



# St Matthew's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

“Do your best, don't give up!”



## NEWSLETTER 8 – 19th December 2025

In this final newsletter of the Autumn Term, I simply want to wish each and every one of you the joy of Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Thank you for supporting us in all we do to give every child the best opportunity to be the best they can be. See you in 2026!

Mr Mackley  
Headteacher

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### Food for Life Award

This is something that we are working on as a school, led by Mrs Mangera. She has asked me to share the following with you all.

Year 3 have been exploring the origins of our food, specifically focusing on which fruits and vegetables grow during different seasons in the UK. After practicing safe cutting techniques and tasting a variety of produce, the pupils independently created their own vegetable tarts. This also marks progress toward our **Food for Life** award.



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### Christmas Services

You may be aware that St Matthew's Parish has been merged with the Preston Minster parish and we are delighted to share their festive services with you as well as the services available at the St Matthew's Mission Hall on Acregate Lane.

Preston Minster:

Mr Mackley will be doing one of the readings at the City Carols Service and Mrs Farnworth will be singing as part of the Church Choir at the same

**Peace** Wednesday 17th December · 7pm

#### Contemporary Carols

A service featuring your favourite carols with a modern twist

**Hope** Wednesday 24th December · 4pm

#### City Carols

A classic and beautiful service by candlelight

**Joy** Sunday 21st December · 11am

#### Family Carols

A fun, fast paced, family friendly service with lots of surprises!

**Light** Thursday 25th December · 10am

#### Christmas Day

A festive celebration for all the family

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

service. A warm welcome is extended to everyone to come along to join in the Christmas celebrations.

St Matthew's Mission Hall:

"Family at four" Every Sunday at 4pm for 2 hours. The main act of worship each Sunday. All are welcome to join us at Family at Four. Our services are a fun and informal cafe style service, followed by a light meal together.

"Toddler Group" Every Thursday at 9:15 a.m. for 1 hour, 45 mins. Informal group for parents, carers and their pre school children. Term time only

"Work Club" Every First Monday at 12:30 p.m. for 2 hours, 30 mins. An informal drop in offering online access, help and advice to job seekers and others.

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## School Admissions

A further reminder that Primary School applications **must be completed** by January 15th 2026! Please do tell anyone you know who is looking for a place to consider us, we are more than happy to offer opportunities for people new to the school to come and have a look around. Our Pre-School has an open session on Monday 1st December at 2pm too!

Applications can be made here <https://schooladmissions.lancashire.gov.uk/prefs.php>

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## Christmas Events in Preston

There are lots of events taking place over the festive period, please visit the Preston Council website here <https://www.visitpreston.com/whats-on/Christmas-Events-in-Preston-2025> for more information.

## Winter Wellbeing

If you are struggling with the challenges of winter, Preston City Council have access to advice and support. More information can be found here <https://www.helpinpreston.com/winterwellbeing25>

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## Dates for your Diary

School re-opens on Monday 5th January 2026 at 8:45 am, please ensure the children are on time and sat at their desks ready to start the day when the bell rings at 8:55am

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## Reflection & Prayer

In our Carols by Candlelight yesterday we heard again, from the Bible, the story of the birth of Jesus and were reminded that this most precious gift of all was for all.

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



## Amen

All our worships can be viewed online here <https://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk/blog/category/worship>

### Stars of the Week and Values Awards.

A mammoth summary from this half term! Can you see if your child's name is here?

