



NEWSLETTER 5 – 6th December 2024

Time has flown this half term and we are only 2 weeks away from the Christmas Holidays! We are now in the season of Advent and we are sharing in the time of preparation for the celebrations of Christmas. As it has been a few weeks since the last newsletter, there are a lot of Stars of the Week and Values Award winners to share so this is a lengthy letter!

It is lovely when children bring in cakes or sweets to share on their birthdays, please can we ask for your help though in not sending any foods in which contain nuts. We have several children in school with **severe** nut allergies and we are sure that you would not want any harm to come to them, albeit inadvertently.

Thank you for your continued support.

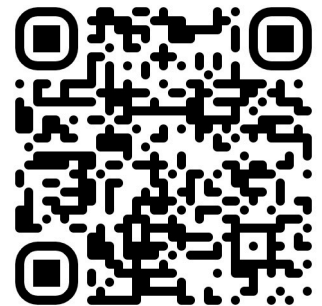
Mr Mackley
Headteacher

Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who had a go at completing the survey at Parents' Evening. Unfortunately there were some technical issues and some misunderstanding around the grading system. We have resolved the technical issues and need to try the survey again!

The grading system is as below:

Excellent = 1, Good = 2, Medium = 3, Poor = 4, Very Bad = 5



Please scan the QR code with your smartphone or tablet device and complete the survey - it will be open until Wednesday 11th December.



Poppy Sales

Remembrance day was a while ago but we wanted to thank you all for your generosity once again as we managed to raise over £200 for the Royal British Legion and the wonderful work they do in supporting our armed forces veterans.

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

P.E. Kits

From January we are reverting back to our pre-pandemic system of children bringing their PE kit into school and changing before and after their PE sessions. This is in line with the national guidelines which all schools are expected to follow.

If you wish to know more details, please contact your child's teacher via Class Dojo. For information on what is appropriate PE kit, please visit [Uniform | St Matthew's Church of England Primary Academy and Nursery](#)

Keeping Everyone Safe

Please can we ask again that you only bring your car along Cuttle Street/Derby Square at the beginning and end of the day if you really have to. It is very congested at these times and the more cars there are, the greater the risk that someone is going to get hurt.

We have also observed some cars being driven at excessive speeds at these times, please slow down and think of the children.



One Way System

Thank you to everyone who abides by this at the end of the day as it enables us to ensure we safely hand over your child to you and also keep everyone safe as they move through the playground.

For those collecting Reception, Y3, Y4 & Y6 children, please **do not** gather at the gate on Derby Square, it is causing a problem for people trying to get out who have collected their children. It is not a long walk around to the front of the school and it will help us keep everyone safe.

Thank you.

Dogs

Please note that dogs are not allowed anywhere on the school grounds, this includes any that are carried. Please do not bring them to school at the end of the day when collecting your children. Thank you.

Track your loved ones

There are many useful apps to help you keep track of your children when they are out and about. Life 360 is a free and powerful app that helps you keep track of where your children and other family members are. We are not endorsing this but offering it as an app you may consider using.

Primary School Applications

A reminder that 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**



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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

Week ending 8th November:

| Year | Star of the Week | Values Award |
|------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Rec | Muhammad S & Kauarive | emily & Abdullah |
| Y1 | Eliana & Rameen | Haroon & Hamdan |
| Y2 | Alessia & Dua | Hallie & Gabriella Maria |
| Y3 | Hoor & Ruhan | Poppy & Hajra |
| Y4 | Baksheesh & Raheem | Anjali & Yusra |
| Y5 | Nigel & Oscar | Angela & all of 5D |
| Y6 | Izzah & Marwa | Umama & Ryan |

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|---|---|
| KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden) | - |
| KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton) | Umairah Y1 |
| Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton) | 4C beat 3M |
| Numbots (Mrs Gretton) | 1st - Shahzain, 2nd - Musa, 3rd - Rehan |
| Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland) | Zahra, Y6 correctly identified that Blackpool Tower is a Human Feature. |

Week ending 15th November:

| Year | Star of the Week | Values Award |
|------|------------------|--------------------|
| Rec | Saba & Noor | Zainab & INaya |
| Y1 | Cobe & Ahmed | Sharfay & Rasta |
| Y2 | Dominic & Yusuf | Nawaz & Muhammad K |
| Y3 | Jayden & Zaviyar | Zainab F & Lola |
| Y4 | Halima & Areesha | Khadija & Zakariya |
| Y5 | Cosmin & 5D | Michael & Marius |



