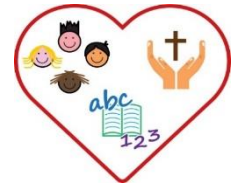


# St. Matthew's C.E. Primary School

"Be blessed by God, be happy and aspire to be..."



## NEWSLETTER 8 – 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

Our PSHE focus this half term is **Being in Harmony** and our School Value focus is **Respect**

★ <b>Half-term achiever!</b> ★	★ <b>Values Award</b> ★	★ <b>Best attendance:</b> ★ Years 2 & 6
<b>Reception</b> Poppy & Shazain <b>Year 1</b> Zaid & Mohammed <b>Year 2</b> Abdul-Haadi & Shahzain <b>Year 3</b> Ruben & Emil <b>Year 4</b> Nadia & Muznah <b>Year 5</b> Alina & Umaiza <b>Year 6</b> Dua & Zayna	<b>Reception</b> Theo & Alexia <b>Year 1</b> Uzair <b>Year 2</b> Brogan & Ammaarah <b>Year 3</b> Aizah & Rares <b>Year 4</b> Alina & Maaidah <b>Year 5</b> Jake <b>Year 6</b> 6W & Abdus-Sami	<b>Best punctuality:</b> Year 2  <i>(Please note, this data is always a week in arrears!)</i>

	Previous attendance	Latest Attendance
	figures	figures
<b>Reception</b>	85.6%	87.5%
<b>Year 1</b>	89.4%	89.6%
<b>Year 2</b>	90.3%	92.9%
<b>Year 3</b>	97.3%	97.5%
<b>Year 4</b>	88.6%	88.4%
<b>Year 5</b>	93.8%	92.5%
<b>Year 6</b>	95.2%	97.5%
<b>Whole school total</b>	91.6%	92.4%

**Weekly attendance by year group:**  
Green - attendance better than 96% (Government target) - great!  
Yellow - attendance below the target of 96% - a concern  
Red - attendance of 90% or below - a great concern.

**KS2 Maths Challenge:** Jaiyash in 4S for solving and justifying the odd one out challenge.

### Numbots:

Anjali – 1W, accessing regularly this half term.  
 Rida – most improvement over the half term.



### ★ **Star Writer!** ★

At the end of each half term, staff identify a child in each class who has achieved well in their writing.

**RS** – Hashir, for persevering with learning to write his name.  
**RH** – Zaynab, for independent writing about her house.  
**1N** – Raisa, for becoming an independent writer and persevering when writing a story about the enormous pumpkin  
**1W** – Zakiyya, for writing her own version of the enormous carrot story independently, using her phonics knowledge.  
**2H** – Kainaath, for becoming a confident writer. Kainaath is learning to create her own sentences and write them independently.  
**2K** – Farhan, for excellent progress in all aspects of writing, working independently.  
**3M** – Sara, for an excellent discussion text on the Stone Age.  
**3C** – Scarlett, for a super discussion text based on the Stone Age.  
**4C** – Gaganveer, for an amusing playscript.  
**4S** – Uzair, for remembering to say what he wants to write before writing it. A super half term of writing!  
**5R** – Mehak has been working hard to ensure that every piece of writing includes her non-negotiables and has written an excellent explanation in science.  
**5B** – Mahnoor, for writing a fabulous persuasive leaflet to attract tourists to Blackpool.  
**6W** – Nadiya, for always paying attention to feedback and working hard to improve.  
**6S** – Mazama, for using geographical knowledge and vocabulary to write a factual Wikipedia entry about Italy.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope that you have managed to have some quality time together with family and friends and that the children have been able to 'recharge their batteries' and are ready to give it their all as they come back to school and are ready to learn.

As we begin the second half of the Autumn Term with the colder days and darker nights, we look ahead to Christmas when Christians celebrate the Light of the World coming to earth in the form of a tiny baby. There are other festivals at this time of year too and we would like to wish a Happy Diwali to all of our families who will be celebrating later this week!



M Mackley

### Open Days

If you have a child due to start school in September 2022 or you know someone who does, we are having some sessions to enable people to come and have a look at our school in action. This Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30 a.m. and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 1.45 p.m. are the times you can come to visit.