Week ending 23rd October

Year	Star Writer	Half term achiever
Y1	Ronnie & Khadija	Florin & Nuri
Y2	Armeena & Bareerah	Aamina & Rasta
Y3	Muhammad	Krishaa & Tara
Y4	Aayat & Lily	Esa & Mathias
Y5	Kinza & Zakariya	Ishaq & Yusra
Y6	Haniyah & Joshua	Eileen & Zainab

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr Ward)	Maaz, Y5
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	5A won and Erum was the MVP
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	3rd - Weronika, 2nd - Haroon, 1st - Umairah

Week ending 7th Nov

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Y1	Omar & Alexandru	Ishika & Shahab
Y2	Zaviyar & Yusuf	Hajra & Jayram
Y3	Isa & Angel	Sohail & Tara
Y4	Uana & anaya	Areesha & Ruben
Y5	Kehinde & Kris	Sophie & Lola
Y6	Sienna & Aaminah	Yakub & Farhan

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr	Aboniir - Y5
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Ward)	
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Marius - Y6

Week ending 14th Nov

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Y1	Rishi & Antonio	Abdullah & Arwa
Y2	Saad & Saleem	Cobe & Michael
Y3	Menaal & Amina	M Bin Kashif & Brianne
Y4	Ocean & Jayden	Alishba & Hanir
Y5	Kinza & M. Mitha	Halima & Sean
Y6	Ranveer & Zainab	Alisha & Romeo

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr Ward)	Hasnain A - Y5
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	6B - Joshua was MVP
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	Yusuf, Horain & Shahzaib - all Y2 were the most improved!
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Hajra - Y4

Week ending 21st Nov

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Oliwia & Ammar	Humaira & Lacey
Y1	Jaya & Saba	Rolland & Illyeen
Y2	Mazie & Kamila	Juvana & Anete
Y3	M. Bin Kashif & Yousha	Zahra & Nawaz
Y4	Yusuf & Theo	Harper & Zainab B
Y5	M. Hussain & M. Saad	Anjali & Zayd
Y6	Marliss & Ammaarah	Sophia & Sara

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr Ward)	Dhurva - Y4
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Aayan & Saad - the only two who got it right!

Week ending 28th Nov

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Rafael & M Balaaj	M. Mustafa & Hawa
Y1	Maheera & Zainab	Amina & Rifa
Y2	Cobe & Shahzaib	Saad & Hannah
Y3	Ivy-Rae & Tara	Fatima & Raihan
Y4	Lola & shahzain	Mason & 4B
Y5	Sophie & Raheem	Anna & M. Patel
Y6	Amiyah & Sukhmay	Marius & M. Aarsal

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr Ward)	Tasneem - Y3
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	4B were the winners!
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	Haroon, Shayan & Rohan were the most improved!

Week ending 5th Dec

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Aayat & Rudra	Amiyah & Raven
Y1	Dominic & Shree	Nuri & Armeena
Y2	Eliana & Sofia	Patrick & Ahmed
Y3	Sofia & Leo	Ahmed & Safa
Y4	Alexia & M. Arif	Dhruva & Daniel
Y5	David & Muskan	Charlie & Zainab

<b>Y6</b>	Alisha & Adam	Habiba & M. Aarsal
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KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr Ward)	Kiana - Y4
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	Jorgie (Y1), Aryan (Y2) & Azlan (Y1) were the most improved.

Week ending 12th Dec

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
<b>Rec</b>	Nma & Amira	Raiden & Aayat
<b>Y1</b>	Oscar & Sehar	Donna-Marie & Alexandru
<b>Y2</b>	Elyf & Rohan	Huzaifa & Fareed
<b>Y3</b>	Maher & Sana	Mia & Dominic
<b>Y4</b>	Mohammad & Hoor	Zaviyar & Khadija
<b>Y5</b>	Anjali & Rania	Kinza & 5B
<b>Y6</b>	Broagan & Kainaat	Shahzain & TJ

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr Ward)	M. Abhi Y5
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	5A won with an amazing score of 1891 points (5B close behind with 1544) M. Mitha was the MVP
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	1st - Rohan, 2nd - Sharfay, 3rd - Jayram

