

# St. Matthew's CofE Primary School



"I am with you always" Matthews 28:20



LOVE



RESPECT



CREATIVITY



FRIENDSHIP

This Term's Value is:

Trust

My God is my strength in who I trust.

Psalm 18.2

## A Note from the Headteacher

Can you believe it's half term already? Where did January go?

As always the children have been working hard as well as having fun both inside and outside the classroom. They will have brought their report home with them today so you can see the effort they are putting into their work and the progress they are making.

Please remember that we have parent's evenings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of March.

Have a good half term.

**Miss Ritchie**  
**Headteacher**

See what we've been up to this week:

Visit the class pages on the school website to find out more

[www.st-matthews.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.st-matthews.bolton.sch.uk)

## Dates For Your Diary

### Don't forget:

Half Term is Monday—  
14th February—Friday  
18th February 2022

School reopens—Monday  
21st February 2022

### Parents Evenings

1st / 2nd March

### Please remember:

Parents please be considerate to our neighbours when parking near the school, please do not park on Nottingham Drive.

Please park a little further away and walk your child to the school.

Thank you

The afterschool club timetable is now on the school website  
<https://www.st-matthews.bolton.sch.uk/>



## **Important reminders**

The timings to the school day. All classrooms will be open at the start of the day from 8:45am. Every pupil **MUST** be in school ready to learn by 9:00am. If they arrive after this time they will get a late mark.

### **Uniform**

#### **Girls**

skirts/pinafore dresses (grey/black), trousers (grey/black)  
sweaters/sweatshirts/fleece/cardigans (navy blue)  
blouses/shirts/polo-necked shirts (white)  
socks/tights (white/grey/black)  
footwear – black shoes/trainers (all black including laces, no obvious logos)

#### **Boys**

trousers (grey/black)  
sweaters/sweatshirts/fleece (navy blue)  
shirt/polo-necked shirts (white)  
socks (white/grey/black)  
footwear – black shoes/trainers (all black including laces, no obvious logos)

Children should come dressed to school in school uniform everyday.

### **PE Kit for both boys and girls is as follows:**

White polo shirt or T-shirt  
Dark (navy blue, black, grey) jogging bottoms, leggings or shorts  
Dark (navy blue, black, grey) sweatshirt/ fleece  
Black Trainers or pumps

Please check on your child's class page to see when their P.E. days are.

## St Matthew's Prayer

Dear God,  
Help us to be trustworthy people who are honest, kind and  
thoughtful  
Amen.



### Ethos Team Challenge

Make a wall display showing symbols that  
speak of God's trustworthiness.

### Reflection Time

*How do you know for certain that you  
exist?*





A message from Mrs Sharples, our Pastoral Manager

### **Parents- Looking after yourself**

Being a parent can be challenging in everyday situations. Now, more than ever, taking care of your mental health is important. Staying at home more or having to work during a difficult situation can put different pressures on everyone. If you're struggling, it's okay to reach out for support from friends, families, school and organisations that are here to help.

Changes to our mental health can sometimes affect children and their well-being. They may pick up on your anxiety or low mood.

This doesn't mean you should hide your feelings.

You can try to explain them using phrases like, "It's ok to get big feelings, everyone gets big feelings but it's still the grown up's job to look after the children."

When things are different to what we're used to and everyone is going through a big change, it's important to give children reassurance and support. Looking after your own mental health is vital to their well-being, so don't be afraid of doing something for yourself to take care of your own well-being, and reach out if you need help. Staff in St Matthew's are here should you need any support or signposting to other services. Don't be afraid to ask for help; we're all in the same boat.

If you would like a confidential chat or signposting to other support services, please call the school office and ask to speak to Mrs Sharples.

