



St Matthew's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**



NEWSLETTER 1 – 18th September 2023

Stars of the Week & Values Award

Each week class staff select a child to be star of the week, this could be for a variety of reasons including doing well in a piece of work, excelling at something they have struggled with or demonstrating behaviour which is that of a good role model.

The school values award is given each week to a child from a class whose behaviour demonstrates that they are living by our school values; usually one particular value is highlighted to celebrate in that child. Our school values are:

Hope, Love/Compassion, Trust, Community, Thankfulness and Respect/Reverence. Please visit our website (<https://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk/christian-distinctiveness/school-values/christian-values>) for further details.

Year	Stars of the Week	School Values Award
Rec	Umairah & Mazie	Yusuf & Armeena
Y1	Ayaan & Menaal	Thea & David
Y2	Fatima & Hasnain W	Harper & Haniya
Y3	Ayesha & Aaron	Anjali & Yusra
Y4	Meerab & Loreta	Yakub & Kainaat
Y5	Demii & M. Adam	Rares & Zahra
Y6	M. Afsar & Katie	Kuba & Gaganveer

We have a series of weekly challenges across school for the children to take part in, see below for the latest results

KS2 Maths Challenge	No-one managed to solve this week's challenge!
KS1 Maths Challenge	Challenges not yet started
Times Table Rockstars - KS2	3M got the best result last week. Make sure you log on and practise!
Numbots - KS1	Challenges not yet started
Geography Challenge	Leo correctly identified that the Eiffel Tower is in Paris

Attendance

We monitor attendance very closely here and we let you know each week what the latest attendance figures are.

“Be blessed by God, be happy and aspire to be...”

Government expectations are at least 96% attendance. Attendance of 96% or better we highlight green; between 90 & 95% is a concern and we highlight that yellow. Below 90% is a serious concern and we highlight that red. Let's see how many year groups we can get green each week! (Please note, the figures are always a week in arrears)

It is very important that children are in their classes by 8:55am when the gates close as that is the start of the school day. Children who arrive after 9:30 am (without good reason) will actually be marked as an unauthorised absence, this is a government requirement.

Week ending 8th Sept:

Year group	% present in school	Number of late marks
Reception	96%	3
Year 1	88%	2
Year 2	88%	3
Year 3	93%	1
Year 4	91%	6
Year 5	94%	7
Year 6	93%	8

Late arrivals - at the time of writing this, the number of children arriving late last week and this week are already **significantly** higher than the numbers above. It is extremely important that children arrive at school on time.

'The Big Ambition' Survey - The Children's Commissioner

A message from Dame Rachel de Souza, the Children's Commissioner:

This is a critical moment to listen to children and young people. As we approach the General Election next year, I want to make sure policymakers and Government are putting children's voices and needs at the heart of their policies.

I have launched **'The Big Ambition'** survey to hear directly from children, young people, and parents across the country. I want to hear about what they enjoy about their schools, communities, family life, and the wider world. I also want to know what they want for their future, their hopes and their aspirations.

I am going to make sure I hear from the widest group of young people as possible, and want to particularly hear the experiences of children in care. Over the next few months, my team and I will be visiting schools, colleges, children's homes, secure children's homes, residential special schools, hospitals, young offender institutes,



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youth clubs and many other locations across England to get children and young people involved, so they can have their say.

Every response counts! Click this link to access the survey

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-ambition/> or scan the QR code



Coats!

Please can you ensure children bring a coat to school everyday; even if it is raining the children still go outside at break time for much needed fresh air!

School Gates

Just a quick reminder about the one way system in place which has been carefully designed to enable you to move swiftly through both yards to collect your children.

If you have children on both yards, please start at the New Hall Lane gate, collect from that yard before going to the next.

Please note, to access the Infant Yard (Reception, Years 3, 4 & 6), next to the Church, you **must** use the gate from New Hall Lane. Please do not try to come in the gate from Derby Square and do not shout for children to come to you outside.

For the Junior Yard (Years 1, 2 & 5) please enter by the gate in the corner of Derby Square.



Reflection & Prayer

Continuing our thoughts about 'Taking Responsibility', this week are considering about how we use our spare time. We have looked at a passage from the Book of Proverbs (Chapter 6, verses 6-8) which guides us to look at how ants live and work, to support each other. We have also listened to the Aesop tale about the Ant & the Grasshopper to help us understand that playing around comes after our work is done and not the other way around!

Dear Father God

We pray that when we reach the end of today we can be thankful for the gift of time and proud of how we have used it.

Amen

Google Translate



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If you need to translate this newsletter into your own language, please feel free to use <https://translate.google.com/>
It's not perfect but better than nothing! Class Dojo only translates into a limited number of languages and we are aware of at least 26 languages other than English which are spoken here at St Matt's!

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