

St Matthew's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

21st April 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter and you managed to enjoy the break. The first week back of the Summer term has flown by. It has been lovely to see our children return in their summer uniform, with big smiles, ready and keen to learn.

I know this is going to be a great term for school, we already have a number of exciting plans and events in place as listed below in the newsletter. I look forward to watching our school community continue to Love, Learn and Shine together with Jesus this term.

Unfortunately, I have to end my message this week with some really sad news. Some of you will be aware that there was a serious accident last night not far from school, a ten-year-old boy from Florence Melly and local community was run over and it is devastating to say that he has died. I am sure you join with me at this sad time and send love, prayers and condolences to the family of the little boy, his friends and the school community of Florence Melly. We will support the school community of Florence Melly as much as we can in the coming weeks and months. I have spoken to the children this morning in assembly about road safety. Moving forward our school council are going to continue to try to focus on road safety awareness and have a lot of ideas we can develop in school.

I know that as a school we continually talk about the dangers of the traffic outside of school and parking. Thank you to all the parents/carers and pupils who are walking, cycling, or parking further away from the school gates to avoid congestion and to most importantly help ensure our school community is safe. Sadly however, there are still motorists who continue to create problems for fellow pupils and parents by parking:

- on the School KEEP CLEAR Markings / outside school on Queens Drive
- close to junctions
- on double/single yellow lines
- double parking

Please try to ensure you park safely away from the school and walk that final few minutes in. Mrs Barnes and the PTFA have agreed to put a rota together of parents and carers that are willing to help outside of school in the morning or the end of day to try to ensure the safety of our school community. If you could spare 15 minutes at the beginning or end of the day please contact the school office. Remember you are amazing and together we can make a difference.

Best wishes

Mrs. Sime

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Holy Communion

Canon Conor has arranged the following dates for Year 4s First Holy Communion and preparation.

Session 5 – Thursday 27th April 1.20 pm – 2.05 pm and 2.05 pm – 2.50 pm – To be rescheduled due to Strike Action

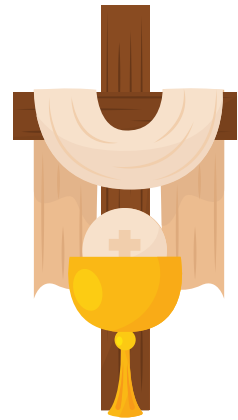
First Holy Communion

Saturday 13th May 1.00 pm – 4M

Sunday 14th May 1.00 pm – 4R

First Holy Communion Celebration

19th May 2023 in School. We will have a photographer here for this celebration and further details will follow in a separate letter.



Homework Update

Thank you to those parents who completed our homework questionnaire. Please see the results below from the questions asked:

- Does your child receive regular homework? **96.7% said YES**
- Do you agree with the amount of homework given? **85.2% said YES**
- Would you like your child to receive more/ less homework? **52.5% said MORE**
- Is your child happy whilst completing their homework? **60.7% said YES**
- Is your child's homework marked? **90.2% said YES**
- Does your child find their homework easy/difficult/at their ability level? **72.1% said AT THEIR ABILITY LEVEL**
- School has recently made changes to how the homework is delivered. Do you feel confident now with the use of seesaw? **75.4% said YES**
- Do you require any further support with the use of seesaw? **82% said NO**
-

Similar questions were asked of the children as we also wanted to get their viewpoint on homework. The results were extremely positive, in favour of the amount of homework that is given, that it is given regularly, marked, at their ability level and just over 50% said that they actually enjoyed doing homework.

From the results of the surveys it seems that, as homework stands at the moment, there is very little that we need to change.

We will continue to use seesaw for homework and as such we will continue to offer support on the use of seesaw for those parents who wish to have it.

We have recently changed our spelling scheme. Parents will receive information on this within the next few days. Please look out for this letter as this will explain what will be happening at school and at home.

Thank you to those families and children who took the time to give their thoughts. As always, we will appreciate your feedback.

