

Message from Ms Baldwin, Headteacher

To all members of the SMA community 2016-2024

I first announced my plans to leave SMA back in November and at that point, Friday 19 July 2024 still seemed a long time in the future. All of a sudden, more than two terms have gone by in the blink of an eye and today is my last day with pupils as Headteacher of St Matthew Academy.

SMA is a very special school. Everyone who visits comments on our calm and purposeful learning environment and the positive ethos and caring nature of the school. But most of all they can't stop talking about how impressive our pupils are using words such as delightful, happy, confident, proud, articulate and amazing – I could not agree more and this is what make SMA so special and what makes it so hard for staff to leave. I've been fortunate enough to work alongside so many amazing people in school over the last eight years – teachers, support staff and governors – who have all shared my ambition of continually providing the very best opportunities for all of our children. I'd like to put on record my thanks to all colleagues and members of the governing body, both past and present, as the success of our school has always been a team effort. The relationship between home and school has been one we have tried hard to nurture and I would also like to express my gratitude to parents and other family members for all the support they have provided both for their children and for our school throughout the years. The links with the local community, the diocese and the local authority have also been important to me and I want to convey my appreciation to everyone connected with the aforementioned organisations.

In recent months, I've been asked many times what I'll miss about school when I leave. Of course, I will miss the special events, the performances and the trips but what I think I'll miss most of all are the normal days when it looks like nothing particularly special is happening. However, on those days, if you walk down the corridor and go from classroom to classroom, you'll see that just below the surface something special is happening – pupils learning to interact with each other, work independently, to read and write, grapple with maths, problem solve and most of all foster a love of learning. I feel extremely proud and honoured to have seen so many pupils successfully move through our school and for me, seeing the progress the children make is what has made it all worthwhile.

While I do feel very sad to be leaving my position as Headteacher, I am so glad that I am able to pass on the responsibility of this most important of jobs to Mr Potter. I know that under his leadership SMA will continue to go from strength to strength. I wish him and all members of the school community every success for the future!

Thank you and farewell.

Miranda Baldwin
Headteacher



Prayer and Reflection

As we celebrate our accomplishments, we also recognize the importance of rest and renewal. The summer months offer a time to rejuvenate, to spend time with family and loved ones, and to reflect on the lessons learned. It is a season to nurture our spirits, preparing us for the next chapter.

We give thanks for teachers, who have been steadfast guides, embodying Christ's love and patience. We are grateful for classmates, who have become like family, sharing in our joys and struggles. We pray for those moving on to new paths, trusting in God's plan for their future.

In closing, let us remember the words of the Psalmist:

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you" (Numbers 6:24-25). May we carry this blessing with us, confident in God's love and the promise of His continued presence in our lives. Amen.

Goodbye & Good Luck

In July, we say farewell to staff that are moving on and prepare to welcome new staff that will join us in September. I am pleased we have been able to recruit a good mix of highly experienced staff, a couple that will begin their teaching careers with us and one that is returning back to SMA after a couple of years away! All of our new staff members have been able to spend a couple of days at the Academy getting themselves prepared and some have been lucky enough to have started with us at the end of June.

In the primary phase, we say goodbye to two members of staff. Miss Boileau has decided to retire after 9 years of dedicated service and we wish her well with her next endeavours. I am pleased she will continue to support the school by running her after school sign language clubs next year. Miss Roostan has been our amazing year 6 teacher for five years. There is no doubt that all of the pupils she has taught will never forget her – she has ensured they develop a passion for learning, have achieved results beyond expectation and are well prepared for the challenges of secondary school. Everyone will miss her and we wish her luck in her new post as Assistant Headteacher in a school closer to home.

Congratulations go to Mr Dunne, our Art and Photography teacher who has secured a promoted role, as has Miss Asamoah, Religious Education teacher. Miss Asamoah has spent the last three years at SMA learning the craft of a classroom teacher and will be missed by pupils and staff alike. Mr Wood, Head of PE has decided to take a break from teaching after two years at SMA and we thank him for his work increasing and widening opportunities for competitive sport and sport for all. Mr Watson, Music Teacher will be returning to full time work and Miss Williams, PE Teacher has secured a post at a school overseas. We wish them all well in the future.

Mr Turner, our Financial Director since Nov 2021 will also be leaving. He has done a sterling job looking after our finances, and as a result, they are looking healthy, with money in reserves to spend on a number of school improvements over the summer break. Mrs Nguyen-Quan joined the academy in 2019 as second in charge of the maths department. She was quickly promoted to the role of Head of Department and she has done an impressive job leading the team to successive years of excellent results. Her team and her pupils will really miss her and her infectious passion for maths. I am going to miss her delicious homemade spring rolls!

