



St Matthew's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**



NEWSLETTER 2 – 2nd October 2024

The weather has definitely changed with the nights getting longer, the temperature dropping and the leaves starting to turn brown and fall from the trees. Whatever the weather, we always try to get the children outside at break times to get some much needed fresh air so it is **very** important that you send them to school with a coat each day as we still try to go out when it is raining!

Mr Mackley
Headteacher

Nut allergies!

An important reminder, please make sure no nuts or nut based products are brought into school for packed lunches. We have several children in school with severe nut allergies and this will cause them to become unwell and may cause an anaphylaxis shock. This includes chocolate spread in sandwiches.

Thank you for your understanding in helping to keep our children safe.

Bishop of Blackburn

Last Thursday, the Bishop of Blackburn, the most senior Bishop in our Diocese, came to visit to help us celebrate St Matthew's being 150 years old.

Many of the children recognised +Philip from his appearances in the Blackburn Diocese "God's Big Story" worship videos, which we watch. We are delighted he came to see us and will be sharing photos via Dojo/the website once they have been edited and checked for sharing consent.



"Be blessed by God, be happy and aspire to be..."

Class Dojo - Messaging

Please can you make sure that when sending messages about your child you only send them to the class teachers.

Please do not send messages to anyone else otherwise they will be missed.

Nursery - Mrs Naik
Reception - Mrs Tracy & Mrs Hatton
Year 1- Mrs Shaikh, Mrs Walton & Mrs Clough
Year 2- Mrs Russell & Mrs Gretton
Year 3 - Mrs Mangera & Mrs Higgins
Year 4 - Mrs Copeland & Mr Chagas
Year 5 - Mrs Bryden, Miss Brennand & Mr Ashton
Year 6 - Mrs Rossall & Mr Ward

If you wish to contact Mr Mackley, please do so via the school office and not via Dojo.

Thank you.



School Gates

An important reminder that the Reception gate (the entrance on New Hall Lane) is for Reception children and parents **only** in the mornings, and those children who are bringing their Reception siblings, all other children should be entering via Derby Square. Please do follow this as it is very important we ensure the Reception children are able to enter and be welcomed clearly by their teachers each morning.

Be on time!

A polite reminder to ensure that your child is on time everyday. The gates open at 8.45-8.55am. If your child comes after that time, they will be marked as Late. I do have to say, we do seem to be doing better than last year but we can always do better! Also, at hometime please pick up on time - we are already seeing some people being regularly late collecting their child. This is not fair on them as they want go home and staff have other duties once the children have gone.



High School Applications

Don't forget that the closing date for applying for a place at High School for those children currently in Year 6, is 31st October 2024.

You **must** apply online and we strongly recommend you read the admissions criteria carefully for each school and use all 3 preferences. If you want some advice, please contact your child's teacher via Dojo.

School Uniform - PE Kit

Trainers and tracksuit pants are being worn more and more by children on non PE days; if it is not a PE day then children should be in the correct school uniform. Please support the school and send your children with black shoes and school trousers/skirts. Messages will be sent to parents whose children do not adhere to our policy.

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Y6 Hothersall Lodge Trip

This is an amazing experience on offer for the children in Year 6 each year and all those who go talk about the memories they have made which they take with them forever. Outdoor and Adventurous Activities are a part of the National Curriculum and attending this trip enables the children to accomplish this aspect of their education.

If you have any worries about the cost or the children being away from home for the first time or about medical issues, **please** get in touch and talk to us. Between us, we have taken away many hundreds, if not thousands of children on residential during our careers and we have dealt with many different challenges successfully. We are always able to try and find a solution!



Playground Games

We have listened to the children and we have invested heavily in providing new equipment to make break and lunchtimes more fun and interesting!

We have coaches from Sports Cool everyday to provide additional activities, boxes of equipment to encourage playing with friends, display boards to encourage number talk and two interactive electronic wall boards. This has all taken a significant amount of time and money to put into place and we would really appreciate you reminding the children of the importance of respecting the equipment and looking after it.

If you have any play equipment - colouring books/pens, or games that they no longer use (but are in good condition), please think about donating to school - the children will be extremely grateful!

