

# NEWSLETTER



*Love, Learn and Shine together with Jesus*

## WEEK BEGINNING 11TH SEPTEMBER 2023

### HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

In St. Matthew's Catholic Primary School, we strive to develop the whole person by providing a caring ethos where everyone feels safe, confident, valued and respected. This policy addresses both the promotion of positive behaviour, in accordance with our school's general aims and ethos, in relation to children's personal, social and moral development, and also our policy on rewards and recognition as well as consequences with regard to pupils' behaviour.

We regard it to be a highly important aspect of children's education and development that they learn to behave well towards others and towards the community in which they live. We therefore promote conduct and behaviour rooted in gospel values and which uphold the dignity of the human person. Good behaviour underpins effective learning, and children need good personal and social skills in order to live fulfilling and rewarding lives as adults. Behaviour which, in any way, disrupts learning, is unacceptable in our school, and, through the constant promotion of positive behaviour, we seek to minimise, if not eliminate any such behaviour.

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, the values of which are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school's behaviour policy is therefore intended to support all members of our school community in living and working together in a mutually beneficial way. It aims to promote an environment in which everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

Our school has developed a code of conduct with staff, children and families, but our behaviour policy is not primarily concerned with rule enforcement. It is a means of promoting good relationships so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. The school expects every member of the school community to behave in a considerate way towards others.

We want to help children grow in a safe and secure environment and to become positive, responsible and increasingly independent members of the school and the wider community. We aim to promote and reward good behaviour, as this will develop an ethos of kindness and cooperation. This policy is designed to promote good behaviour, rather than merely deter anti-social behaviour.

Rewards and Recognition. Reflect, Repair, Rebuild.

We praise, encourage and reward children for good and helpful behaviour in a variety of ways:

- Teachers praise and recognise children for considerate, positive behaviour in such a way as to underline its value to our school.

Classes use praise, stickers and Dojos, praise post cards home, special responsibilities/privileges/ treats and sports incentives to acknowledge good behaviour, to acknowledge outstanding effort or acts of kindness in school and these are recorded by staff. Children are held up as role models for others and are acknowledged publicly praised for making the right choices.

Each week, we nominate a particular child from each class to be named in assembly. The child receives a certificate and this is shared with the children and families through our website and twitter.

All Classes have an opportunity to take part in achievement assembly where they are able to show examples not only of their best work, but of considerate behaviour towards others. Star awards are to be used for good work in books, teachers and TAs should either write star award or use a stamp to show the child has been given the reward.

- After 25 stars the child gets a bronze certificate & pencil
- After 50 stars the child gets a silver certificate & pen
- After 75 stars the child gets a gold award & medal

Dojos are used for positive attitude to work

Headteacher certificates are given to children who have shown consistent hard work, exemplar behaviour or have been recommended by other adults in school for attainment or achievement.

Good to be Green

School has introduced a Good to be Green programme this year as a means of supporting our behaviour strategies. This is detailed below, our children from Reception to year 6 have all responded really positively to this and understand how it works.

### **Stage 1: Setting the Stage**

All school staff will work with all pupils to set the standards of behaviour for in school, including in the classrooms and around the building. Giving examples of great and poor behaviour and decide any consequences and rewards.

### **Step 2 - Everyone Starts Green**

At the beginning of every school day, all pupils start with a Green Card and a fresh start. Any previous behaviour is forgotten, giving pupils the chance to change their behaviour patterns.

### **Step 3 - Using Behaviour Cards**

During the day staff use identified cards to let pupils know how they feel about their behaviour. The Stop and Think Card is used when they feel that a gentle reminder of the expected standards of behaviour is needed. Staff display the card in the child's cardholder pocket. If the undesired behaviour continues, then staff should swap the card to a yellow - warning card. If the behaviour still persists staff will issue a consequence card, there is not a one-size-fits-all, staff to use professional judgment with regards to this.

### **Step 4: Reward Good Behaviour**

Cards will be used to reward those children who demonstrate the expected behaviour e.g. at the end of the week reward any pupils who have been 'Green all Week'.

As a school, we like to acknowledge all the efforts and achievements of children, both in and out of school.