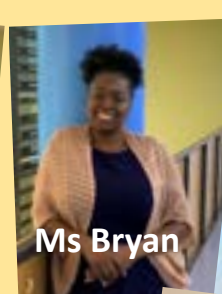
Ms Creary has taught English with us for the last eight years, initially having responsibility for Literacy across the Curriculum and more recently leading the English team. She has been a dedicated, caring and thoughtful teacher and form tutor and always strives to improve on current best. We know she will make a fabulous Lead Practitioner and her new school are very lucky to have her. Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you and farewell to Ms Verona Bryan, Assistant Headteacher. She has worked with commitment and dedication over the last ten years. She arrived as Head of English, and after three years of successfully leading the team she was able to take on responsibility for training and supporting teachers new to the profession. In her role as Assistant Headteacher, she has continued this important work alongside driving forward improvements in teaching and learning and leading the important work of our Equality and Diversity team. We wish her all the best for the future.



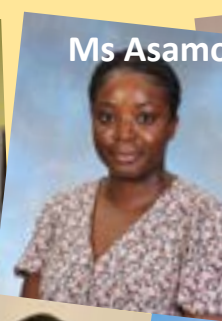
Ms Creary



Mr Turner



Ms Bryan



Ms Asamoah



Ms Nguyen
Quan



Ms Roostan



Ms Boileau



Mr Wood



Mr Watson



Mr Dunne



Ms Williams

Primary News

Year 6 Prom

The children had a fabulous time on Friday 12th July at their Year 6 prom. Everyone made a fantastic effort and looked extremely smart. It was lovely to celebrate all of Year 6's hard work this year and spend a few hours together outside of the classroom. Leopard Class showed off their best moves, took lots of selfies and ate lots of snacks! There were lots of tired legs on Saturday morning!



Sports Leaders

Year 6 Sports Leaders have been instrumental in encouraging a healthier, safer, more active and friendly playground. They have dedicated their playtime to leading games for younger pupils in Key Stage 1 and being a friendly face to all. The Sports Leaders efforts have been phenomenal and in recognition of this they were rewarded with a trip to the bowling alley and lunch.



Lewisham Great Debate

In the first of many Lewisham Great Debate events, SMA had a great success debating against six schools from the borough who visited SMA. This was a great opportunity for our young people to communicate and discuss many different aspects of their current experiences, needs and many more.

Two of our pupils had to say this;

Anayah Year 10, "Yesterday was a very different but fun experience . I'm glad i got the opportunity to do the first ever Lewisham Debate and be so involved. I would do this again because of how exciting it was! It gave me a different view and aspect on today's societal issues. I think it is a good way to get pupilss opinions on nowadays societal issue as we are the upcoming generation and many of us do not watch the news. It's a great way to show to us a career path to politics as well!"

Iona Year 7, "Overall, the day was a lot of fun and I liked how at the start of the event we played some games to get to know each other. The subjects for the debate were really fun to debate about in my opinion. I enjoyed using the laptops to study the subject and link facts and statistics to it; the large pieces of paper on the table made it a lot easier to plan our debate. The actual debate was really good as we got to say three main points and summarise it all at the end. The schools all voted fairly and everybody had a good time. As well as this everyone had a good amount of time to eat their lunch and have a break. It was really nice to see all of the schools chatting and playing together."

Plans are already under way with the London Young Mayor team and we look forward to even more schools attending next year... will our vote change the points of discussion next year?



Primary Sports News

Cricket Tournament

Summer term sports are underway and Year 6 children got stuck straight in, attending the Lewisham Borough Schools Cricket tournament at Beckenham Cricket grounds. The boys team showed their great batting skills, hitting with strength and precision. A little more work on their fielding skills and strategies will stand them in good stead going forward. The year 6 girls team, started strong, winning their first two games with ease. They worked really well as a team and were able to hold their opponents at bay with some thoughtful fielding. Well done to both teams!



Football Friendly

On Friday 7th June, St Matthew Academy hosted a nearby school, St Margaret's Lee C of E, for a friendly football match against our year 6's. We split into three teams, with some great results and experience gained: -

- Boys A Team won 6-1
- Boys B Team lost 9-0
- Girls Team lost 2-1 (the score was 1-1 until the last three minutes when we unfortunately conceded a goal)

Overall, it was a really promising day of football and SMA pupils all demonstrated unwavering sportsmanship. Everyone was rewarded with medals and ice poles!



Secondary News

Count On Us Secondary Maths Challenge

We are proud of the pupils who participated in the Count On Us Secondary Math Challenge on the 9th of May 2024 at Ark Globe Academy in London.