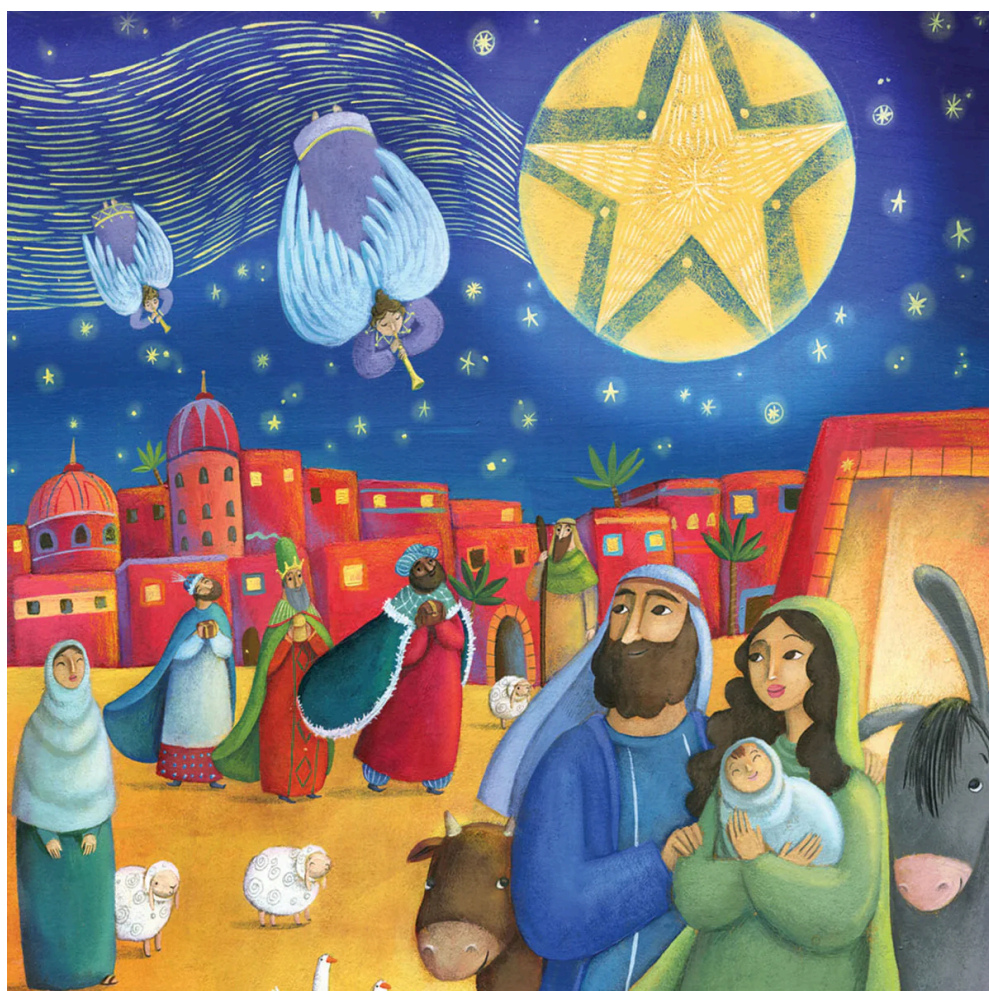
Week ending 19th Dec

Year	Star Writer	Half Term Achiever
<b>Rec</b>	Sreshta & Ibrahim	Manha & Rudra
<b>Y1</b>	Fathima & Seerat	Dominic A & Zainab
<b>Y2</b>	Saad F & Rasta	Kornel & Charlotte
<b>Y3</b>	Rayyan & Jakub	Mohammad K & Sana
<b>Y4</b>	Ruhan & Jayden	Fatima & Zainab F
<b>Y5</b>	Maaz & Anaya	Adan & Zainab



Y6	Alisha & Wiktorja	Sharma & Angela
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KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr Ward)	Rania - Y5, correctly calculated the number of legs of Santa Claus and his reindeer in a picture
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	1st - Rasta, 2nd - Saleem, 3rd - Jamal. All Y2
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Abinoor Y5 - correctly identified that Santa was in Italy.



A very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year  
from everyone at St Matthew's C of E Primary.