Newsletter



School Uniform

School uniform is important to create a sense of community, and to ensure appropriate safeguarding of all of our children. I would like to respectfully remind you that:

- Only a wristwatch (no Apple watches) and small stud ear rings to comply with health and safety guidance and safeguarding guidance are permitted.
- Hair must be of an acceptable/uniform styled and long hair must be tied back
- No painted nails or false nails are permitted in school
- Please note: all children should be wearing school PE kits and school tracksuits if they wish do so on PE days and not different sports wear.

The school uniform policy can be found on the school website and uniform is also referenced in the safeguarding and health and safety policy if you require any further information.

A reminder that trainers should not be worn unless it is your child's PE day. We have noticed an increase in the number of children wearing Trainers and Jelly shoes, as well as jewellery and nail varnish, these are all hazards and are not allowed in school.

We have high expectations for our children to wear the correct uniform at all times. Please see the images below for how this should look.



Boys Y1 - Y6
Autumn/ Spring Terms
(September - Easter)

Grey jumper from £14.00
White shirt (any supplier)
Grey & blue tie from £3.50
Grey pants - £6.99
Black shoes / no trainers



Boys Y1 - Y6
Summer Term
(Easter - July)

White short sleeve shirt (any supplier)
Grey & blue tie £3.50
Grey shorts & socks (any supplier)
Grey tank top from £10.00
Black shoes/ no trainers



Girls Y1 - Y6
Autumn/ Spring Terms
(September - Easter)

Grey slip from £8.99 (2 designs available from Brienda - Pleats)
White shirt (any supplier)
Grey & blue tie from £3.50
Grey cardigan from £14.00
Grey socks (any supplier)
Black shoes / no trainers



Girls Y1 - Y6
Summer Term
(Easter - July)

Light Blue Gingham Summer Dress (any supplier)
Grey cardigan from £14.00
White socks (any supplier)
Black shoes / no trainers

Book Bags from £4.99
Navy Summer Caps from £3.99

If any families have any spare/used tracksuit bottoms, leggings, trousers, or any other school uniform that you can donate to the school, we would be extremely grateful. All donations can be given to the school office.

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Upcoming Events – Summer Term



April 2023	
After school Clubs start Week Commencing 24th April 2023	
25th April 2023	2E Class Assembly – 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church
26th April 2023	5C Class Assembly – 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church 2D Parents Meetings
27th April 2023	School closed to all children – Strike Action
28th April 2023	Parent's Forum – School Hall
May 2023	
1st May 2023	May Day Bank Holiday
2nd May 2023	School closed to all children – Strike Action
3rd May 2023	4M Class Assembly – 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church
4th May 2023	5B Class Assembly – 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church
5th May 2023	Coronation Themed Day – More details to be announced
8th May 2023	Coronation Bank Holiday
9th – 12th May 2023	Year 6 SATS Week – More information to follow to Year 6
12th May 2023	Eurovision Themed Day – More details to be announced
13th May 2023	4M First Holy Communion, 1:00 pm, St Matthew's Church
14th May 2023	4R First Holy Communion, 1:00 pm, St Matthew's Church
17th May 2023	4R Class Assembly – 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church
18th May 2023	1M Class Assembly – 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church



Upcoming Events – Summer Term

May 2023	
19th May 2023	Year 4 First Holy Communion Party – More details to be announced
24th May 2023	1Mc Class Assembly – 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church
25th May 2023	2D Class Assembly – 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church
29th May 2023 – 9th June 2023 – Half Term	
June 2023	
12th June 2023	Return to School, 08:45 am
12th – 16th June 2023	Phonics Screening Week
12th – 23rd June 2023	Year 4 Multiplication Check
14th June 2023	3W Class Assembly 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church
15th June 2023	3J Class Assembly 2:15 pm, St Matthew's Church
16th June 2023	Year 3 School Sleepover – More details to be announced
19th June 2023	Sports Day – More details to be announced
July 2023	
3rd July 2023	Reception Moving Up Assembly – More details to be announced
3rd – 7th July 2023	Enterprise Week – More details to be announced

