



NEWSLETTER 25 – 21st March 2022

Our PSHE focus this half term is **Heathy me** and our School Value focus is **Thankfulness**

★ Star of the Week ★	★ ★ Values Award ★ ★	★ ★ Best attendance: ★																											
Reception All RS & Fabritio Year 1 Maria & Humiarah Year 2 Sirraaj & Ranveer Year 3 Anabia & Ismail Year 4 Inayah & Sofia Year 5 Karmani & Muhammed (& the rest of 5R) Year 6 Aisha & Issac	Reception Sapphire & Lawa Year 1 Charlie & Amelia Year 2 Adam & Fabian Year 3 Mus'ab & Juwairiya Year 4 Abubakr & Muznah Year 5 Hassan & Alisia Year 6 Mazama & Zarin	Year 6 Best punctuality: Year 5 <i>(Please note, this data is always a week in arrears!)</i>																											
Weekly attendance by year group: Green - attendance better than 96% (Government target) - great! Yellow –attendance below the target of 96% - a concern Red - attendance of 90% or below - a great concern.		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Previous attendance figures</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Latest figures</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Reception</td> <td style="text-align: center;">81.9%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">92.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Year 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">88.8%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">90.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Year 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">86.0%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">92.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Year 3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">90.3%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">92.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Year 4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">92.5%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">91.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Year 5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">96.8%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">93.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Year 6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">94.7%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">94.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Whole school total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">90.2%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">92.8%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Previous attendance figures	Latest figures	Reception	81.9%	92.4%	Year 1	88.8%	90.5%	Year 2	86.0%	92.7%	Year 3	90.3%	92.4%	Year 4	92.5%	91.7%	Year 5	96.8%	93.6%	Year 6	94.7%	94.5%	Whole school total	90.2%	92.8%
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<p>KS2 Maths Challenge: Faiqa, 5B worked out the correct total if Mr Mackley bought every child, in school, an Easter egg, using the offer. £134 .</p> <p>Timetables Rock Stars: 5R beat 5B convincingly! Who will win next? Most points – Abdul 5R Most improved – Alan 5B</p> <p>Numbots: Anjali 1W was the best player this week!</p>																													

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week sees a big step forward in the building project at the front of the school as the steelwork that forms the main structure should start to go up. This project has been nearly 2 years in development and so it is very exciting to see that it is progressing and taking shape. It is another chapter in the development of the buildings at St Matthew's, the first part was built in 1874 followed by further developments in 1879 & 1891. Around 1900 a few extensions were also added then in the 1950s more work was done. Over the years a lot of internal changes have been made so this is definitely the biggest change for some considerable time.

Thank you for your continued patience in using the temporary entrance from Delaware Street; we know it is not ideal and we will have to continue with this until around December time. Please continue to bear with us as at times the office staff have to leave the office and deliver information around the school and they will answer the gate/phone once they are back in.

Finally, if there have been any concerns / issues with your child and another child please come and talk to staff in school about it and let us address them. Please don't speak directly to the children involved or their parents as in our experience this rarely resolves the issue. Staff are able to deal with nearly all issues within school.

Staff News:

Miss Harling and Mrs Beetham have both announced that they will sadly be leaving St Matthew's at Easter, after many years of service between them. Miss Harling is moving to take up a post teaching English as a foreign language to adults at Blackburn College; Mrs Beetham is not going quite so far and is taking up a promoted post at Ribbleton Avenue Junior School. We shall miss them both and want to thank them for all they have done for our school as well as wish them every success and happiness in their new roles.



I am delighted to inform you that we have already been able to recruit a replacement for Miss Harling! Mrs Grilli will be joining us after Easter to teach 2K (who will be known as 2G) and we hope that she will be able to meet the children before the holidays.

Comic Relief!



What a wonderful sight it was on Friday with the wide variety of different things people did – colourful hair, bright clothes, clothes worn back to front or inside out – all in aid of a worthy cause. Thank you again to our School Council, run by the children, for guiding us to do our bit.



Easter Egg Raffle:

It's back! The annual Easter Egg Raffle in aid of PTFA funds returns with tickets 20p each. Tickets are on sale from class teachers. Winning numbers will receive an Easter Egg, generously donated by staff. (To be drawn on the last Friday before Easter holidays 1st April) Mrs Rossall says that we are "Hoping to raise eggstra funds to provide more playground planters/equipment"

After school clubs:

A further reminder for those who attend clubs, please take note of the time they finish as



Prayer / thought for the week / reflection

Reflection:

This week we are looking at a story from the Old Testament when Nehemiah and his fellow Jews rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem when everyone said it couldn't be done, making it a safe place once again.

It took Nehemiah and his friends only 52 days to rebuild Jerusalem's walls. Some of them might only have rebuilt a small section of the wall, but they all did something and worked together as a team.

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How we behave in class or in the playground is important, even if we may not feel like it is. Supporting and helping our friends is always a great thing to do. We should always be thankful for our friends or for whoever helps us. If something goes wrong, it is important to remember that we can always restart and rebuild. We can be thankful that we have this opportunity.

Prayer:

Dear God,
Thank you for our friends.
Thank you for our classroom and for the adults who help us when we have a problem.
Thank you for all the things that we have to be thankful for.
Please help us to work together as a team.
Please help us to realize that little things matter.
Help us to understand the importance of listening to each other and helping.
Amen.



Events this term

Wednesday 30th March – Parent/Carer Consultation, 2:00 – 6:00 pm

Wednesday 30th & Thursday 31st March – Easter Pause Events.

Friday 1st April – Close for Easter holiday.

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