Nursery

If you have a 3 year old child and you want to take up the offer of a 15 hours free Nursery place, please contact the school office.

We are unable to offer any more than 15 hours due to the way we are funded and our Nursery has to be organised.

If you are applying for a place in Reception for your child and they do not attend our Nursery and have SEND, please can you get in touch with Miss Young via the school office as she wants to be able to support you in ensuring that the necessary processes are being followed by your Nursery provider to get the best possible support for your child before they start school.

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:

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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.

Week ending 13th September:

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	None yet, settling in at the moment!	None yet, settling in at the moment!
Y1	Saad & Khubaib	Maisie & Sharon
Y2	Ayaan & Mehaal	Cataleea & Anthony
Y3	Khadija & Gethyn	Zaynab B & Alishba
Y4	Ayesha & Amelia	Sophie & Yasmina
Y5	TJ & Broagan	Joshua & Marius
Y6	Rebeca & Zahra	Iqra & Inaaya

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden)	Usman (Y4) correctly calculated the cost of a new uniform.
KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton)	-
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	6W beat 6R. Adam was the most valuable player.
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	Hajra Y1, Hafs 2R & Sofia 2R were the three most improved players
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Charlie & Hasnain from Y4 correctly answered the challenge!

Week ending 20th September:

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Jorgie & Daisy	Harris & Rolland
Y1	Albie & Yusuf	Nirvana & Weronika
Y2	anaya & Musa	Tasneem & sana
Y3	Hasnain W & Mehrun	Shazain & Yana
Y4	Hasnain A & Zayd	Charlie & Zainab

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Y5	Wiktorija & Abdullah	Lucas & Safa
Y6	Lisa & Hamzah	Massimo & Nabiha

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden)	Maaz Y4 solved the odd one out leaf challenge.
KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton)	-
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	5A were this week's winners! Erum H was the most valuable player.
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	1st -Darius, 2nd - Dominic, 3rd - Ayaan - all Y2
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Ivy from Y2 solved this week's challenge.

Week ending 27th September:

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Khadija & Sufyan	Kiara & Isabella
Y1	Serah & Eva	Fabian & Manulya
Y2	VCataleea & Viktor	Anaya & David
Y3	Dominic & Areesha	ellie & Mason
Y4	Maria & Areesha	Amardeep & Shayan
Y5	Ammaarah & Kayden	Sara & Nicolas
Y6	Freay & Gabriela	Scarlett & Amna

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden)	No one got the correct answer - tough challenge this week...
KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton)	Same as for KS2
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	4Ch were Battle Winners this week, well done. Hasnain was the most valuable player.
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	Ayaan, Mia & Hamdan from Y2 were the most improved players this week.
Geography Challenge (Mrs)	Ridwaan from Y3 solved the Geography Challenge.

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Attendance

We always share the attendance data a week in arrears as we need to calculate the numbers carefully before sharing which means it is not always ready to go the same time as the Stars of the Week and Values Awards.

This is the data for week ending 13th September:

Class:	Number of Late Marks:	Year Group	Present Marks
RH	4	Rec	92.59%
RT	1		
1C	2	Y1	95%
1SW	1		
2G	2	Y2	89.81%
2R	3		
3H	4	Y3	94.91%
3M	0		
4C	1	Y4	92.07%
4CH	2		
5B	7	Y5	96.61%
5D	5		
6R	2	Y6	98.83%
6W	4		

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Well done to 3M with zero lates and Y6 with 98.83% attendance! Keep it up everyone, this is a great start to the year!

Reflection & Prayer

Last week, my focus was on St Matthew, the patron saint of our school as it was his feast day on Saturday, 21st September. (You can watch the worship here: <https://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk/blog/2024-09-23-05-38-00-st-matthew-s-day-2024>) and we learnt about how Jesus called Matthew to be one of his disciples. Matthew was challenged to give up his life of greed and cheating people out of money and to follow Jesus to share God's love for each other and to put right things which people had done wrong.

*Father God Help our hands to do all things loving, kind and true
Guide us on this day in all we say and do
Help us to remember your teachings, friendship and healing
While we follow the gospel of St Matthew.
For with you Lord, life gives us meaning.*

Amen

Google Translate

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 28 languages other than English which are spoken here at St Matt's!



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