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

## Attendance Information

(Monday 17th January — Friday 28th January 2022)

Our school attendance for 2022 / 2023 target is 96%

The last two weeks whole school attendance was 93.1%

Rec E— 90.5%
Mrs Elliott
Rec S— 94.6%
Miss Smith
Y1D— 91.2%
Mrs Davidson
Y1O—85.0%
Miss O'Hagan
Y2B— 94.2%
Miss Bateman
Y2W— 92.8%
Mrs Shaw
Y3J— 97.8%
Mrs Johnson
Y3P— 95.4%
Mrs Phillips
Y4F— 92.9%
Miss Foster
Y4M— 89.5%
Miss Manly
Y5Mc— 95.4%
Mrs McIlhagga
Y5R— 95.2%
Mrs Rotherham
Y6Cl— 92.3%
Mrs Clarkson
Y6Cu— 96.5%
Mr Currid



## Headteachers Award Winners

	14/01/2022	21/01/2022	28/01/2022	04/02/2022
Y1O		Safaa	Amelia	Muntaha
Y1D	Harper	Benita	Magnifique	Nidaa
Y2S	Danial	Zeyan	Daniella	Salma
Y2B	Aisha	Marie	Hadiya	Bareera

Well done everyone!

## Headteachers Award Winners

	14/01/2022	21/01/2022	28/01/2022	04/02/2022
3J	Adam	Ahmed	Mandy	Alif
3P	Faiz	Abdullahi	Abdurahman	Llukman
4M	Amin	Sawsan	Sameeha	Sophie
4F	Bassit	Ansam	Harrish	Khadija
Y5R	James	Alex	Metha	Safaa
Y5Mc	Umar	Yousif	Siona	Suheb
Y6Cl			Zack	Solange
Y6Cu	Aisha	Hooriya	Joe	Zain

Well done everyone!



## Signs of the Week

The children are building up a large bank of signs! So far, they have learnt:

Hello / goodbye

Good morning

Good afternoon

Please / thank you

Yes / no

Mother / mum

Father / dad

Grandma / grandad

Help

Dinner

Sorry

Read

Wait

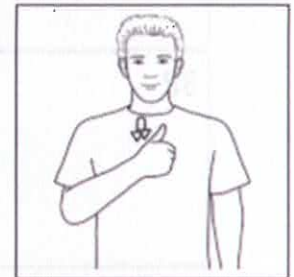
Listen

Happy

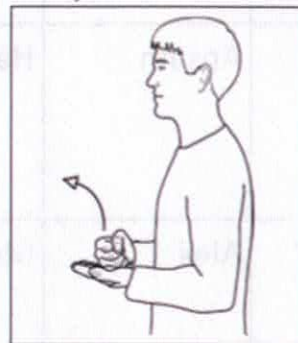
Sad



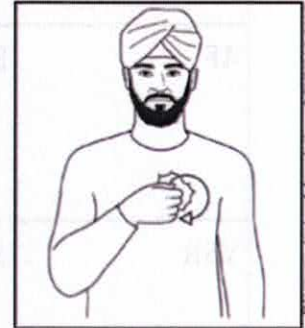
HELLO



HELP, TO



SORRY



Remember that you can visit our website for signing videos so that you can practise them at home as a family!



## Y3P

In year 3 we have been reading 'The Iron Man' and learning about newspaper reports.

We worked in groups of three to report the news about the Space Dragon coming to Earth.







In line with our theme, year 5 has been looking at the process of mummification in science. We discussed why mummification was important to the Egyptians. We have set up an investigation to mummify a tomato and we will monitor how this changes over time.

We scraped out the guts, cleaned and dried the tomato, weighed the tomato, filled it with salt and bicarbonate of soda and then covered the tomato with the mixture.

We also used a tomato as a control so that we can make comparisons.



## Reception

Reception have been celebrating the Chinese New Year. The children have made Chinese banners, counted coins into Chinese money packets and enjoyed exploring the Chinese restaurant.





## Reception

The Bikeability team have been in school and Reception have had a brilliant time learning how to safely ride balance bikes.





## Girls' Football

Our Y3/4 and Y5/6 girls' football teams performed very well at their football festivals at St Joseph's High School. Looking very smart in their kits, the children played against other teams from across Bolton in some very competitive matches. Everyone received a certificate for taking part and I was very proud of the positive attitude and super sportsmanship they showed throughout the festivals.

Well done girls!

Miss Ritchie



## Year 6 Football

The Year 6 football team travelled to local rival's St Thomas' to play a friendly game on their Astroturf pitch.

