

# Friday News

No. 14 - 15th December 2023





#### Diary Dates

### St Matthew's CE Primary School

Forward through Friendship and Faith

**Executive Head teacher:** 

Mr C Cole

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#### **SHARE OUR PRAYERS**

Dear God,

At this time of the year, we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus and the good news he bought us,

Thank you for always being there and for showing us how to

Heavenly Father,

Teach us to show our gratitude for what we have By caring for those around us And for the wonderful world in which we live. Amen.



We all know that the Star of Bethlehem led the shepherds and wise men to Jesus on the first Christmas, we're looking for some nativity stars to join us on Sunday 17th December as we retell the Nativity story!

No lines to learn, no rehearsing, just turn up around 10am on Sunday 17th ready to be whichever Nativity star you choose!

Costumes are available in church.

All children who would like to can take part.

The nativity will form part of the 10:30 service on 17th December, all are welcome to support the children as they lead our Nativity from scratch!

#### **DECEMBER 2023**

Monday 18th 5SN & 6MN non-uniform days for

'Perfect Attendance'

Tuesday 19th 5JM non-uniform day for 'Perfect

Attendance'

**Nursery Christmas Shows in school at** 

10.40am & 2.40pm

Reception shows in school. Parents have

been sent their child's time

Wednesday 20th Christmas jumper day (non-uniform)

**Christmas lunch for Reception - Year 6** 

Thursday 21st 2pm End of term

There will be no Aktiva session after

school today

**JANUARY 2024** 

Monday 8th

January 2024

Spring term starts

Tuesday 9th Vikings Day in school for Year 4

Thursday 18th Parents' Evening - details to follow

Friday 19th Year 3 visit to Buddhapadipa temple

Tuesday 30th Year 5 pedestrian training - details to

follow

**FEBRUARY** 

Thursday 1st Re Explorers & the Choir visiting St

Paul's for LDBS Annual Service

#### Top tips for managing your child's asthma in Winter









Breathing in cold, dry air can irritate the small airways of the lungs. If your child's asthma is well controlled they are less likely to be triggered by cold winter air.





It is important for your child  $\overline{\text{to}}$  use  $\overline{\text{their}}$  preventer inhaler every day as prescribed, even if they appear well and always use their spacer.

Make sure you give the school a copy of their asthma plan, a named spare reliever inhaler and spacer for your child to use.

Give your child a scarf to wear scarf loosely over their nose and mouth. It warms up the air they're breathing in, so they're less likely to get asthma symptoms.

Make sure you book an appointment with your GP for your child's asthma review

And don't forget to carry their reliever inhaler with you all the time, so you can act quickly if cold weather triggers their asthma."





Remember to indicate any dietary requirements or allergies as children will receive a free lunch.

≥ info@thepsdgroup.org.uk

020 3397 7409



with your booking

Learn through play & games and language immersion



\*Club subject to minimum booking numbers







Thank you to all our parents for supporting the school by ensuring their child is in class and ready to learn at 8.50am each day as children can find it unsettling when they are late. If you have problems with attendance, please speak to Mrs Papadakis or Mrs Winter. A reminder to all parents that the school does not authorise holiday during school time. We ask that parents call the school office before 8.45am if your child will be absent for any reason.

Whole school attendance from the start of term has fallen slightly to 94.6% and for the week beginning 4th December 2023 was 92.3%. Our school target is 96%.

#### **CLASS OF THE WEEK**

Each week the children have the opportunity to earn Positive Behaviour Points for showing kind hands, kind words and kind actions. This week's class of the week was 6ES with 692 positive behaviour points.

CLASS	ATTENDANCE %	MERIT
NURSERY	90.4	N/A
RJB	89	Ziora
REF	89.6	Jeylanie
1SF	91.9	Delilah-Rose
1LZ	90.3	Jesse
2LD	89.3	Millie
2EM	90	Ruquyya
змб	93.8	Godwin
3BF	91.9	Nyra
4RM	94.3	Yusuf
4IT	97.8	Srilakshmi
5JM	94.1	Meklit
5SN	93	Nevaeh
6MN	95.2	Sara
6ES	94.4	Prosper

#### **GET TO KNOW US**

Name: Mr J McCarthy, Year 5 teacher

What do you like most about St Matthew's? I enjoy working at St. Matthews because it feels more like a community rather than just work. The children, staff and parents are all very friendly and welcoming.

The one thing you do not know about me. I did charity work in India when I was 16

My favourite book when I was a child was Watership Down by Richard Adams

#### **SCHOOL VISION**

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

The RE Explorers have been busy this week, working with Laura to create some of the parts of the Nativity trail around the grounds of St Matthew's Church.



#### **BREAKFAST CLUB - IMPORTANT**

From Monday 8th January 2024, Breakfast Club will be starting at 7.45am each day, which we hope will help our working parents. Please note that we can only accept children between 7.45am-8.20am.

Due to staffing costs, we are raising the daily charge for Breakfast Club attendance to £1/day for families who are entitled to benefit-related free school meals and £2/day for all other families. This daily charge will need to be paid via Parent Pay. Please see the school office if you want help with this.

Thank you to all the families who ensure their children's accounts are always in credit. However, from 8th January, staff will only be able to accept children into Breakfast Club who have sufficient funds in their Parent Pay account.

If you have any questions regarding Breakfast Club food, please contact The Pantry via email: office@thepantrycatering.co.uk or call 0208 813 7040.

#### **OUR SCHOOL RULES**

Kind Words, Kind Hands, Kind Actions
ST MATTHEW'S SCHOOL VALUES

Friendship, Trust, Compassion, Forgiveness, Gratitude

# PTA NEWS

#### **Secret Santa**

For the last 6 weeks the PTA (Parents United) have been preparing for Secret Santa. The team enlisted the help of their mums, friends and coffee morning attendees from the Church to buy and wrap over 2,350 gifts for the children to purchase.

A small but dedicated team of volunteers ran the event over 3 days with many using annual leave from work and missing thieir children's Christmas performances to raise over £1,000 for PTA funds. The money will be used to purchase much needed equipment and resources for the school.

The PTA would like to extend their thanks to their families for their ongoing support and patience, the church for providing storage space and the last minute volunteers who came to the rescue when there were some last minute changes to plans.





## Get involved



## **Parents United**

#### **ST MATTHEWS**

FUNDRAISING IDEAS, HELPING AT EVENTS, ORGANISING EXPERIENCES - ROLES TO SUIT EVERYONE

LEAVE YOUR NAME AT RECEPTION
AND WE WILL CONTACT YOU

#### **Pre-Loved Uniform**

The PTA (Parents United) have a stock of pre-loved uniform which is in excellent condition including some items which are brand new.



If you are in need of school uniform please let the school office know and the PTA can make arrangements for you to buy items for a small contribution.

#### PTA Events so far this year

Crazy Hair and Non Uniform Day, Design the new PTA logo, Pre loved Uniform Sale & Secret Santa.



#### **Upcoming events**

Penny Challenge, Clothes collection & Easter Fun

#### **PTA Expenditure**

100% of the money raised from PTA events is used on resources and experiences for our children.

This term the PTA have

- Purchased 120 hi viz vests to keep our children safe when they are on trips. Year 4 were the first year group to use the vests on their recent trip to St Paul's Cathedral.
- Supported the Playground Buddies scheme by purchasing blue Playground Buddy vests
- Paid for badges for RE Explorers and to promote the school values
- Provided Nursery classes with paint

The PTA would like to wish all the families of the children and staff at St Matthews a blessed and peaceful Christmas.