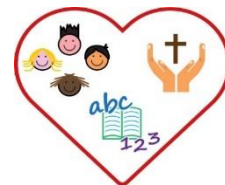


St. Matthew's C.E. Primary School


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




NEWSLETTER 5 – 4th October 2021

Our PSHE focus this half term is **Altogether Now** and our School Value focus is **Community**

<div>★</div> <div>Star of the week!</div>	<div>★</div> <div>★</div> <div>Values Award</div> <div>★</div> <div>★</div>	<div>★</div> <div>Best attendance:</div> <div>Reception</div> <div>Best punctuality:</div> <div>Year 3</div> <div>(Please note, this data is always a week in arrears!)</div>																				
<div>Reception</div> <div>Year 1</div> <div>Year 2</div> <div>Year 3</div> <div>Year 4</div> <div>Year 5</div> <div>Year 6</div>	<div>Reception</div> <div>Year 1</div> <div>Year 2</div> <div>Year 3</div> <div>Year 4</div> <div>Year 5</div> <div>Year 6</div>																					
<div>Weekly attendance by year group:</div> <div>Green - attendance better than 96% (Government target) - great!</div> <div>Yellow –attendance below the target of 96% - a concern</div> <div>Red - attendance of 90% or below - a great concern.</div>		<table><tr><td>Previous attendance</td><td>Latest Attendance</td></tr><tr><td>figures</td><td>figures</td></tr><tr><td>Reception</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Year 1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Year 2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Year 3</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Year 4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Year 5</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Year 6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Whole school total</td><td></td></tr></table>	Previous attendance	Latest Attendance	figures	figures	Reception		Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6		Whole school total	
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Year 4																						
Year 5																						
Year 6																						
Whole school total																						
<div>KS2 Maths Challenge: Abbas Munir 6S. Money challenge: here was £13.70 in a jar – Abbas worked out how many 50p pieces were in a money box after being told there were 16 x 20p pieces.</div>																						
<div>Timetables Rock Stars: 5B won the battle against 5R</div> <div>Most Improved - Aalia 5R</div> <div>Fastest Rocker – Mahnoor 5B</div> <div>Numbots:</div> <div>Highest score – Safa</div>																						







Dear Parents/Carers,

You will, we hope, notice that on all our communication you will see the 'strapline' to our school vision "Be blessed by God, be happy and aspire to be..." but I wonder if you are aware of the full vision statement? (It can be found [here](#)) It is based on the Sermon on the Mount, which can be found in Matthew's gospel and reads as follows:

"Inspired by Jesus' words (Matthew 5: 1-12), we strive to promote academic, emotional and spiritual growth in a Christian environment for all members of our school family. We can all 'Be blessed by God, be happy and aspire to be...' "

That is our wish for the children in our school, that will grow academically, emotionally and spiritually in their time at St Matthew's.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our school – it is much appreciated.



Harvest Festival – Bishop Julian’s Appeal

*For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in.
(Matthew 25:35)*



Thank you so much to everyone for your generosity last week for our annual Harvest Festival. Mr Mackley was able to fill the back of his pick-up with the food donations for the local foodbank and they were, as always, extremely grateful for the support you gave.



Mayors' Award

The Mayor came to visit school last week and presented us with a beautiful certificate to acknowledge the work we did during the pandemic over the last 18 months. For those who don't know, as well as providing the remote learning and enabling eligible children to attend school we provided food parcels, supported families facing particular difficulties and other 'behind the scenes' support as we were able. We did all these because they were the 'right thing to do' and not for reward but it is nice to be recognised for the part that we played along with many others.



Following the presentation, he spent a good deal of time visiting classes around the school and engaging in conversation with pupils and staff alike, answering questions about the Mayor's role and other questions the children had. We are very grateful that he could make the time to come and visit and celebrate with us all that we do.



