

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

St. Matthew's CofE Primary School



"I am with you always" Matthew 28:20



LOVE



RESPECT



CREATIVITY



FRIENDSHIP

A Note from the Headteacher

Welcome back!

It is just lovely to see our family back together after such a long time apart. Everyone has taken the new routines in their strides and we are keeping each other as safe as possible. I am very proud of how quickly all the children have settled in, always with a smile on their faces, and of how swiftly they have adapted to their new classes. The children are keen to learn and pleased to be with their friends again. I would like to thank all staff for making the start of the new year so smooth and enjoyable for the children. I would also like to thank all parents and carers for your continuing support in these challenging times. Thank you!

Drop off and pick up

The staggered system is working very well. Thank you very much for keeping to your allocated times; it is making the start and the end of the day safe, smooth and orderly. Please remember that it is extremely important for all adults to follow social distancing guidelines (2m distance or, if this is not possible, 1m+ with mitigating controls,) inside and outside of school, particularly in busy areas near our gates. Whilst Bolton is in local Lock Down please make sure you are wearing a face covering when you are on school site.

Illness

If your child develops symptoms of COVID 19 please phone school to let us know and arrange for a formal test. You can do this by:

Phoning 119

or by booking one online at

<https://self-referral-test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk>

Please let school know the outcome of the test so we can follow government guidance with people who may have been in contact with your child.

Miss Ritchie

Headteacher

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.

INSET DAY

School will be closed on Monday 5th October for staff training. Children must not come to school on this day.



The return of Class Dojo!

We have decided to start to use Class Dojo as a means of communicating with you. Your child will bring home a password – please make sure you sign up. We will use this as a means of sharing work, videos and home learning.

Dates For Your Diary

5th October—School Closed.

26th—30th October 2020— Half Term

31st October—New Term begins.

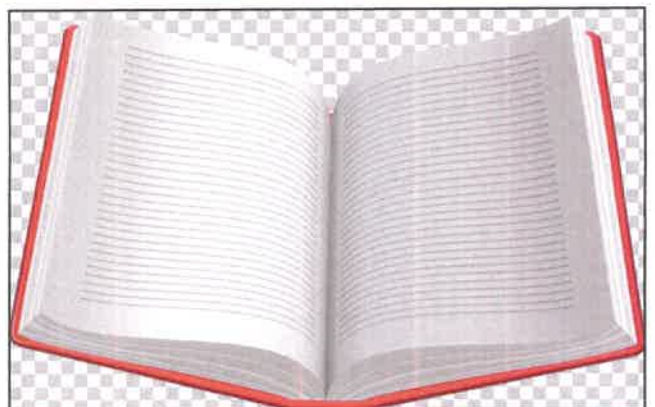
17th December 2020— School closes at 1.00pm

6th January 2021—New Term begins.



Reading routine for EVERYONE at St. Matthew's

A reading book which is at the right level for your child has been sent home. Please read this book during the week and sign the reading record **daily**. On a Friday please return only the reading record to be checked and signed by a member of staff. When your child needs a new book please return it so we can put it into quarantine and give your child a new one. Your child will also have a reading book in school that they read with the teachers.





Encompass Awareness

St Matthews continues to be involved in the Operation Encompass project that runs jointly between school and Greater Manchester Police, reporting to school prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced any Domestic Abuse.

Operation Encompass ensures that a senior, nominated member of school staff (Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputy Lead) is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have experienced an incident of Domestic Abuse. The member of staff nominated at St Matthew's is Mrs Sharples, Pastoral Manager.

We endeavour to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial to all involved.



OPERATION ENCOMPASS
In every force. In every school. For every child.



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.

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 (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.





**Public Health
England**



Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it
with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it

by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks & sport activities



Before cooking & eating



SCHOOL
ETC.

On arrival at any childcare or educational setting



After using the toilet



Before leaving home



Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3 campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools



What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call NHS 111 for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings [gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit NHS.UK to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See NHS.UK for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately

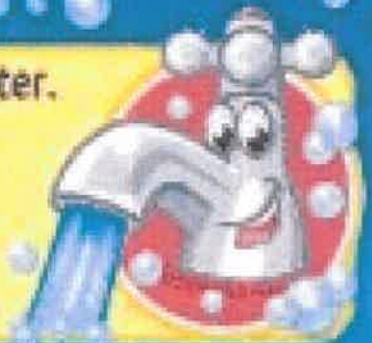


Washing your hands

Step 1

Wet hands under warm running water.

1



Step 2

Add soap to aid cleaning and to kill germs.

2



Step 3

Rub well for at least 15 seconds.

3



Remember

Rub the front and back of your hands well and between your fingers!



Step 4

Rinse well under warm running water.

4



Step 5

Dry hands with clean paper towels.

5