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Upcoming Events – Summer Term

July 2023	
6th July 2023	Year 6 Children's University Graduation – More details to be announced
7th July 2023	Enterprise Selling Day
10th July 2023	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
14th July 2023	Year 6 Leavers Mass, 10:00 am, St Matthew's Church
14th July 2023	Year 6 Leavers Celebration – More details to be announced
17th July 2023	Prize Giving – More details to be announced
18th July 2023	Festival Day
20th July 2023	End of Academic Year – 12:00 pm School Finish

Please ensure you check Seesaw regularly for any messages from your child's class teacher or members of school staff, in the unlikely event that any of these events need to be rescheduled, or changes of location, all messages will be sent through the Seesaw app.

School day from September 2023

From September 2023 primary schools are expected to offer a 32.5 hour week. This is part of the government plans, and was noted in the ['White Paper' Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers for your child](#).

The document notes this is to try to “make sure children and young people fulfil their full potential in the classroom”. This equates to a six-and-a-half-hour day, Monday to Friday, the equivalent of a school being open to pupils from 8.45am to 3.15pm.

Following this guidance from September our school times will be as follows: 8:45 – 3:15pm for KS2 and 8.45 to 3.10pm for EYFS and KS1.

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Parents' Workshops

Date	Time	Session
28th April 2023	2.15pm	Parents forum – first session
10th May 2023	9.00am	Positive play /parents' course school hall
17th May 2023	2pm	RWI – EYFS / ks1Phonics screening
24th May 2023	2pm	Parent Transition event
14th June 2023	9.30am	New reception children stay and play
21st June 2023	9.30am	New reception children stay and play
28th June 2023	9.30am	New reception children stay and play
5th July 2023	9.30am	New reception children stay and play

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PTFA Fundraising

Our PTFA have a number of plans this term including supporting with events for the King's Coronation, Eurovision, discos the planned year 3 sleep over, celebrations for the end of the year and school trips.

Over the coming weeks they will be holding a raffle for a new bike that was donated to school earlier in the year, organising a 'Soak the teacher/school staff event' which I am sure will prove popular, summer treats and biscuit sales to continue.



All of these important and fun events focused on fun and fundraising for our school.

Strike Action Update

You may be aware from media coverage that the NEU Teaching Union have planned additional strike action, which will take place on **Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May in this instance.**

I can confirm that all of our classes will be closed and children must NOT come into school. I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Please contact the school office if your child is entitled to a free school meal and you would like a packed lunch on the day of the strike.

I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

St. Matthew's Catholic Primary School remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Sime
Head Teacher



ASD Training

The Liverpool ASD Training Team are providing a series of Virtual Group Drop in advisory sessions via zoom. They are for parents/carers who have any questions or concerns about their child, in regard to social communication difficulties or waiting an ASD assessment. It is also an opportunity to speak with an ASD trainer and other parents.

The sessions will be one half hours long, you can choose to join anytime within the time slot or stay for the duration. You do not require a diagnosis to book your place.

Date: Wednesday 26th April – Time: 9.30am – 11am

If you would like to book onto one of the sessions, please email:
asdtrainingteam@liverpool.gov.uk

Wraparound Care Provision

We are currently reviewing our wraparound care provision and investigating options for a breakfast club in school. We are very excited at this, and we will write to you in due course when we have looked into this further.

We are delighted to have teamed up with Everton Kids Club, who are so excited at the prospect of working onsite at St Matthews Catholic Primary School, just a little bit about us we have 3 sites across Liverpool Our Dingle site is based onsite at Matthew Arnold Primary School in L8, Our Everton site is based onsite at Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School in L5 and Our Yew Tree site is based onsite at Mab Lane Primary School L12.

Each of our sites are a home from home, friendly, fun and safe place to be. Our Children have a huge say at what we do at our clubs, this is super important to us.