School Uniform

A reminder that our uniform requirements are quite specific but easily achieved. If you are unsure what the uniform requirements are please do get in touch or visit the school website:

Headteacher: Mr M Mackley

New Hall Lane, Preston, Lancashire PR1 5XB Tel: 01772 794482 Fax: 01772 655481

Email: bursar@st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk Website: www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk

High School Applications – reminder – closing date 31st October

If your child is currently in Year 6, please remember that the closing date for applications for Secondary School is the 31st October. All applications need to be made via the following link <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-online-for-a-school-place/> If you are applying to a faith based school, you will also need to complete their Supplementary Information Form.

Applications for Primary School places are also open and can be made via the same link. If you have a child starting Reception in September 2022 or you know someone who has, please make your application – the deadline is 15th January 2022. We will be providing some sessions where we can show prospective parents around our school - details to follow.

Year 5 Environment Work

Year 5 have been learning about how the simple things we can all do each day which will go a long way to helping save our planet and make the environment a better place. These photos show you some of the things they have been doing! The children designed and displayed posters around school reminding everyone to switch things off when not in use and to remember to recycle. After learning about how many single-use plastic bottles are thrown away each day and the harm they cause, the children thought about upcycling plastic bottles, boxes and trays. They were very pleased with their pencil pots, plant pots, bird feeders and treat boxes.



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Writing around school

One of our big focuses this year is on getting the children to both write more and to improve the quality of their writing. Over last week and this coming week, Mr Mackley and Mrs Walton are visiting classes to see lots of different ways that the staff are supporting the children in developing their writing skills; not just in English lessons but right across the curriculum!

Religious Education

Last Friday afternoon, Rev McHaffie the vicar of St Matthew's spent the afternoon with Miss Smith who is the Subject Leader for RE and visited a number of classes to see the children in their RE lessons and to talk with them about their work and their understanding. Rev McHaffie commented on how much he enjoyed the opportunity and how impressed he was with the children.

Attendance & punctuality

Well done to everyone who has been to school every day and on time! We do know that from time to time there are specific and genuine reasons why children are unable to achieve this but there is still room for improvement as you can see from the numbers at the top of the newsletter. So, come on let's be in school everyday and on time!



Request for Leave of Absence

We have already been able to meet with some people planning to take a trip abroad to discuss before bookings are made and we really appreciate the opportunity to explain the negative impact on children's learning that extended leave can have. Please can we remind all families that it is a Government requirement that families discuss with us any request for extended leave and that not only will families be fined, there is also a risk of losing a child's place at school as a result of such leave.

If in any doubt, please do get in touch!



School Photos!

This Tuesday, 5th October, is the annual individual and sibling photos taken by Tempest Photography.

School Meals

You will have seen, we hope, Mr Mackley's message on Dojo about the challenges being faced by the catering service due to supply chain issues.

This is the menu for this week:

Monday – Jacket Potato with Cheese / Beans / Tuna Mayo OR Sandwich & Tortilla Chips

Tuesday – Sandwiches: Cheese / Tuna Mayo / Egg Mayo with diced potatoes

Wednesday – Jacket Potato with Cheese / Beans / Tuna Mayo OR Sandwich & Tortilla Chips

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Thursday – Wraps: Cheese / Tuna Mayo / Egg Mayo as a packed lunch
Friday – Pizza with Chips OR Sandwiches & Tortilla Chips

Prayer / thought for the week / reflection

Prayer:

A prayer to thank God for the Harvest and to bless those we have been supporting.

Father God, thank you for the harvest and that we have food to eat.

We ask that you bless the work of the foodbanks and the Mosamaria Trust who work to end suffering.

Guide us as we look to see what we can do to play our part in making the world a better place so that everyone can “Be blessed by God, be happy and aspire to be...”

Amen



Key dates for the term:

5th October – individual photos

19th October – Nasal Flu administered

25th-29th October- Half term – school closes at normal time

1st November – INSET day

2nd November – school reopens

10th November – Parents’/Carers’ Evening

8th/9th December – Nativity Play (details to follow)

17th December 2:00pm – School closes for Christmas Holiday

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