}$

**Break time Teaser:**

<p><b>Across</b></p> <p>1. A power of 5</p> <p>2. A power of 4</p>	<p><b>Down</b></p> <p>1. A power of 6</p>
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Eight of the digits from 0 to 9 inclusive are used to fill the cells of the crossnumber.  
What is the sum of the two digits which are not used?

A 12      B 13      C 14      D 15      E 16

Send your answers to Mr Allinson. Complete answers will get positive points on Class Charts.

## Pupil Nominations of the Week

### YEAR 7

All the Year 7's who took part in Matilda this week. You were all AMAZING: **Jessica Lysiak, Carla Comaneci, Julian Wojiejowski, Rio Moore-Flemming, Neve Cullen, Oli Kosiba, Kwame Offie Yebodah, Victoria Pantiln and Colby Lawson**

**Edzio S** and **Layla L** for knowledge recall in French. **Ortise B** and **Meyan W** for great effort in French.

### YEAR 8

**Evadne Vermeulen** (8 Peter) and **Fabian Lukomski** (8 Jerome) for achieving the most positive points this week

**Benjamin D** for great effort in Spanish.

### YEAR 9

All the year 9s who have been involved in the school Matilda show: **Keeley Canavan, Connie Oakes, Anika Garnie, Kara Cullen, Jessica MistECKa, Anthony Omale, Sara Pisecka, Michaela Sowah.**

**Liza Pereira** and **Matthew Reis** for their compassion towards their classmate **Devora** and all the support they have offered to her.

### YEAR 10

For the most positive points: **Ethan Fernandes , Filip Kaczmarek, Karolina Woronowicz** and **Sienna Rose-King**

**Michelle K** for awesome work in Spanish lessons.

### YEAR 11

The amazing Matilda cast.

All the fantastic students who completed their DT and Food practical's this week.

### YEAR 12

**Aiden Daliling** for his amazing contribution at the Model UN and being voted top delegate. Miss **Akintokun's Vocational Business class** for their amazing work ethic and making fantastic progress.

**Danica Amon** for her great courage shown during the Model United Nations competition last week

### YEAR 13

Piotr Augustyn Sharma for being Assistant Director Matilda

Bianca Long for being Lead Role in Matilda

Rebecca Conlon for being Stage / Props in Matilda