The school also uses the process of reflection, repair and rebuilding to implement the school code of conduct, and to ensure a safe and positive learning environment.

Thank you for your continued support.



Headteacher

## COMMUNITY PANTRY / UNIFORM

Every week at St Matthew's our fantastic PTFA come and sort our community food store/fayre share, which is the bagged and ready to distribute to our families. This is a fantastic service and is highly used.

We will now be linking our school uniforms alongside this service. This service is open to all of our families and is confidential. If you would like some items please contact Ms Barnes who is available to help.



## MCMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

**Friday 29th September 2023**

**9:00am and After School**

**School Hall**

Please could cake donations (shop bought) be brought to the school on Wednesday 27th September 2023 and any fresh cakes brought on the morning of the coffee morning.



## SEESAW

All SeeSaw classes were updated over the summer holidays and your child should now see their new classes. Children will continue to receive their homework on SeeSaw. Please follow the instructions below to ensure that you can see both the Parent's and Children's views on your App.

If you have any issues with SeeSaw please leave a message for either Mr Garcia or Mrs Gaskell at the front office and one of them will be in contact as soon as they are able.

**Stay signed in to multiple Seesaw accounts on one device! Switch between family and student accounts with the tap of a button.**

*Learn How in 3 Easy Steps*

### 1 Add Additional Accounts

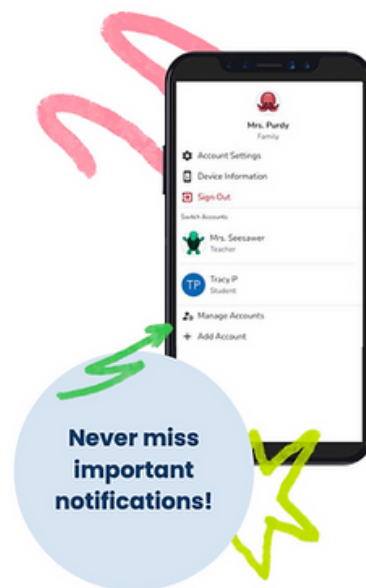
- Open Seesaw and tap your profile icon on the top left
- Tap the icon again to expand the account details
- Tap '+Add Account'
- Choose a role (Teacher, Student, Family Member), and sign in to Seesaw

### 2 Switch between Accounts

- Tap your profile icon **two** times to show all accounts
- Select the account to switch to

### 3 Remove Accounts

- Tap your profile icon two times to show all accounts
- Tap 'Manage Accounts'
- Tap the [...] on the account you would like to remove
- Choose 'Sign Out & Remove Account'



## SOCIAL MEDIA

PLEASE FOLLOW US ON X (FORMERLY TWITTER) AND INSTAGRAM @STMATTHEWSCPS



## CASH FOR KIDS

It's That Time of Year Again!!

For those who don't know about School's Challenge, it's an excellent way to gain funding for your own school. This could be to fund school trips for children in the UK, wellbeing spaces, sensory gardens, breakfast clubs, uniforms, basically anything that will benefit children who attend your school.

Every penny you raise will be given back to your school and there are opportunities to win prizes.

First prize is £5,000 on top of what you raise yourself

Second prize is £3,000 on top of what you raise

Third prize is £1,500 on top of what you raise

There are also prizes for the most creative fundraising idea and best social media at £500.00 each.

So, if your school is the winning school and raises £5,200.00 themselves, you will win a £5,000 top up meaning you go away with £10,200.00 and so on.

If you don't win a prize, don't worry, 100% of what you raise will still be donated back to your school.

**We are even getting some of our staff to abseil!** Keep an eye on SeeSaw, Twitter and Instagram for Dates.



## IMPORTANT - FORMS TO COMPLETE

We are updating all of our records, for all children and we are still missing quite a few forms from families. Please complete **both** of the forms sent out on SeeSaw these are Admissions Records and Medical Record. These can also be found via the QR Codes Below



Medical Record



Admissions  
Form

## YEAR 6 - WALKING HOME

As we begin the new academic year a number of children in Key Stage 2 have indicated to their teacher that they are able to walk home on their own or with a sibling at the end of the day Please note: written parental permission is required to confirm this to ensure the appropriate safety of all of our children.