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|-----------|----------------|------------------|
| Y6 | Owais & Aalyan | Madiha & Harshid |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|

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| KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden) | Zainab (Y4) solved the Children in Need Maths Challenge! |
| KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton) | Hafsa (Y2) |
| Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton) | 3H beat 4C and Daniel was the most valuable player. |
| Numbots (Mrs Gretton) | 1st - Azriel, 2nd - Viktor, 3rd - Ivy-Rae |
| Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland) | - |

Week ending 22nd November:

| Year | Star of the Week | Values Award |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Rec | Sai & Sanaya | Ishika & Kievan |
| Y1 | Zaviyar & Hadija | Elyf & charlotte |
| Y2 | Hafsah & Maher | Jaweria & Eknoor |
| Y3 | Nelly & Essa | M Arif & Fatima |
| Y4 | Daria & Muskan | Justice & Zuzanna |
| Y5 | Aaminah & Eileen | Nasir & Aleen |
| Y6 | Aizah & Hamdan | Musa'ab & Abhiram |

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|---|--|
| KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden) | Areesah (Y3) used her maths to work out which number was the imposter! |
| KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton) | Yusuf (Y1) |
| Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton) | 5D beat 5B! Anas was the most valuable player |
| Numbots (Mrs Gretton) | Eknoor, Mohammad K & Gabriella S were the most improved players! |
| Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland) | - |

Week ending 29th November:



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| Year | Star of the Week | Values Award |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Rec | Robert & elizabeth | Gabriela & Sanaya |
| Y1 | Muzhda & Sharon | Hajra & Anete |
| Y2 | Olaife & Soheil | Safa & Gabriella S |
| Y3 | mathias & Maira | Noorun & Geanina |
| Y4 | Kinza & Eeshmal | David & Saad |
| Y5 | Maya & Yakub | Romeo & Abdullah |
| Y6 | Mus'ab & Shreya | Aizah & Arashell |

| | |
|---|---|
| KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden) | Kiyaan (Y3) solved the challenge this week |
| KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton) | - |
| Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton) | 6W were victorious and the next challenge is Y3 v the Teachers! |
| Numbots (Mrs Gretton) | Kamshire, Dominic C |
| Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland) | M. Hussain correctly identified the Chinese flag. |

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 at the same time as the Stars of the Week and Values Awards.

We have seen some real improvements in both attendance and punctuality this half term and we are really pleased with this - thank you!

This is the data for week ending **29th November** sadly it shows a dip on recent weeks, let's try to get the numbers up in the last weeks of term!

| Class: | Number of Late Marks: | Year Group | Present Marks |
|--------|-----------------------|------------|---------------|
| RH | 4 | Rec | 88.07% |
| RT | 0 | | |
| 1C | 2 | Y1 | 90.86% |
| 1SW | 4 | | |
| 2G | 9 | Y2 | 92.22% |
| 2R | 1 | | |
| 3H | 1 | Y3 | 96% |
| 3M | 3 | | |
| 4C | 1 | Y4 | 90.51% |
| 4CH | 1 | | |
| 5B | 3 | Y5 | 91.95% |
| 5D | 5 | | |
| 6R | 5 | Y6 | 92.67% |
| 6W | 2 | | |

Reflection & Prayer

This year for our Advent worships, we are using materials provided by the Archbishop of York's Young Leaders Award programme. It's titled "Follow the Star- Calm & Bright". Each worship looks at someone from the Nativity Story and how they stayed Calm and Bright. In the first week we considered the Archangel Gabriel and his role in bringing the messages of Joy.

This week we considered Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus and the decisions he had to make and how he might have felt at the challenges he faced.

At the end, we shared in these two prayers:

Father God, thank you for Joseph's example of following and trusting you and making room for peace. Help us make space in our hearts for peace this Advent

Amen

Lord, bring your hope and peace to all people in our world. Help us to be examples of peace in our homes, schools and communities.

Amen

Google Translate

If you need to translate this newsletter into your own language, please feel free to use [Google Translate](#) . 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 31 languages other than English which are spoken here at St Matt's!

