



Friday News

No. 3 - 22nd September 2023



FOR YOUR DIARY

St Matthew's CE Primary School

Forward through Friendship and Faith

Executive Head teacher:

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St Matthew's School Yiewsley

Every child has the right to an outstanding education

ST MATTHEW'S SCHOOL VALUES

**Friendship, Trust, Compassion,
Forgiveness, Gratitude**

OUR SCHOOL RULES

Kind Words, Kind Hands, Kind Actions

SHARE OUR PRAYERS

On Thursday we celebrated St Matthew's Day and thought about his courage when making changes in his life and leaving his old ways behind.

We thought about how we could make a difference in our own community.

Dear God,

Help us to have the strength and courage to do things that are important to us.

Help us to make a difference in the world.

Amen.

THE PANTRY - SCHOOL LUNCHES

Please can we ask that all our families book their child's school meal via The Pantry booking system.

If you haven't received any communication from them, please email: office@thepantrycatering.co.uk or call 02028 813 7040.

If your child attends Breakfast Club, please make sure that your 'Breakfast Club' account on Parent Pay is in credit (£1/day except for families on qualifying benefits).

We will share Breakfast Club information from the Pantry as soon as we receive it regarding food costs.

SEPTEMBER 2023

Thursday 28th Parents Evening from 3.30pm

Friday 29th 9am 6MN class worship for parents

OCTOBER 2023

Mon 2nd Donations invited for Yiewsley & West Drayton Foodbank

Tuesday 3rd Individual & sibling photos in school

Wednesday 4th Church Harvest worship

Thursday 5th Learn with Me classroom sessions for parents at 8.45am & 2.45pm

Friday 6th 9am 5JM & 2.50pm 2EM class worship for parents

Friday 20th 9am 6ES class worship for parents

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th Half Term

Tuesday 31st Deadline for Secondary School Applications

NOVEMBER 2023

Friday 3rd 9am 5SN class worship for parents

Friday 10th 2.50pm 1LZ class worship for parents

Friday 17th 2.50pm 1SF class worship for parents

DECEMBER 2023

Friday 24th 2.50pm 3BF class worship for parents

Friday 1st 9am 4RM class worship for parents

Wednesday 6th Year 4 to St Paul's Cathedral

Friday 8th 9am 4DT & 2.50pm 3MG class worship for parents

Friday 15th 2.50pm 2LD class worship for parents

Thursday 21st 2pm End of term

Monday 8th January 2024 Spring term starts



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, our Family Support Worker, or Mrs Winter, Attendance Officer, who may be able to offer some useful strategies.

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 for the week 11th - 15th September was 93.6%.

CLASS	ATTENDANCE %	MERIT
NURSERY	88.0	N/A
RJB	84.8	N/A
RJB	87.6	N/A
1SF	95.6	Krish
1SF	95.9	Bertie
2LD	93.2	Mithul
2EM	89.7	Kristian
3MG	99.7	Omar
3BF	92.2	Kymari
4DT	95.6	Rohan
4RM	95.6	Raika
5JM	94.1	Poppy
5SN	95.4	Giorgia
6MN	87.4	Ilyas
6ES	98.1	Tommy



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 4DT with 460 positive behaviour points!

Please could we remind Year 6 Parents wishing to apply to Swakeleys School for Girls that the Supplementary Application Form should be completed before 4pm on Friday 22nd September:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMFTrmzWwz34I4ZMR_vTFLF0ZjeYtTst8a33tBtQ

PARENTS' EVENING—THURSDAY 28th SEPTEMBER

We hope that all parents have signed up for an appointment to meet their child's class teacher on Parents' Evening. A polite reminder that teachers have to keep strictly to the appointment times so if you require a more in-depth meeting, please arrange this directly with your class teacher.

Year 6 pupils are taught by both Mr Small and Mr Nelson - appointments should be made via the school office. These time slots are 3.30-5.00pm, 5.00-6.30pm or 6.30-7.30pm.

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

We now have all our Nursery and Reception children in school and it is lovely seeing them start to settle in to school life.

The children are enjoying the new school lunches and there is a feeling of excitement in the air with the days getting shorter, conkers on the trees and Hallowe'en and Bonfire Night not far away now. Please can we ask you to make sure your child has a jacket in school as we have been caught out by the showers this week!

Our school values of **Friendship, Trust, Compassion, Forgiveness, Gratitude** are embedded in all that we do at St Matthew's and our aim is to give the children the best opportunities to grow and develop. Our celebration of St Matthew on Thursday helped us to realise that, wherever we are in our lives, we too can make a difference to others.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

A big thank you to all the children who are looking so smart in their summer and winter uniforms. Miss Hutchings has created a leaflet for parents which is being emailed out with this newsletter as a quick reference guide.

If you have any questions about uniform, which are not answered by this leaflet, please call at the school office for clarification. There are also forms for ordering new items of uniform but please remember, this is cash only, and correct money please as we are selling on behalf of the PTA.

Thank you.

Secondary School Admissions

Do you have a child born between **1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013?** If so, you must apply for a school place by

31 October 2023

For more information, key dates, how to apply and advice, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions or call 01895 556644





At St. Matthew's, we believe in the importance of diversity, cultural awareness, and the power of music to bring communities together. This Black History Month, we are excited to invite you to be a part of a special event that celebrates the rich tapestry of cultures and traditions within our school community.

