



St Matthew's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**



NEWSLETTER 7 – 2nd December 2022

<p>★ Star of the week ★ W/e 11/11</p> <p>Reception Mia and Ayaan Year 1 Hasnain W Year 2 Kris and Daria Year 3 Meerab and Marius Year 4 Dilraj and Kian Year 5 Zara and Zayn Year 6 Fizzah and Stevie</p>	<p>★ Values Award ★ ★ ★</p> <p>Reception Hallie and Anayis Year 1 Mason Moffat Year 2 Zuzanna and Ayesha M Year 3 Lily and Kainaat Year 4 Sara and Nabiha Year 5 Gagan and Khadijah Year 6 Nabiya and Umaiza</p>	<p>★</p> <p>Attendance data (W/e 25/11/2022)</p> <p>Punctuality Year 4</p> <p>Attendance Year 6</p> <p><i>Well done everybody!</i></p>
<p>★ Star of the week ★ W/E 18/11</p> <p>Rec Safa & Anayis Year 1 Dminic, Poppy, Shazain & Maryam Year 2 Zakariya, Ayesha, Areesha & David Year 3 Nicolas & Lucas Year 4 Sophia & Samuel Year 5 Danyaal & Katie Year 6 Amina & Aisha</p>	<p>★ Values Award ★</p> <p>Rec Zakariya & Sana Year 1 Hashir & Divine Year 2 Saad & Baksheesh Year 3 Habiba & Hiba Year 4 Alvina & Mus'ab Year 5 Briony & Azmat Year 6 Eman & Talha</p>	
<p>★ Star of the week ★ W/e 25/11</p> <p>Rec Denis & Anayis Year 1 Nelly Year 2 Yasmina & Leo Year 3 Kasci & Kayden Year 4 Whole Year group! Year 5 5B & Uzair Year 6 Khadijah & Mehak</p>	<p>★ Values Award ★</p> <p>Rec Skylagh & Sana Year 1 Yusuf Year 2 Luca & Halima Year 3 Wikktoria & Marliss Year 4 Whole Year group! Year 5 Lawi & Rumaisa Year 6 Ismail & Karmani</p>	
<p>★ Star of the week ★ W/e 2/12</p> <p>Rec Zakariya A & Deacon</p>	<p>★ Values Award ★</p> <p>Rec Jakub & Rayyan</p>	

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

Year 1 Lola & Noorun-Nisa Year 2 Anjali & Year 3 Irina & Sara Year 4 Madiha & Scarlett Year 5 Maria & Mohammad Azaan Year 6 Ismail R & Aaminah	Year 1 Maisha & Haniya Year 2 2h & 2G Year 3 Amiyah & Yakub Year 4 Zara & Irfan (& Miss Richardson!) Year 5 Haadi & Ibrahim Year 6 6S & Aalia		
Weekly attendance by year group: ■ Attendance better than 96% (Government target) - great! ■ Attendance below the target of 96% - a concern ■ Attendance of 90% or below - a great concern. <i>Let's try and get 96% or better and get some green!</i>		Previous attendance figures	Latest figures
Reception Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6		88.7% 76.2% 79.2% 91.2% 88.6% 91.5% 92.2%	91.3% 85.8% 93.4% 90.2% 93.8% 89.6% 97.9%

Dear all,

We are now well and truly into the season of advent - the time where Christians all over the world are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ over 2000 years ago.

My worships leading up to Christmas are focusing on how God used Angels as his messengers and the way that different people responded to the incredible messages they were given.

As always, we are encouraging everyone to look beyond all the commercialisation of Christmas and the adverts that tell you that the best Christmas involves spending lots of money. As far as we are concerned, Christmas is a time to be together with family and friends and to enjoy the simple pleasures in life.



Christmas Dinners!

Children are welcome to come in non-uniform on their Christmas Dinner day; if they have a Christmas Jumper and wish to wear that, they are welcome to but please do not go out and buy one especially!

On all other days unless otherwise notified by your child's teacher, children are expected to wear school uniform. Please note, that trainers should only be worn on PE days.

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



School Trips

Well done to our Year 2 and Year 6 classes who have both had really successful trips this week. Not only did they have a great time and learnt a lot, they were excellent ambassadors for St Matthew's and we are all really proud of their behaviour. Thank you to the staff for all the background work that went into planning these trips.

School Garden Planters

Zara (Y5) reported,

"Last week, Mrs Bryden brought in some winter flowers that a family friend had donated to school. At break time, a group of us in Y5/6 children helped Mrs Farnworth weed the planters and prepare them for the winter plants. Even though we go mucky, it was fun. We were pleased with the end result as the flowers look good. Now our playground looks colourful for the winter."



Staffing Changes

As part of our constant self-review of how we do things here, we are making some changes to our structure from January 1st. Mrs Shaikh will move to teaching in Year 5 alongside Mrs Bryden, both sharing the teaching of the same class. This means that they will have time out of class to carry out their Assistant Headteacher duties in support of Mr Mackley as Headteacher. Mrs Grilli will be moving to teach Mrs Shaikh's current Year 1 class from January.

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School Day Times

A reminder that the school day starts at 8:55am and children should be in their classes at this point and not arriving at school. Children have work to complete on arrival to help them with their learning and late arrivals mean they are missing out on opportunities to improve.

The school day finishes at 3:15pm. This is when they leave their classrooms to come to the gates.

Next week we will share the plan for the end of day collection from January.



Safety

We have recently witnessed several 'near misses' at the beginning and end of the school day. Please can we ask that unless you have a genuine need to drive up to the gates, that you park away from Derby Square and walk. We do not want to have anyone injured. Also, we have noticed many people walking in the road - please leave the road to vehicles and stay on the pavement wherever possible.

Local residents have also commented about vehicles being damaged.

Whilst we do not know what time of day this is happening, please ensure that no blame is apportioned to any of our families by avoiding leaning on them whilst waiting for children.

Attendance

As you can see from the weekly totals at the beginning of the newsletter, we are frequently having class attendance levels well below the expected level of 96%. We do understand that for some children this is related to illness but there are others who could be in school who aren't. It is so important for children to attend regularly and on time in order to ensure that they get the most out of all the learning opportunities they are given.

This term we have introduced our Attendance Team who have been visiting houses to both check on children who we haven't seen and also to support families in getting children back into school. Thank you for the overwhelmingly positive response to this supportive work, we have already seen clear improvements in levels of attendance for many children.

Finally....

A reminder that if you need to get in touch with Mr Mackley, please do not use Class Dojo. Either call the office on 01772 794482 or email psmoffice@cidari.co.uk Due to the way that Class Dojo works, it is not always possible for Mr Mackley to check your messages in a timely manner.

Attendance Matters



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Prayer & Reflection

This week in our worship we learnt about Zehariah, the father of John the Baptist and how he reacted when the angel visited him. His immediate response was 'I don't believe it!' We thought about things we find hard to believe and how we would react if an angel came to us - would we accept the message or doubt?

Dear Father God, very often if we have not seen something or do not fully understand something, then we do not believe it to be real or possible.

Although we have never met an angel we know that they are your special messengers.

As we prepare for Christmas help us to listen carefully to the words of the angels and learn more about your love for us.

Amen.



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