Our pupils performed fantastically and went through to the second round. They collaborated really well with problem solving and reasoning activities as

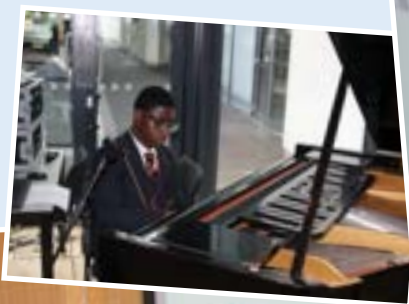
well as use their fluency with the four operations in the 24 game. The pupils did their best as a team, particularly with the algebra problem solving activity, where they had to rely on each other's abilities to communicate clearly.

These pupils will be leading the Count On Us Maths club in school for the next academic year. We say thank you to Harrison Riley, Naomilee Williams, Jordan Okeke, Andras Csonka and Ania Laissaoui for their excellent use of mathematics and representing St Matthew Academy at the competition.



End of Year Awards Evening

On Thursday 11 July, SMA hosted a very special awards evening, pupils were nominated by teachers for academic progress and pastoral, they were invited along with their parents where they were celebrated for the achievements. The evening was packed full of performances from talented pupils in dance and music. Ms Baldwin, Mrs Forrest and Mrs Peters presented the awards to well deserving pupils. Congratulations to all who were nominated.



Secondary Sports Day



Primary Sports Day



Year 11 Prom



Going Above and Beyond!

Secondary phase

Pupils with the most achievement points during June and July

Year 7	Mya LAM-BUTRON Iona MCVEY Anya MURIUKI Praise NEWTON OSAGIE Edward PEARCE	Year 8	Gohar REHMAN Kyron WILSON Temilolaoluwa ABIKINDA Great CELESTINE-EBENUWA Thisanth JEGAN
Year 9	Cyntiche TAHOU Samiyah ADEBOWALE Alex KURTAJ Joy ADEDIJI Tyiana AGUTOR-WHYTE	Year 10	Maria NENYCH Eriane ANGWE-NZE Muhammad AHMER Jada ABEGUNDE Jayden DIAKITE

Well done to these pupils for all their hard work!

Staff Stars

Ms Woodroffe



"Always here, always works hard, always goes above & beyond & never says no. Thank you for all you do."

Mr Blakemore



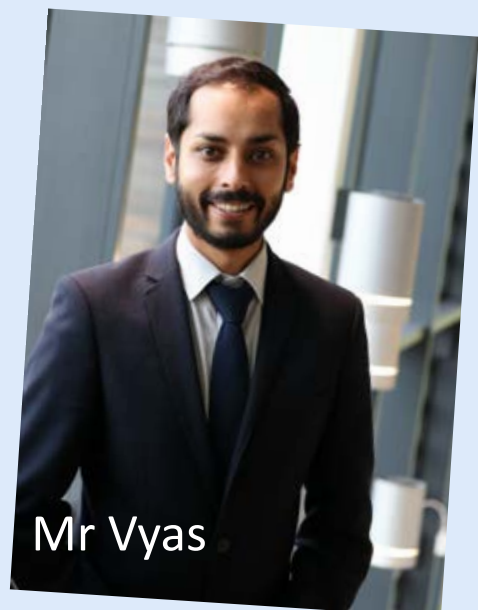
"For stepping in to help with listening exams! Much appreciated."

Ms Butterworth



"Her fantastic work in EYFS rising to the challenge of a new year group."

Mr Vyas



"Such a supportive member of staff who is always sharing wisdom & knowledge!"

Need Advice over the Summer...

CHILDLINE: 0800 1111
<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

YOUNGMINDS: www.youngminds.org.uk

KOOTH.COM: www.kooth.com

THE SAMARITANS: 08457 90 90 90

CAMHS: 0208 228 6000

LEWISHAM MASH: 0208 314 6660

TEXT "SHOUT": TEXT SHOUT TO 85258

www.givensashout.org

Safeguarding our pupils at St Matthew Academy

At St Matthew Academy our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mr Chick supported by Mr Gunningham, Mr Magar, Ms Dunne and our Child Protection Officer is Ms Dryden. Pupils can contact any of our Safeguarding Team during the school day.

Worried about a child?

You can phone or write to MASH about your concerns. Phone immediately if you believe it is urgent.

