



# St Matthew's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CIDARI**

## NEWSLETTER 7 –2nd November 2023

Welcome back everyone, I hope you all managed to get some quality time together with family and friends at some point whilst the children were off. It is good to be back and to have all the children in, working hard and raring to go.

A busy half term ahead which will end with preparations for and celebration of Christmas, such an important festival for Christians the world over.

### Mayors' visit

This morning we were delighted to welcome the Mayor of Preston, Councillor Yakub Patel to St Matthew's. In the summer term our then Year 3 pupils visited the city centre to research what they felt could be improved and they each wrote a letter to him outlining their thoughts and wishes. The Mayor was so impressed with their letters that he sent them to the various council departments who needed to see what they had written and he wrote back to the children to tell them what they are doing as a result of their letters! He also presented a certificate to acknowledge this really good work by them.

Whilst he was here, he very kindly opened our new library facility. This has been a huge undertaking, led by Mrs Rossall, ably supported by several staff and parent volunteers to redecorate and sort and restock the books. We also had tremendous support from the Lancashire Library Service.

A great day!

### Home Reading Books

Reading at home is such an important part of learning to read and we want to encourage everyone to listen to their child read on a daily basis. Please can we ask that you also take care of the books as we have had several returned which are so damaged, they cannot be given out to others. These books are expensive to replace and we do not have the budget to keep replacing books at the rate we currently need to. In some circumstances we may need to charge £10 for the replacement of damaged books.

### End of day collection - Year 2

We have a problem with the Hall Doors which means Y2 cannot use them at the end of the day. Whilst we wait for them to be repaired, Y2 will gather under the shelter at the side of their playground. Please collect your children from there and remain behind the cones whilst you wait.

### Free School Meals

A reminder to speak with the School Office staff if you think you might be eligible for Free School Meals. For every child registered as eligible, we receive an extra £1300 in our school budget; so even if you do not wish your child to have a free school meal, simply by registering, you help increase our school budget!

### School Dinners

A reminder that these are now £2.50 per meal and that meals must be paid for, in advance, via the School Money App. Accounts can not go into debt.

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

## Stars of the Week & Values Award

Year	Half term achievers	Star Writers
Rec	Weronika & Mazia	Rohan & Serah
Y1	Draius & Anayis	Sana & Anthony
Y2	Essa & MAisha	Fatima & Zainab
Y3	Muhamed H & David N	Hasnain & Muskan
Y4	Esme & Maya	Amaarah & Wiktoria
Y5	Zain & Sofia	Iqra & Firdous
Y6	Muammad F & Muznah	Lily & Uzair

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	Juwairyah
Times Table Rockstars - KS2	3H won the battle! Hasnain was the most valuable player.
Numbots - KS1	Most improved: 1st - Yusuf B, 2nd - Anthony, 3rd - Kiana
Geography Challenge	

## Gaza-Israel

Sadly, the situation appears no nearer to a resolution and we continue to witness innocent people suffering. We continue to pray for peace and seek a peaceful, long term resolution. Here at St Matthew's we continue to teach the children the importance of respect and tolerance and compassion for one another.

## Prayer

O Lord, bless our school,  
So that working together  
and playing together,  
we may learn to serve You  
as we serve one another

**Amen**

Headteacher: Mr M Mackley  
New Hall Lane, Preston, Lancashire PR1 5XB Tel: 01772 794482  
Email: [psmoffice@cidari.co.uk](mailto:psmoffice@cidari.co.uk) Website: [www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk)