The children played well, showed great sportsmanship and most importantly had fun! Well done Year 6!





## NUT Free School

We children in school with a nut allergy which means that all staff and parents must be vigilant about ingredients we use in school and items put into lunch boxes. No nuts or snacks containing nuts should be put into packed lunches.

Peanut allergy is the second most common food allergy in children and this is increasing. It now occurs in 1 in 50 children.

As we now have a pupil in school who suffers from a severe nut allergy please could I take this opportunity to explain to everyone that our school has now become a "Nut Free School. " If our pupil comes into contact with a nut product, they can suffer life threatening consequences. It can be easily initiated from a simple handshake or touching of a pupil's table who may have had some nuts in their food. Therefore children **must not** bring nuts or nut products as snacks into school at any time.

We ask that you do not provide your child with any products containing nuts in their lunch box: Some examples:

- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Nutella
- Peanut butter
- Cakes made with nuts
- Muesli bars
- Baklava
- Any nuts

School will be making regular checks on the children's lunches to ensure these rules are being followed.

Whilst we know some children like to bring in cakes/chocolates for their classmates to celebrate their birthday we ask that they do not bring in anything that contains nuts, if they do then unfortunately they will not be handed out and will be sent home unopened, which could lead to lots of disappointment.

We have a rule not to use nuts in any of our food prepared on site at our school. Our suppliers provide us with nut-free products, however, we cannot guarantee freedom from nut traces.

Please help us in providing a nut free school and assisting those parents who have a child who may have a life threatening reaction by children **not** bringing nuts or nut products as snacks into school at any time.

Many thanks for your support.



## ChatHealth Messaging Service

### Text your School nurse/Health Visitor

During these unsettling times, as a parent of child aged between 0/19 years old you may be worried about your child's health and wellbeing and be unsure about how to get the help you need.

Our specialist nurses are still here to help - you can text them for confidential advice and support on a wide range of issues.

**Parent/carers of child(ren) aged 0-19 can send a text to:**

**07507331751**

We can help with all kinds of things like:

- Behaviour
- Continence
- Emotional health
- Self-harm
- Bullying
- Minor accidents and illnesses

Your ChatHealth messaging service is run by The Children's Integrated Health and Wellbeing Team, Bolton Foundation Trust and is available Monday to Friday 8am until 8pm

We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate bounce-back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact your GP, NHS 111 or dial 999 if it is an emergency.





# Free School Meals

Even if your child is currently receiving Universal Free School meals, because they are in either Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, if you think that you might be entitled to standard free school meals, because you meet the criteria below it is very important that you still apply for them.

You can get further help on how to apply at the One Stop Shop in Bolton Town Hall.

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**What are free school meals?** They are school dinners for children between the ages of 4 and 16 who attend full time school (but not private schools). They may also be awarded to some children outside this age range who attend full time school or nursery.

**Do I qualify?** To qualify you or your partner must be getting one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Universal Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit only (but no award of Working Tax Credit) and have an annual income, as assessed by the HM Revenues and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190.

**What evidence is required & how do I apply?** You need to provide an up to date document showing that you are getting one of the above benefits. You do not need to make a separate claim if you are already getting or have applied for Housing Benefit / Council Tax Support. We will use the information and evidence you have already provided to confirm your entitlement,

If you would like to make a claim this can be done by;

- Telephoning 01204 331590 or
- Visit our website [www.bolton.gov.uk](http://www.bolton.gov.uk) (search for free school meals)

In addition from **September 2014** children who are attending full time at any Sixth form college (not private) may also be eligible.

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# FREE CAKES FOR KIDS BOLTON

**A community service that  
provides free birthday cakes  
for children who might not  
otherwise receive one.**

## FREE, FRIENDLY & CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE

Get in touch if you know a child who  
may benefit, or if you'd like to join  
us as a volunteer baker.

**[freecakesforkidsbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:freecakesforkidsbolton@hotmail.com)**

**[@freecakesbolton](#)**

**[facebook.com/freecakesforkidsbolton](https://www.facebook.com/freecakesforkidsbolton)**