If you would like to join us in honouring Black History Month by sharing your unique cultural heritage and musical talents with our children. Whether you come from the African continent, Caribbean culture or have a passion for any culture connected to these regions, we welcome you to be a part of this meaningful experience.

Here's how you can get involved:

Share Your Culture:

- Host a presentation or workshop about your cultural background.
- Share stories, traditions, and customs that have shaped your heritage.
- Bring in traditional clothing, artefacts, or food to help students explore and appreciate your culture.
- If you play a musical instrument that is part of your culture's heritage, we would love to showcase your talent.
- Perform a piece of music that holds significance in your cultural history.
- Allow our children to experience the vibrant sounds and rhythms of your heritage.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to gain a deeper understanding of the diverse world around them and to celebrate the incredible contributions of the Black community to our global society.

Date: Week beginning 16th to 20th October 2023, time to be confirmed.

Location: St. Matthew's school

Please let us know if you are interested in participating by **2nd October 2023** by leaving your name and number and a member of staff will be in contact.

Let's come together as a community to make this Black History Month a memorable and educational experience for our children. Your participation is invaluable in fostering a sense of unity and respect for all cultures.

Thank you for your support in creating an inclusive and culturally rich learning environment.

HARVEST DONATIONS



At harvest time this year, we would like to ask our families for donations to support the Yiewsley & West Drayton Foodbank, which offers an invaluable service to local families in need.

You can read more about the work of the Foodbank at:

<https://yiewsleywestdrayton.foodbank.org.uk/>

The Foodbank would be grateful for all items, especially the following:

Tinned peas, carrots, tomatoes & sweetcorn

Microwave rice, Pot Noodles & dried noodles

Tinned fruit, custard & rice pudding

Jam, small bags of sugar

Toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shower gel, soap & shampoo

Nappies - size 5

Washing up liquid, washing tablets

We would ask for items to be brought into school from Monday 2nd October so that the children can take them into Church for our school worship on Wednesday 4th October. Our families are always very generous so we hope that you can support such a worthy cause.

If you would like to speak to someone at the Foodbank please email: info@yiewsleywestdrayton.foodbank.com or call: 07462097357

PE DAYS

We would ask you to please leave your child's PE kit in school all week as these can sometimes change at the last minute or there may be an opportunity for an extra PE lessons.

Year 1 Monday (PSD coach) & Tuesday (taught by class teacher)

Year 2 Tuesday (PSD coach) & Wednesday (PSD coach)

Year 3 Tuesday (PSD coach) & Wednesday (taught by class teacher)

Year 4 Monday (taught by class teacher) & Thursday (PSD coach)

Year 5 Thursday (taught by class teacher) & Friday (PSD coach)

Year 6 Thursday (PSD coach) & Friday (PSD coach)

Support us in walking the Home-Start Hillingdon Half Marathon 30th September 2023



Scan the QR codes to find out more...

You can be part of helping us change the lives of local children: enabling us to recruit, train and support volunteers to come alongside struggling families to help them move on.

Donate?



Come and meet the team
along the route ...

9-10am St Edmunds Church,
Northwood Hills
11:30 - 1:30 Uxbridge High Street
3:15-4:45 Hayes Muslim Centre

Volunteer?



Contact us to find out more:

Call: 01895 252804

office@homestart-hillingdon.org.uk

www.homestart-hillingdon.org.uk

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Train to become a volunteer with Home-Start Hillingdon – it can change your life too!!

Our next Volunteer Preparation Course will start on **Monday 9th October 2023** will run for **9 sessions on Mondays from 9.45am to 2.30pm.**

Are you:

- a parent or grandparent
- able to attend the whole course
- available to commit to volunteer for half a day a week

...if so, this is a brilliant opportunity to receive **exceptional training** that will enable you to change families lives.

As well as the huge satisfaction that comes from this role, volunteering with us can change your life too, building confidence and skills and experience. After a year supporting families, we can provide a reference to support job applications. "My new job is a form of support work. Home-Start gave me my first taster!"

Contact us for an application form or just to find out more on 01895 252804 or office@homestart-hillingdon.org.uk

Who are Home-Start?

Home-Start Hillingdon is a small charity helping local families, with at least one child under 5, who are finding things tough with issues including post-natal depression, isolation and managing difficult personal circumstances.

We recruit, train and manage volunteers to come alongside families with young children who are struggling. Each volunteer supports one family, visiting 2-3 hours once a week for up to 6 months to give support, befriending and practical help towards achieving the goals the family set themselves.

You can find out more about what we do at www.homestart-hillingdon.org.uk



We are proud and delighted to share the news that a number of pupils from St Matthew's School completed a challenge hike over 10 bridges in central London as part of a wider group of Scouts, raising almost £750 in sponsorship! They were walking as part of 2nd West Drayton Scouts so a massive well done to everyone involved.



Did you know that St Matthew's School is a member of 'Your School Lottery'? This is an externally run lottery which parents can enter and win prizes, and a proportion of the profits go directly back to the school to provide resources, experiences and opportunities for the children of St Matthew's. This is entirely optional and families should only join in if they are able.

Please click [here](#) to find more information about 'Your School Lottery', or to buy tickets.

Please note that the school does not administer, run or control the lottery in anyway. 'Your School Lottery' is affiliated with the Gambling Commission. We know that gambling can lead to problems for some individuals and their families. If gambling is causing a problem for you or others around you, please visit the BeGambleAware website [here](#).