- Lewisham MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) **020 8314 6660**
- Or call **999** or **101** if you believe a child is in immediate danger
- Childline **0800 11 11** www.childline.org.uk
- NSPCC **0808 800 5000** www.nspcc.org.uk

Term Dates 2024/2025

Autumn Term Dates

Wednesday 4 September 2024 to Friday 25 October 2024

Half Term: Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024

Monday 4 November 2024 to Friday 20 December 2024

Christmas Holiday: Monday 21 December to Monday 6 January

Spring Term Dates

Tuesday 7 January to Friday 14 February 2025

Half Term: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2025

Monday 24 February to Friday 4 April 2025

Easter Holiday: Monday 7 April to Monday 21 April 2025

Summer Term Dates

Tuesday 22 April to Friday 23 May 2025

Half Term: Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May

Monday 2 June 2024 to Wednesday 23 July 2025

If you have any comments, queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Tel: 020 8853 6250

Email: info@stmatthewacademy.co.uk

Young women's Empowerment and self-defence 6-week Summer Programme

Empowerment through self-defence.
With the Thai Boxing Community Centre

Join Our Exciting Girl power summer Sessions now!

What's Included:

- 30-minute Mentoring Session
- 1-hour Thai Boxing Session

When:

- Day: Once a week every Wednesday for 6 weeks
- Time: 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
- Start Date: From July 31st – September 4th 2024

Who Can Join:

- Age Group: 14 -18

Additional Benefits:

- Certification: Awarded after completing a minimum of 4 sessions
- Healthy Food/Snacks: Provided during each session

Why Join:

- Build Confidence
- Learn Self-Defence
- Receive Mentorship
- Stay Active and Healthy

Unleash your confidence and register today!

If you are interested please register via the link: <https://forms.gle/mz1TA5zS9vTm5nwVA> or the scan QR below:



In collaboration with the Lewisham Outreach Service



KIDS SUMMER CAMP



**FUN & INCLUSIVE
SPORTING ACTIVITIES
FOR BOYS & GIRLS 11-
18 YEARS OLD**



**5TH-8TH AUGUST 2024
10:00-14:00**

Activities

- ✓ Fun sports activities
- ✓ Team building
- ✓ Splash Zone Swim Session
- ✓ Expert coaching
- ✓ Flame & Feast BBQ Bash

TMT Growth Proof Project

Downham Health & Leisure Centre
5-7 Moonrise Road
Bromley
BR1 5EW



Where Sports And Flavour Collide!




TBT SUMMER CAMP

Our Kids Summer Camp is suitable for young people aged 8 - 16
meals are provided.

Monday's 22 July - 19 Aug 2024 **From** 10.30 - 3.30pm **VRT & YJS PRESENTATION**

thebaddatrust@gmail.com 07761 506094 Woodpecker Youth Club



FLOWER SKILLS
Build a future in construction



Try out new skills

Experience practical training in Brick Work, wall tiling and possibly rendering

Flower Skills are recruiting for a free construction training week 12th
August to 16th August 2024

During the programme you can achieve a City & Guilds 6219 Level 1 in Construction

You will be learning practical construction and finding out about the industry.

If you are aged 14-19 and interested please apply by the link:
<https://forms.gle/mz1TA5zS9vTm5pyvA> or the scan QR below:



Summer Programme Registration

In collaboration with the Lewisham Outreach Service

Flowerskills location: 669 Woolwich Rd, London SE7 8SL

Phone: 020 8305 5050



In partnership with Lewisham Council
Skipz Productions cic
presents



KIDS SUMMER

HOLIDAY AND FOOD PROGRAMME

Get ready to learn about
the Ocean, Royalty, Rainforests and
Around the World from

**Monday, 29 July 2024 to
Thursday, 22nd August 2024
10 am to 2 pm**

**TORRIDON PRIMARY SCHOOL,
HAZELBANK ROAD, SE6 1TG**

FREE FOR BENEFIT RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS CHILDREN

**LUNCH PROVIDED | SIBLINGS WELCOME | PAYING CHILDREN
WELCOME**

Registrations are officially open!

To enrol, please visit

<https://www.skipzproductions.org/kipzhaflewisham>

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME





FREE

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITIES
Wed 31th July	10am-2pm	Skate maintenance - Beckenham Skate Park
Thurs 1st July	10am-2pm	Skate maintenance workshop + Sports Activities
Fri 1st Aug	10am-2pm	Bowling Trip
Mon 4th Aug	10am-2pm	Table Tennis Tournament
Wed 6th Aug	10am-2pm	Skate Maintenance Workshop + Sports Activities
Thurs 7th Aug	10am-2pm	Skate Maintenance workshop- Beckenham Skate Park
Fri 8th Aug	10am-2pm	Ice Skating Trip

*Timings may vary for trips



Lewisham Virtual School

Please bring a packed lunch



YOUNG LEWISHAM PROJECT

CONTACT: 07925131506

LOCATION: YOUNG LEWISHAM PROJECT, 124 KILMORIE ROAD, SE23 2SR

*For Trips Please contact the number above

WWW.YOUNGLEWISHAMPROJECT.ORG.UK

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