



NEWSLETTER 6 – 18th December 2024

Well, here we are, the end of the Autumn Term (almost, one more get up . . .) and 2024 is almost over too. I want to thank you all for your continued support for St Matthew's school and all that we do here; we do not take your support for granted and very much appreciate it. I also want to thank all the staff for their efforts over this, the longest term of the year - I am proud to lead this dedicated team of people who work hard to give your children the best possible opportunity each and every day. Finally, the children - they are the reason we are here and they work hard each day, taking on new challenges, revisiting old learning and embedding it in their long term memory - it truly is a joy to see them each and every day.

On behalf of everyone at St Matthew's and at the Cidari Multi Academy Trust, we wish you all a happy and joyous Christmas and a peaceful New Year. See you in 2025!

Mr Mackley
Headteacher

End of term & next term...

We close tomorrow, Thursday 19th December at **2:00pm**. Please do not be late, it is really unpleasant for those left behind, especially on the last day of term, to have to wait to be collected. If you have any problems, please call the school office on 01772 794482 at the earliest opportunity.

We re-open on Monday 6th January, 2025 at 8:45am, don't be late!

Parent Survey

A final reminder to please complete our survey, it is a really important information gathering tool for us! Scan the QR code and it should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

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



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

P.E. Kits

A reminder that 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 slow down, just recently there have been vehicles seen driving at excessive speeds in the vicinity of school - don't be the one who causes an accident, slow down!



One Way System



We are still having problems with people not following the one way system at the end of the day and gathering around the gates on Derby Square to collect children from Reception and Years 3,4 & 6.

Please enter via the gate on New Hall Lane to keep everyone safe and to ensure that everyone is collected swiftly and safely. By gathering at the gate, you are slowing everyone down who is trying to leave.

From January, we will **not** be allowing children in Years 3 & 4 to come to parents at the gate, they will be kept by the teacher and you will need to come to the yard to collect them.

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**

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 6th December

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Ishika & Amina	Khadija & Noor A
Y1	Nirvana & Rohan	Safiya & Horain-fatima
Y2	Mia, satnam & Rayaan	Charlotte & Zainab
Y3	Yarin & Britney	Mira & Maryam
Y4	Khadija & Rania	Sophie & Muhammed P
Y5	Arsal & Nicolas	farhan & Shahzain
Y6	Ismael & Andrei	Anabia & Juan

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden)	Britney - Y3
KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton)	Shahzaib - Y1
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	1st - Zainab (Y2), 2nd - Viktor (Y2), 3rd - Yusuf (Y2)
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Zahra, Y6 correctly identified that Blackpool Tower is a Human Feature.

Week ending 13thDecember:

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Pearl & Fathima	Azhar & Serayah
Y1	Mazie & Michael	Abdul & Luke
Y2	Bhavik & Purity	Thea & Hafsa
Y3	Daniel & Abdullah	Anaya & Ayat
Y4	Amelia & Zuzanna	Maaz & Maaz
Y5	Farhan & Irina	Cosmin, Eshall & Broagan
Y6	Zara & Hamzah	Ibrahim & Abhram

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden)	Year 3 beat the teachers - by quite a margin! Well done Y3.
KS1 Maths Challenge (Mrs Gretton)	-
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	Daniel - Y3
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	1st - Hallie (Y2), 2nd - Jaweria (Y2), 3rd - Mia (Y2)
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	-

End of term

Year	Star Writers	Half term Achievers
Rec	Harris & Elizabeth	Sehar & Serayah
Y1	Iqra & Manulya	Kornel & Sharon
Y2	Satnam & Mohammad Bin	Thea & Gabrielle Maria
Y3	Harrison & Ruhan	Ruben & Areesha
Y4	Abinoor Ahmed & Mohammed A	Adan & Shayan
Y5	Meerab & Aleen	Nigel & Baqaruddin
Y6	Izzah & Gabriela	Demii-Leigh & Marwah

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mrs Bryden)	Areesha - Y3
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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 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 the week ending **13th December** and the numbers are looking better than recent weeks. Let's try and make a fresh start in the New Year and get **everyone** on time and **everyone** in school everyday!

Class:	Number of Late Marks:	Year Group	Present Marks
RH	1	Rec	91.23%
RT	2		
1C	0	Y1	92.54%
1SW	2	Y2	93.33%
2G	7		
2R	4		
3H	5	Y3	89.83%
3M	2		
4C	3	Y4	95.59%
4CH	1		
5B	6	Y5	93.5%
5D	7		
6R	3	Y6	94.5%
6W	4		

Reflection & Prayer

For our Advent worships this year, we have been using materials from the Archbishop of York's 'Young Leaders Award' group, titled "Follow the Star - Calm & Bright".

In the materials we have looked at 4 people from the Christmas story, what their role was and how there were moments of calmness and brightness with each one. We began with the Angel Gabriel, then we considered Joseph followed by the Shepherds. Finally, this week we considered Mary, the mother of Jesus.

We hope that the children, and hopefully yourselves if you have watched the videos (<https://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk/blog/category/worship>) have found something to ponder on and consider.

We leave you with the final two prayers from this week's worship.

Father God, thank you for choosing Mary to bring Jesus Christ into the world. Thank you for her example of trust and love for you. Remind us this Christmas to put you at the centre and to share your love with those around us.

Amen

Lord, thank you for the gift of Jesus and the love and light that he brought to the world. Help us to love all other people as you have loved us. Help us to be light in places of darkness and to shine bright for you.

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!



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