At St. Matthew's School we feel only children in Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and 6) should be allowed to walk home on their own. Children in Key Stage 1 need to be collected by an adult (it is not appropriate for an older sibling in Key Stage 2 to walk them home).

This does not mean that all children in year 5 and 6 are ready to walk home on their own. Parents need to consider their child's age, maturity and independence, as well as their distance from school and the safety of the route before making a decision about whether or not it is safe for each child to walk home on their own.

Should you, as parents, feel your child is mature enough to cope with this responsibility please complete the form on the link attached below





## STUDYBUGS

It is important that you inform us as soon as possible if your child is absent from school due to illness or for any other reason. We use Studybugs for this type of communication and you can simply message us through the app to inform us your child will be absent.

Please follow this [link](#) to set up your account if you do not already have one.



## ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH - MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

SATURDAY - 6PM  
SUNDAY - 10AM

WE ENCOURAGE ATTENDANCE AT MASS EACH WEEK FOR FAMILIES OF CHILDREN IN YEAR 4 WHO WILL BE MAKING THEIR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION THIS YEAR.

ALL CHILDREN, FAMILIES, STAFF AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY ARE ALSO WARMLY INVITED.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING:  
BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS,  
SACRAMENT CERTIFICATES, ETC.,  
CAN BE MADE WITH THE CHURCH SECRETARY  
ON 0151 228 1310  
DURING NORMAL OFFICE HOURS.  
(MON, WED-FRI: 9.00 - 2.30)





## SNACK & STAY OR SNACK AWAY!

The archdiocese is launching snack & stay or snack away to provide a free sandwich, fruit, crisps and drinks with their parents who can enjoy free tea & coffee.

Visitors will also have access to TV, Wi-Fi, and some friendly company. The centres will be open between 1pm - 3.30pm and days of our local centre are listed below.

### **Monday**

St Monica - Stewart Avenue, Bootle, L20 9JD

### **Tuesday**

St Paul - Spring Grove, West Derby, Liverpool, L12 8SJ

Christ the King - Score Lane, Childwall, L16 6AW

### **Wednesday**

St Cecilia - Green Lane, Tuebrook, L13 7DT

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs - Stonebridge Lane, Croxteth, L11 9AZ

### **Thursday**

Our Lady of Sorrows - Pirrie Road, Walton, L6 6AA

St Margaret Mary - Pilch Lane, Huyton, L14 0JG



## AMAZON WISHLIST

Thank you to all of the families who have donated books and bought some books from our Amazon Wishlist for our new library.

We are still accepting any donations of books or purchases from the list which can be found via the QR Code below.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTS



**CALLING ALL CHEFS!**

**WE NEED YOU TO  
DESIGN A NEW,  
HEALTHY SCHOOL  
DINNER.**



Prizes include a  
baking kit, cookery  
book and getting  
your dinner on the  
school menus!



Ask your teacher  
for more  
information on  
how to take part!

## MEDICAL UPDATES

We have been making calls and Mr. Garcia has sent out a Google form for you to complete.

Just a reminder to contact the school if your child's medical record needs updating or has changed.

If your child needs an inhaler please ensure we have one in school. The inhalers are kept by the class teacher to ensure everyone is safe. If your child is able to administer it themselves please let us know.

### **Care Plans**

We will be making calls to update care plans next week.

### **Medication in school**

If your child needs medication please come into school and sign a consent form.

## SENDCO

Now the children have settled back in Mrs Gaskell will be going into classes to check on children and ensure the children have what they need. After that she will be available to speak with parents if they have any SEN concerns.

Next week Mrs Gaskell is away with year 6 on a residential, so appointments will be available after that.

Mrs Gaskell will contact any parents who have requested advice/referrals and those who need an EHCP review next week.



## NEW STAFF UNIFORMS

You may have noticed we have changed our staff dress code this academic year. We have high expectations of our children's appearance and it is only right that the adults in school model these expectations.

All Learning Support Assistants will wear the school polo shirts daily, while the teachers will wear them as their PE Kit. Our Administration Staff have blouses and name badges for identification. As the weather starts to get cooler over the next few weeks, these Polo shirts will be worn with school fleeces and/ or coats.



