



St Matthew's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CIDARI**

"Do your best, don't give up!"

NEWSLETTER 10 – 16th January 2026

A short newsletter with a couple of reminders and the latest Stars of the Week and Values Award winners.

Mr Mackley
Headteacher

Traffic on Derby Square and Cuttle Street

We have noticed a significant increase in the number of children coming to school by car in the morning and the associated traffic at the beginning and end of the day.

Please can we ask that wherever possible, you do not drive along Cuttle Street or Derby Square to drop off or pick your children up, we are very concerned of the risks to all the pedestrians at these very busy times.

Can we also remind parents of children walking to and from school that they need to ensure they remain on the pavement and do not walk in the roads - I have had to speak to several children at the start of the day for walking in the road when cars are moving.



Attendance Matters



Attendance

As you know, daily attendance at school is very important and vital in giving each child the very best opportunity to make the most of the learning opportunities here and to be the very best they can be. You will also know that we have various competitions throughout the year to encourage 100% attendance wherever possible.

We have had a brand new bike donated which we are using as a prize from the start of this term right up to the end of the summer term in July.

All children with 100% attendance will have their names put into a raffle and one name will be drawn to win the bike.

So, get to school every day!

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

Uniform

The children in uniform look really smart! Just a couple of reminders that trainers and joggers are not part of uniform and that Hijabs (if worn) must be shoulder length only, we have started to see some longer ones being worn and these can be a safety risk if they get caught.

<https://stmatthewspreston.co.uk/parents/uniform>

Reflection & Prayer

In the second of our worships to celebrate the 100th birthday of Blackburn Diocese we considered "Kind Words" and learnt about the power of words to do a lot of good and also to do a lot of bad. We are committed, all of us, to use kind words wherever possible so that we can all look out for each other and care for each other.

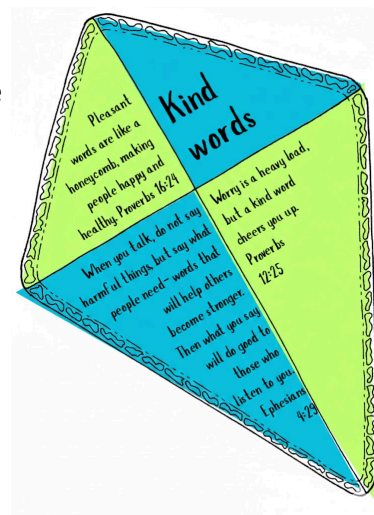
At the end, some of our worship group read a prayer they had written and all adults & children were invited to join in with this prayer together:

Lord Jesus, sometimes my words are hurtful and mean.

Please forgive me.

Help me to only use words that build others up, words that are kind and bring a smile to the listener.

Amen



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

Stars of the Week and Values Awards.

Week ending 16th January 2026

Year	Star of the Week	Values Award
Rec	Mirha & Aayat	Manveer & Antonia
Y1	Amina & Hareem	Dominic A & Noor K
Y2	David, Shayan & Rameen	Haroon & Amira
Y3	David & Brianne	Ariella & 3B
Y4	4A & Sinol	fatima & Ayla
Y5	Ayesha & Lindon	Daria & Yusra
Y6	Abdual-Haadi & Wiktorina	Nicholas & M. Shafat

KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr	No winner this week...
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Ward)	
KS2 Maths Challenge (Mr Ward)	Khubaib correctly calculated the correct number of snowballs!
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) (Mrs Gretton)	3A beat 3B. Rayyan was the MVP
Numbots (Mrs Gretton)	No winners this week
Geography Challenge (Mrs Copeland)	Ayaan correct identified that the Cairngorms Stairlift had the most snow in Scotland