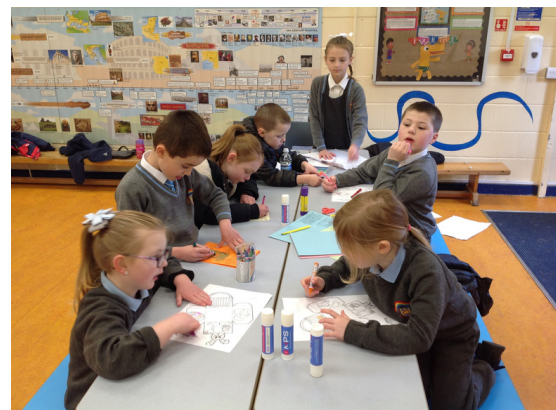
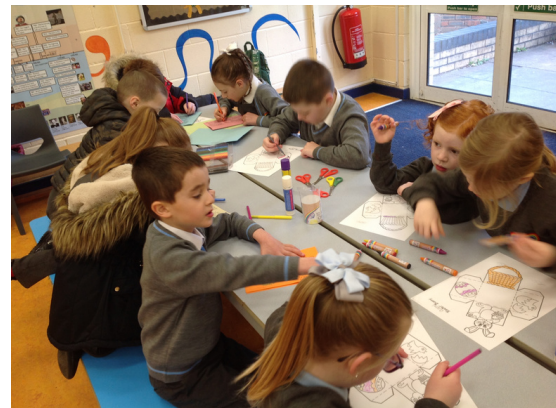
We are Ofsted Registered and all of our team have an enhanced DBS and the relevant qualifications too.

We are looking to collect children onsite and provide fun and safe activities until 6pm daily, we will provide drinks and a light nutritious snack too.

The cost per session is £11.50 per first child, £10 per second Or £55.00 per Full Week. As we are Ofsted Registered universal credit may pay up to 85% of the cost, we accept childcare vouchers and tax-free childcare too.

If you wish to contact us to confirm your place and register with us please contact us please call our Everton number on 07799062730 (just while we organise a new number for our new site) or email us on kidzclubsx4@gmail.com we look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Please also see job vacancies listed below for this after school provision.



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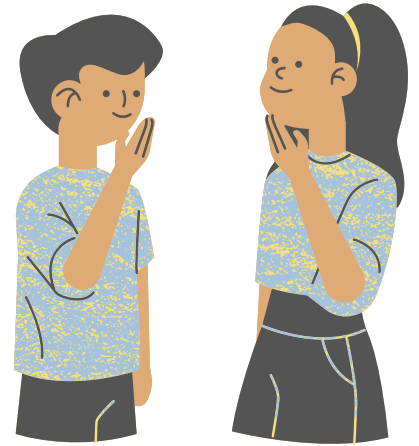


British Sign Language

We would love to open our after school club for British Sign Language to all year groups, and both Children and Parents. If you, or your child would like to join us this half term to learn some British Sign Language, please complete the google form below to register your interest.

This club will run on Fridays from 3:15 pm – 4:00 pm.

<https://forms.gle/azBtev3EUM9SyyfM9>



CAFOD Live Simply Award



This week or live simply target is saving electricity. Are there any ways you can save electricity in your home?

Community Food Store

Our School Community Food Store is looking a little bare at the moment, if anybody has any non perishable foods such as pasta sauce mixes, tins etc. that they do not use, please feel free to bring these in.



Newsletter



Our School Day



In the morning, you can come onto the yard from 8:40am, the school doors will be open at 8.45am for children to come straight in. Learning starts at 8:45am. If your child is late please come into the school office to sign them in.

If you need to collect your child early for an appointment, please ensure that you bring evidence of appointment to the office for our records.

The reception opening times are 08:30am – 16:30pm.

EHCP Meetings

If your child has an EHCP we will be sending out appointment times so that we can have our Spring meeting before we finish for Easter. At this meeting we will make an appointment time for the Summer term and set a date for the annual reviews.



SENDSCO Appointments – TUESDAYS



If you would like an appointment with the SENDSCO please call the school office and Mrs Hall will book you a time. You can have a face to face meeting, a zoom call or a telephone call.

