



St Matthew's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

NEWSLETTER 6 –18th October 2023

Good afternoon everyone, welcome to the last newsletter of this half term - I cannot believe we are at the half term break already!

Once again, thank you for your continued support of our school, our reputation is spreading as we are almost full across school, in fact many of our classes do not have any spaces at all! On behalf of everyone here, we hope you all manage to get some quality time with family and friends over the half term break and that the children get plenty of rest and come back to school ready for the next half term.

Close for half term

We close on THURSDAY at the normal time of 3:15, Friday is a staff training day.

We re-open on Monday 30th October at the normal time of 8:45am. Please bring your child to the gates ready for their opening at 8:45 so that they are in class and ready to start at 8:55 when their lessons begin.

Absence

If your child is absent for any reason, you **must** ring the school office before 9am to inform them. If you do not, you may well get a visit from our attendance team and the absence may be recorded as unauthorised. Office hours are 8am to 3:45pm

Jewellery & PE

We are aware that there are some children who still have earrings in when they come to school for PE and parents report difficulties in removing them. A reminder that PE is a compulsory part of the National Curriculum and that the wearing of earrings or other jewellery is not allowed.

If you are having difficulty removing them, we advise you to visit where your child had their ears pierced or another piercing specialist to get assistance in removing them.

School Admissions

FINAL REMINDER FOR SECONDARY APPLICATIONS!

Most people have submitted their application, thank you. A few still haven't and you only have just over a week left to get your application done www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools

The closing date for secondary applications for September 2024 is 23:59 on 31 October 2023.

School Dinner Price Rise

A final reminder that after the half term break, the price of a school dinner rises to £2.50 a meal. If you feel you might be eligible for Free School Meals, the office staff can help you apply. The school receives an additional £1300 in funding for each eligible child on roll so you are also helping us out if you apply and are granted Free School Meals.

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

School Money App

We are becoming a cashless office (apart from toast money) please download the School Money App from your app store to make payments to school. Thank you.



Stars of the Week & Values Award

Year	Stars of the Week - w/e 13th Oct	School Values Award - w/e 13th Oct
Rec	Sofia & Zaviyar	Weronika & Saad
Y1	Jakub & Dua	Brianne & Aisa
Y2	Dhruva & Zaynab	Alexia & Dominic
Y3	Maaz & Aden	Zahra & Zuzanna
Y4	Fabian & Wiktorja	Michael & Natan
Y5	Zara & Zahra	Madiha, Bobby & Reis
Y6	Hashim & Shareef	Saif & Erdi

We have a series of weekly challenges across school for the children to take part in, see below for the latest results

KS2 Maths Challenge	Maaidah, 6R
Times Table Rockstars - KS2	4C were the winners of the battle of the bands! Muskan, Dua & Zainab B get a special mention for their contribution!
Numbots - KS1	Joshua from 1SW
Geography Challenge	Leo Y2

Attendance

It is very important that children are in their classes by 8:55am when the gates close as that is the start of the school day, a good idea is to be at the gates for 8:45am when they open.

Children who arrive after 9:30 am (without good reason) will actually be marked as an unauthorised absence, this is a government requirement.

Headteacher: Mr M Mackley
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Week ending 13th October:

Year group	% present in school	Number of late marks
Reception	75.69%	4
Year 1	91.85%	8
Year 2	94.07%	13
Year 3	97.12%	7
Year 4	96.29%	20
Year 5	98.32%	3
Year 6	96.38%	15

Tremendous attendance by the Juniors, the first time we have had all four year groups in the Juniors on green - WELL DONE!

However, the number of children arriving late has once again increased - it is very, very important that children come to school on time.

Gaza-Israel

This whole situation continues to cause much anguish and pain for all the innocent who are suffering. Here at St Matthew's we believe that peace begins with ourselves and we will continue to work with the children to teach them to understand each other, whatever our backgrounds and to treat each other with respect and compassion at all times.

We join with all those who pray and work for peace.

Reflection

This week we were thinking about how we take responsibility for our family members and do what is right by them. We learnt about how important it is to share what we have and not keep things to ourselves. This isn't just for the families we live with, but also with our St Matthew's family too.

You can watch the worship here:



<https://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk/blog/2023-10-16-06-00-00-taking-responsibility-for-our-family-members>

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank you for our brothers and sisters and all our family members – those at home and our special St Matthew's family. Help us to care for each other, even when things go wrong or seem unfair.

Amen

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