



NEWSLETTER 3 – 16th October 2024

Where has that half term gone? It seems like yesterday we were welcoming our new Reception children into school as well as welcoming back everyone else and here we are on the cusp of completing the first half-term of the year, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the half-term's complete!

It has been a really busy and, I hope, enjoyable and productive one for everyone. Whatever you and your children are doing over the break, we all hope that it is a restful time for you all and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 28th October for the second half of the Autumn Term.

We close tomorrow, after school at the normal time of 3:15. The staff have a training day on Friday, some in school and some off site.

Mr Mackley
Headteacher

We've won an award!

As we have said many times in the past, we love that the St Matthew's family is so diverse with families from around the world joining us. This also presents challenges in helping those who come to us with little or no English, to learn it quickly so that they can make the most of the educational opportunities here.

Last week, under the leadership of Miss Brennand, we underwent an assessment by The EAL Academy to evaluate the quality of the work we do in this area and I am delighted to inform you that we have been granted the Silver Award in recognition of the very good work which we do. You will now see this logo on our website and on all our letters and communications going out.



At the end of the day....



One of the most important things you can do when you collect your child(ren) at the end of the day is talk to them and let them tell you about what they have done at school. This time spent in conversation really helps the children to remember what they have done at school and helps them to be able to recall this information at a later date when they need it.

We have noticed that a growing number of people are busy with their phones when collecting their children and don't interact with them at this crucial time. You are actively encouraged to put the phone down and talk to your child, it will mean a lot to them and will really help them!

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

Bishop of Blackburn

The following pictures were taken during Bishop Philip's visit - there were more but sadly the memory card in the camera was corrupted and so we have very few pictures.



A reminder that we are still collecting £ for Pakistan until tomorrow, to support the Bishop's Harvest Appeal!

High School Applications

FINAL REMINDER!

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.



Primary School Applications

If you have a child who will be starting in September next year or you know someone who has a child who will be, please remember that you need to apply for a place online by the **15th January 2025**

See our school website at <https://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk/parents/admissions> for more information including posters in a variety of different languages.

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:

Headteacher: Mr M Mackley

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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 4th October:

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Harris & Alaina	Seerat & Dhruv
Y1	Zaviyar & Musa	Hadjra & Umairah
Y2	Mia & Gabriella S	Satnam, Anaya, Amina, Azriel & Ivy-Rae!
Y3	Aamina & Kiaan	Haniya & Alexia N
Y4	Lucas & Humnairah	Aysha & Lola
Y5	Adam s & Aiman	Ilyas Y & Lily
Y6	Sara & Hania	M. Zarrar & Zahra

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden)	-
KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton)	-
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	3H were the victors & Daniel H was the most valuable player
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	1st Tasneem, 2nd Layla, 3rd Thea
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Aleen solved the Geography challenge.

Week ending 11th October:

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Ayyan & Fathima	Noor & Serayah
Y1	Abdul & Saleem	Nirvana & Khubaib
Y2	Layla & Isa	Sana & Zahra
Y3	M Faiz & Yusuf	Sara & Ridhwaan

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Y4	Maz & Eeshmal	Justice & Eric
Y5	Sirraaj & Ranveer	Esme & Erum
Y6	Massimo & Juan	Bobby & Aalyan

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden)	Reiss solved the Conker Challenge
KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton)	-
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	Result to be announced - we had a technical challenge with the website!
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	1st, Zahra, 2nd Michael , 3rd, Kamshire (These are the most improved children for the week.)
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Dominic was this week's Geographer!

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 **11th October**

Class:	Number of Late Marks:	Year Group	Present Marks
RH	2	Rec	93.28%
RT	3		
1C	5	Y1	95.67%
1SW	3		
2G	3	Y2	97.36%
2R	3		

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3H	3	Y3	96.03%
3M	3		
4C	2	Y4	94.48%
4CH	4		
5B	1	Y5	96.5%
5D	8		
6R	4	Y6	97.33%
6W	3		

Well done everyone, these punctuality and attendance figures are really positive, every year group had attendance in the 90%+ bracket which is great! Even better than that was that 5 year groups had attendance of 95% or better - keep it up!!

Reflection & Prayer

This week, my worship returned to the Parables of Jesus, the stories he told to try and teach people in a clear way of God's love for them and how they should live. We focused on the Parable of the Mustard Seed (worship can be found here: <https://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk/blog/2024-10-14-05-00-00-the-parable-of-the-mustard-seed>) and we learnt about how even a small seed like this can grow into something huge and spectacular so we should never ever consider ourselves insignificant and unimportant. We also learned that within the tree which grew, every type of bird came to rest there, teaching us that regardless of who we are, **all** are welcome in God's kingdom.

Thank you for the parables which help us to understand God's love for us.

*May we today and everyday remember that not one of us is insignificant, that we all have a part to play. May we also follow God's command to love and welcome one another, to live out God's kingdom here on earth where, no matter who we are or where we are from, **all** are welcome.*

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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