If you cannot make it on a Tuesday we will arrange an alternative day.

Seesaw

On the family app there is an option to switch User. If you select this you can then select students and there will be an option to add in their home learning code or scan the QR code.

Everyone should have their home learning code now – if not please see the class teacher at home time.

















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Stars of the Week



 RE Apple – S Harris	 RM Cherry – M Drury
 1MC Birch – P Flemming	 1M Oak – R Holden
 2E Fir – J Ezenekwe	 2D Alder – M Healy
 3W Elm – E Jones	 3J Cedar – N Rodriguez
 4M Ash – H Murphy	 4R Maple – E Hughes
 5B Pine – M Grainger	 5C Willow – M Evans
 6B Sycamore – L Thornhill	 6D Chestnut – L Sansum

This week's Dojo winners....

Bessie Braddock

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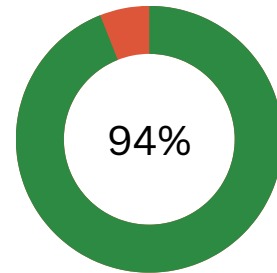


As a school we define regular attendance as 97% or above.

Good school attendance is everybody's responsibility.

Overall Attendance:

Week Commencing:	3rd April 2023
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RM Cherry 94%	RE Apple 89%	1M Oak 92%	1MC Birch 87%	2D Alder 97%	2E Fir 95%	6B Sycamore 90%
3W Elm 92%	3J Cedar 95%	4R Maple 98%	4M Ash 95%	5B Pine 91%	5C Willow 97%	6D Chestnut 92%

- Attendance and punctuality is key. All children are expected to be in school and parents can be fined for non-attendance. Term time holidays will not be authorised and parents who allow their children to be absent from school could face fines from the local authority, proof of medical appointments is required.
- All queries around attendance and punctuality should be directed to **Mrs L Evans, Deputy Headteacher.**

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Due to expansion we are hiring!!

2 positions available

Lead playworker 17.5 hours per week term time only.

Playworker 16 hours per week term time only.

**Post subject to enhanced DBS, must have childcare
experience with children aged 4-11 years**

**Based at our brand new site at St Matthews
Catholic Primary School but must be willing to
travel to our other sites if needed**

**To request an application form please contact Laura on
07799062730 or email kidzclubsx4@gmail.com**

St Matthew's Forum



What is Parents Forum?

Parents Forum is a partnership between parents and the school. It is a valuable way to share ideas, views, concerns and make suggestions for improvements.

How will Parents Forum work at St. Matthew's

The meetings will be chaired by Mrs Barnes school Pastoral manager.

Attendees attending on a Rota basis:

- Members of SLT Other stake holders i.e. governors

- Identified members of the pupil's council

1 parent/Carer from each class will be elected to attend on behalf

The aim of Parent's Forum:

- To work together to improve the education and opportunities provided for our children.
- Share information, knowledge and skills.
 - Meet in a mutually supportive environment.
- Further improve communication between parents/Carers, children, staff and governors

How often will Parent's Forum meet?

Parents Forum will meet on the last Friday of each half term at 2.00pm.

How can I contribute to the work of the Parent's Forum?

Once class representatives have been chosen their names will be added to the Parent's Forum page on the school website. Parents/Carers can then share their ideas, viewpoints. These parents can then take these to the next planned meeting.

What cannot be discussed at Parent's Forum?

At Parent's Forum meeting concerns or complaints involving individual children, families or members of staff and confidential matters. Any issues should be raised separately with school staff – class teachers, senior leadership team, head teacher or school governors. Following the school policies.

Why should I be a part of the Parent's Forum?

It is an exciting opportunity to be involved in shaping the future of our school. It gives you an opportunity to get together regular basis with other parents to have your say about what the school is doing well and suggest ideas of how things could be improved. There will be opportunities to get advice and support to help your child/children with their learning.

Join us and be part of the discussion on how to develop and improve our school
Please complete reply slip on the letter sent out this week, and return to school
on Monday 24th April 2023.