## EXTRA CURRICULAR / CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY

All children who wish to attend an extra-curricular club after school should have received their letter indicating which club they will be attending. Clubs start on Monday 18th September. All clubs will finish at 4.00pm and children should be collected by an adult. Only those children in Year 6 who have sent in written permission from their parents to walk home will be allowed to do so.

Today we had an assembly delivered by Louise from Children's University. Louise informed the children how Children's University works. By participating in after school clubs, attending structured learning clubs outside of school and attending structured activity sessions at museums, libraries, art galleries etc children can earn credits. Throughout the years the children will work towards a target number of credits. At the end of Year 2 and Year 6 these credits will be collected and rewarded for with certificates which they will receive during a graduation ceremony at a local university.

A letter will be sent home with more information next week. Those families that wish to participate can do so by purchasing a passport. Details about this will be on the letter.

Those children who started collecting credits for Children's University last year will continue to add to those this year.



## SCHOOL TRIPS

We have started to fill our calendar with trips and visit for the upcoming academic year. As trips are confirmed information will be shared and payment arrangements will be set up.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
29.9.23	Macmillan Coffee Morning Maths Number Day
25.09.23 – 20.10.23	School / Cash for Kids Fundraising
6.10.23	CAFOD Family Fast Day (Bring in a tin- Foodbank) Harvest
10.10.23	World Mental Health Day
18.10.23	Parents Evening
Week beginning	EYFS Stay and Play Sessions all week – details to follow
Date to be confirmed in first half term	R-Y6 Nasal Flu Vaccine
26.10.23	Finish for Half Term
10.11.23	Remembrance Day- Tea Party/Care Home Visits/ Poppy Trail
13.11.23	Anti-Bullying Week
30.11.23	Christmas – decorations up / celebration
1.12.23	Staff Advent Service
08.12.23	Mince Pies & Baubles (event for parents)
8.12.23	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner
06.12.22 / date to be confirmed	EYFS Nativity for Parents
14.12.22 date to be confirmed	KS1 Nativity for Parents
15.12.22 date to be confirmed	KS2 Nativity for Parents
21.12.22	Christmas Party Day (own clothes, class parties, Fr Christmas, gifts)
22.12.23	Christmas Assembly/Sing-along 12.00 Finish



## CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Please see the timetable below for the class/year group assemblies:

Date	Class
13.09.23	6D CHESTNUT
20.09.23	2D ALDER
27.09.23	3W CEDAR
04.10.23	4R ASH
11.10.23	5C PINE
17.10.23	5G WILLOW
25.10.23	4G MAPLE
08.11.23	6B SYCAMORE
15.11.23	1E OAK
22.11.23	1MC BIRCH
29.11.23	2M ALDER
06.12.23	Reception
13.12.23	3H ELM

## PARENT COURSES

Ms Barnes has put together an overview of parents' workshops and courses for this term see below:

Date	Time	Theme	Lead delivering
2nd November	2 pm	Mathematics	Mr Brooks
8 <sup>th</sup> November	2 pm	RWI / READING	Mrs Collins
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	2 pm	SEND	Mrs Gaskell / Mrs Sime
30 <sup>th</sup> November	8.45	Computing E-safety	Mr Garcia
6 <sup>th</sup> December	8.45 am – all-day	Christmas craft	Ms Barnes / PTFA
Date to be confirmed	Time to be confirmed	Positive play /parents' course	Mrs Barnes
Date to be confirmed	Time to be confirmed	Sleep session	Outside deliverer

# Stars of The Week

15th September 2023



 <b>Reception : N Eccleson</b>	
 <b>1 Birch - S Helal</b>	 <b>1 Oak - O Novelli</b>
 <b>2 Fir - J Dalton</b>	 <b>2 Alder - B Harkein</b>
 <b>3 Elm -</b>	 <b>3 Cedar - J Holden</b>
 <b>4 Maple - S Tasker</b>	 <b>4 Ash - L Doyle</b>
 <b>5 Willow - B Davison</b>	 <b>5 Pine -</b>
 <b>6 Sycamore - I Cole</b>	 <b>6 Chestnut - A Grogan</b>

This Weeks Dojo Winners:

