



Friday News

No. 13 - 6th December 2019



St Matthew's CE Primary School

'Forward through Friendship and Faith'

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THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

This week we are thinking about the second week of advent, particularly focusing on **Peace**.

We have thought about how the Bible tells us in Matthew 5:9;

***"Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of
God."***

The children have thought about how they can be peacemakers in the world in their everyday actions.

GOVERNOR INFORMATION

The latest edition of the Governor Newsletter can be found on our website;

<https://www.st-matthews.hillingdon.sch.uk/85/meet-the-governors>

Diary Dates



Mon 9th - 5JM non-uniform day; Invited pupils singing at Drayton Care Home

Tues 10th - Election theme day in school; Crib services in St Matthew's Church for Nursery parents at 9.00 & 2.30pm

Weds 11th - 9am Parents Utd meeting

Thurs 12th - 2.15pm KS2 Christmas performance in St Matthew's Church

Fri 13th - 9.15am Nursery AM & RTD Nativity in KS2 hall; 10am KS1 Christmas performance in St Matthew's Church; 2.30 Nursery PM & RPB Nativity in KS2 hall; Christmas Jumper Day (non-uniform); PGL final payments to be made

Tues 17th - Carol Singing around the Crib

Weds 18th - School Christmas lunch

Thurs 19th - 2pm School ends



Spring Term starts on Tuesday

7th January 2020

Tues 14th - Open Evening for pupils in Nursery and Years 1 - 6

Mon 20th - After-school clubs start this week; Year 2 library visits

Tues 21st - Life Bus visit for Year 5

Weds 22nd - Life Bus visit for Year 6

Thurs 23rd - Soft start & soft finishes

Week commencing 27th - Bikeability for Year 6 pupils

Please note that the diary dates are for information only. Letters may not yet have been sent home.

GENERAL SCHOOL NOTICES

Everyone in school would like to say a massive 'thank you' to Parents Utd and the other volunteers this week. The work behind the scenes to source, purchase and wrap the hundreds of Secret Santa gifts as well as the time taken to run the stalls was phenomenal. The children really enjoyed choosing presents for their friends & family, showing politeness and good manners with an amazing £1200 spent in total. Remember, no peeping until Christmas Day!



OUR SCHOOL VALUES

Friendship, Trust, Compassion, Forgiveness, Gratitude

READY TO READ!

At school we have been thinking about our favourite books. These are stories that we have chosen because they are exciting, thought-provoking and teach us important lessons. Our favourite books are displayed in the entrance hall for you to see – why not ask your child which ones they have read and which ones are their favourites? You could even borrow one of them from your local library to share and enjoy at home!

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - 13th DECEMBER

Staff and pupils are welcome to wear their own clothes with a Christmas or festive jumper. There is no monetary donation required.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Thursday 12th December at
2.15pm:

Years 3 –6 in St Matthew's
Church

Friday 13th December at
9.15am:

Nursery a.m. & RTD in KS2 hall

Friday 13th December at 10am:
Years 1 & 2 in St Matthew's
Church

Friday 13th December at
2.30pm:

Nursery p.m. & RPB in KS2 hall



Each week we will share with you things happening in school to help us fulfil our vision, based on Jeremiah 29:11 - *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.*

Secret Santa

To value friendship: to love our neighbour as Jesus teaches us and to see that our community is stronger when we work together in partnership.

We are so thankful to Parents United for the phenomenal effort and commitment that they have shown this week in providing such a valuable opportunity for the children of St Matthew's. They raised a staggering £1200 in three days for the school, as well as providing children with the chance to give gifts to their loved ones this Christmas.

Soft Start and Finish

They will be open minded, excited to celebrate others and to share their successes.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended our soft start and finish this week. The children love sharing their learning with their families and it is a wonderful opportunity for parents and carer to connect with the teacher and the classroom, as well as other parents.

Year 5 Lego Coding

With the strength God has given them, and a solid foundation of knowledge and skill, the children of St Matthew's will take life's difficulties in their stride, showing resilience, confidence and a strong sense of self.

Year Five had their chance this week to develop their coding skills as well as developing teamwork and Lego building skills! The children had a great day and did really well with their projects.

5MC Perfect Attendance

Our school teaches children the skills of listening, communication and teamwork.

Congratulations to 5MC who have completed their Perfect Attendance challenge and enjoyed their non-uniform day this week to celebrate. 5JM have also now successfully completed their challenge.

Year 4 Trip to St Paul's

Our inclusive, stimulating curriculum, underpinned by our Christian ethos and values, nurtures an intrinsic love of learning.

Year 4 had a magical time at St Paul's Cathedral! They loved exploring this world-famous building and their visit really deepened their understanding of Christianity.

Trip to Westminster Abbey Christingle

Worship is the beating heart of the school and educates children on teachings from the Bible, providing opportunities to bring children closer to God and enabling them to understand the relevance of faith to their everyday lives.

Chosen children from across the school, including our RE Explorers, were offered the chance to go to the Christingle service at Westminster Abbey. They went along and presented our cheque for £370 for Save the Children, which we raised at our recent movie night. Thank you to all those who contributed.

Tom Elliott Visit to School and Pavilions Carol Concert

We aim to provide opportunities for children, both within the classroom and beyond, which will enable them to respond to the Big Questions that life often poses.

Key Stage Two enjoyed an exciting assembly led by magician Tom Elliott, who showed them some astounding tricks and also educated the children about the Christmas message. He encouraged the children to ask questions and surround themselves with the right people at this time of year. Later, many of our children got to see Tom again at the Pavilions Carol Concert in Uxbridge, where the children joined in with the carols and listened to the Christmas story.

Director Visit to School

St Matthew's is committed to providing a stimulating environment, excellent teaching and learning together with a strong Christian message that enables children to flourish.

On Friday we enjoyed a visit from the Directors of the Frays Academy Trust. The Directors walked around the school and enjoyed the opportunity to meet some children and see their work.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Thank you to the parents who have been supporting our class Christmas hampers by donating gifts and food. These hampers will be donated to local families who are struggling to provide extra treats at Christmas.

Suitable items for the hampers, which must be new and non-perishable, include books, toys, sweets, games, puzzle books, chocolate, warm socks, gloves and mince pies!

If you have any questions, please see your child's class teacher.

YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL PGL TRIP

Monday 10th - Friday 14th February

If your child is going to PGL in February, your final instalment is due for payment on Friday 13th December, a total of £240.



OUR SCHOOL RULES

**We are mindful of our actions,
We are responsible for our own
Learning,
We always include everyone**

FRENCH & SPANISH AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

In addition to their Spanish club, 'Speak Like a Native' will also be running a new after-school French club next term for pupils in Years 1-3.

For more details, and to secure your place, please visit;

www.speaklikeanative.com/schools/st-matthews-c-of-e

**'Every child has the right to
an outstanding
education'**

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Please don't forget to return your 'green slip' to the school office by Friday 13th December if your child would like a school Christmas lunch on Wednesday 18th December.

Even if your child is entitled to free school meals or is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and have a 'universal free school meal', the kitchen will need to know numbers.

Don't forget that we are saving tokens from the Sun newspaper as we can exchange tokens for a box of books worth £600! Please drop any tokens you may have into the school office and also ask friends and family for their tokens too!

ADMISSION TO RECEPTION

If you have a child born between 1/9/15 and 31/8/16, Reception places for September 2020 must be applied for by Wednesday 15th January 2020. Applications are made online at <https://archive.hillingdon.gov.uk/primary> Your application is only complete when you receive a 12 digit reference number. Please keep a record of this.

A place in the Nursery does not guarantee a place in Reception, and everyone must apply, even if you have older siblings already attending your chosen school. Applications made after the deadline will be considered after all those made on time, and so may result in a place not being available at your preferred school.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Harris (Admissions Officer) on 01895 462352 Weds, Thurs & Fridays, or at the school office on Mondays and Tuesdays.



Whole school attendance for the period 25th-29th November 2019 was 97%.

The punctuality award was shared by 2SK and 6MN with every child arriving on time. Well done those classes!

The school day starts at 8.45am and arriving late can make your child feel sad and embarrassed, especially as they miss valuable learning time.

Please note we do not authorise holiday during term time.

| RPB | RTD |
|-------|-------|
| 95.3% | 98% |
| 1EM | 1KT |
| 98% | 90.3% |
| 2RF | 2SK |
| 97.9% | 99% |
| 3RD | 3AB |
| 100% | 98.6% |
| 4DH | 4AS |
| 96.4% | 95.9% |
| 5MC | 5JM |
| 98.3% | 99.3% |
| 6ES | 6MN |
| 96.9% | 93.8% |



The classes are working as a team to encourage every member to be in school each day. Every day, between now and the end of the Autumn Term, if all pupils in the class are registered as present, their 'Perfect Attendance' display is updated. Once the class has been present for 17 days, a non-school uniform day will be awarded.

A very well done to 5JM who have completed their 'perfect attendance' apple display this week. They have been awarded a non-uniform day on Monday 9th December. Which class will be next?!

The following pupils have been awarded certificates by their class teachers for working hard this week

| RPB | RTD |
|-------|-----------|
| Darcy | Mohammad |
| 1EM | 1KT |
| David | Wincenty |
| 2RF | 2SK |
| Arfa | Alexander |
| 3RD | 3AB |
| Aiden | Jeremy |
| 4DH | 4AS |
| Aliya | Sacha |
| 5MC | 5JM |
| Gavin | Bradley |
| 6ES | 6MN |
| Mina | Chris |

Weds 4th Dec
6.30pm

Advent Communion Service

Sunday 8th Dec
4.00pm

Messy Church

Children and their parents are invited for an afternoon of Christmas themed celebration. So join us for fun activities, friendship, food & faith.

Weds 11th Dec
6.30pm

Advent Communion Service

Weds 18th Dec
6.30pm

Advent Communion Service

Thurs 19th Dec
7.30pm

Carols at the Outdoor Crib

Join us as we gather outside St Matthew's to sing your favourite carols, accompanied by Yiewsley & West Drayton Band. A great way to get into the Christmas mood. Enjoy warm refreshments afterwards!

Sunday 22nd Dec
10.30am

Nativity from Scratch

Children are invited to come dressed as a character from the Nativity story and to help tell the story of the birth of Jesus. Costumes will also be available on the day. An ideal celebration of Christmas for families with young children.

Sunday 22nd Dec
6.30pm

Carol Service by Candlelight

Mulled wine and minced pies afterwards.

Christmas Eve
4pm

All Age Christingle & Crib Service

Come and receive a 'Christingle' orange, symbolising the meaning of Christmas. A great way to start your Christmas celebrations, whatever your age.

Christmas Eve
11.30pm

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
10.30am

All Age Christmas Communion

An informal service for Christmas Day. Children can bring their new toys!

Sunday 29th Dec

Communion Service with children's groups

Christmas at St. Matthew's

www.stmatthewsyiewsley.org.uk/christmas | 01895 444 042

St Matthew's Church, High Street, Yiewsley UB7 7QH