If you are intending coming along, please let the school office know either by calling in or calling 01772 794482.

Applications for places can be made now at the following link <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>

### Reading

The ability to read is the key to unlocking learning for all children. We do a huge amount of work on this on a daily basis at school but we cannot do it all 😊 Listening to your child read is not only an essential part of helping them to learn, it can also be a really enjoyable experience for you both. To help us be clear on who has been listened to at home, please make a note in your child's reading diary, thank you!

We will be running a competition to engage children to read at home. When a child reads at home 10 times and their diary is signed by an adult, they will be rewarded a 'Golden Ticket.' All 'Golden Tickets' will go into a draw to win a Kindle.

### Academy Conversion – Cidari Multi Academy Trust

It was good to be able to meet with representatives from Cidari and those parents/carers who were able to come along. A lot of really interesting and useful questions were asked and answered in a positive and constructive atmosphere.



You will be aware that the consultation period has been extended up to the 26<sup>th</sup> November and there will be an additional meeting for parents/carers to attend on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November so that more people can have the opportunity to ask their questions and receive answers. We are aware that 3:30 is

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not the best time for many and are looking at an alternative venue to the school hall that can be used during the afternoon.

You can also visit the website that Cidari have set up [St Matthew's CE Primary School - Raised Q & A's \(google.com\)](#) to ask any questions that you may have and to read ones that have already been asked.

### **Traffic around school**

We have been in contact with the local Police about the traffic at the beginning and end of the school day. Please can we ask all who use their cars to be considerate of the pedestrians around school at these times. We would strongly advise all car users to 'park and stride' – park a short distance away from school and walk the last bit. This keeps traffic to a minimum and increases the exercise and fresh air that children get!

Please can we also encourage all the pedestrians **not** to stand in the road but to wait on the pavement. With the darker evenings coming this is even more important. It is a really good idea to wear something bright and reflective as the evenings get darker.

### **Year 2 – Walk to School Challenge!**

For Year 2's PSHE 'Altogether Now' project, the children in Year 2 have decided to promote a walk to school week. This is to try and help the car situation on Derby Square as well as being healthy and an improvement to the climate of our local area.

The children have created posters that will be displayed around school and also will be shared on the newsletter, Class Dojo and hopefully on the school website. This will be taking place next week, 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> November and we would really like everyone to get involved and support the children as they challenge us all!

### **Adult behaviour**

I have been made aware that some of our parents/carers are not behaving appropriately around the school gates. We have received some concerned comments regarding abusive and inappropriate language being used; this is not something that should be taking place anywhere but especially around the gates of a Primary School.

### **Anti-Bullying Week 2021**

This annual event takes place from the 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> November and the them is 'One Kind Word'. Further details will follow but the week will launch on the 15<sup>th</sup> with everyone being asked to wear odd socks on that day 😊

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## Prayer / thought for the week / reflection

### **Reflection:**

As we think about the themes for this half term "Being in harmony" and "Respect" it is good to pause and reflect that there is more that unites us than divides us. We only need to turn on the television to be reminded of all the problems and challenges that there are in the world and it is up to each and everyone of us to try and be the light for someone each day.



I was once taught by a very wise person that it is okay to disagree with someone as long as you disagree kindly and respectfully. There are a many 'inspirational quotes' and posters that are available and I have some of them as part of the screensaver on my computer. One that comes up regularly is a quote from the Dalai Lama: "Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible."

Mr M

### **Prayer:**

Dear God,

We thank you for each day,

Please help us to respect and tolerate everyone, including those that are different to us.

Help us to be kind and patient with one another and always show respect.

No matter what race, age, gender or religion people are, help us to be fair and kind to them.

Help us to co-operate, be helpful and listen.

Protect all of us and help us to make our school and the world a better place.

Amen



### **Key dates for the term:**

1<sup>st</sup> November – INSET day

2<sup>nd</sup> November – school reopens

8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> November – Y2 walk to school challenge

10<sup>th</sup> November – Parents'/Carers' Evening

15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> November – Anti Bullying Week

26<sup>th</sup> November - end of consultation period regarding conversion

8<sup>th</sup> December School Choir at Preston Market

8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity Play (details to follow)

17<sup>th</sup> December 2:00pm – School closes for Christmas Holiday

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