

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

What an amazing first half term we have had at SMA and how quickly it has flown by.

‘Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.’ is a quote from Mother Teresa—one of our houses at SMA and is our focus this half term. Our SMA ambassadors, Prefects and Year 6 Sports Leaders have fully embraced their roles this year and made a positive impact in serving our school community.

At SMA we are truly living out our virtue of ‘Service’ by raising over £300.00 by hosting our MacMillan coffee Morning. I would like to thank everybody that contributed and our parents that kindly gave up their time to serve cakes.

During this time of Harvest Festival, we are now focusing on supporting Lewisham Foodbank by bringing in donations. A group of pupil ambassadors will deliver the donations at the end of half term and they will be gratefully received. Thank you to all who have generously donated, particularly at this time of austerity.

The month of October holds great importance for our school and local community as it is Black History Month. This month is honoured and celebrated throughout the school through our widely diverse curriculum. Alongside this, we will be holding assemblies, enrichment activities and other events including our annual Big Hair day. It is important to note that this month adds an extra layer to all of the work we do throughout the year celebrating black history and reflecting the diversity of the pupils we teach. We are ending the term with our whole school Cultural Day Celebration.

Enjoy your half term break.

Ms J Chick
Head of Primary

Prayer and Reflection

In the last week of September we celebrated Holy Mass for The Feast of St Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist our school’s patron saint. Our Years 4,5,6 and 7s all took part with some children presenting their beautiful artwork and written prayers as the work of our hands. From the Gospel readings we heard that Jesus gazed upon Matthew and called him to be one of his disciples. Matthew’s life was forever changed. The encounter with Jesus and his loving mercy transformed him. He left behind his table, his money, his exclusion. Before, he had sat waiting to collect his taxes, to take from others; now, with Jesus he must get up and give, give himself to others. Jesus goes before us, he precedes us; he opens the way and invites us to follow him.

Additionally, all of our Year 7’s have now had the opportunity to go to Aylesford Priory for their annual retreat. The theme was Let Your Light Shine and the children had a wonderful day exploring through various activities, making new friends and having time for contemplative prayer and reflection. They learnt that Jesus has called them to use their gifts and talents to benefit others.

Dear Jesus,

I want to wake up each day with a grateful heart. I am grateful for the gift of life and for the opportunity to follow you. As I begin this new day, I remember your call to me, just like you called

St Matthew. You saw a tax collector, but you also saw something more—a disciple. Help me Father to hear your call and respond to it with the same eagerness and readiness as Matthew. Help me to leave behind anything that hinders me from following you. May I be open to your guidance and direction today, and every day. Amen

Primary News

Year 5

The children have settled in really well to the new academic year and I have enjoyed getting to know them over the last few weeks.

Firefighters from the London Fire Brigade came in to talk about fire safety with the children which they thoroughly enjoyed, the children were fully engaged with lots of questions to ask the firefighters. In English the children have been writing diary entries based on the book *Wonder*, they have been looking closely at subordinate clauses within their grammar lessons and adding the feature within their writing. The children's writing makes for very enjoyable reading, you can really see how they put themselves into the main characters shoes. For topic we have been looking at the history of Benin Kingdom. The children have been examining the links between Benin Kingdom and Nigeria, they have begun creating projects based on Benin Kingdom.



SMA's Macmillan Cake Morning 2023

Macmillan cancer support set the date for their biggest fundraising event of the year as Friday 29th September, so along with people across the UK, we hosted our very own cake morning in support of the initiative here at SMA.

It was a wonderful morning with lots of chatting among pupils and staff whilst delicious cakes were consumed by all. There were many generous donations of cake, including some delicious home bakes bought in for all to share. The array of cakes was phenomenal. In addition, it wouldn't be an SMA cake morning without the staff bake off, the staff topped the creativity levels this year with a pancake cake, hummingbird cake, rocky roads and various takes on the American cookie just to name a few.

The event was a huge success with over £300 raised, which will go towards the vital work Macmillan undertake helping those impacted by cancer. It also enabled us to continue to demonstrate the 'Service' that is delivered by pupils around the school. Our Light Bearers really took lead during the morning to provide a service to make the event a success by supporting with setting up, distributing cake and clearing up - they all did a fantastic job!



Secondary News

Feast of St Matthew

We celebrated the Feast of St Matthew with our Years 7s and pupils from Y4, 5 and 6 and a beautiful Mass. Our pupils led the prayers, readings and the choir sang brilliantly.



Year 7 Retreat

All year 7 pupils went in their houses on a retreat to Aylesford Priory, here is what one of our Year 7 pupils had to say about it.

"On Monday, we went to Aylesford Priory and it was a great trip. I really liked the peace garden where there were loads of different languages to say peace; Fred in Swedish means peace. I really enjoyed the activities we did in the north barn and I liked knowing a lot about my classmates. We learnt about Jesus life story. I enjoyed the trip to Aylesford Priory because I got to spend time with my friends."





LITERACY CORNER

Come and Celebrate National Poetry Day all next week in the LRC:

POETRY WALL



TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL POETRY DAY ON THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER, YOU ARE INVITED TO COME AND DECORATE OUR POETRY WALL. COME TO THE LRC ANY LUNCHTIME FROM MONDAY 2ND - FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER.

EITHER

CREATE AN ILLUSTRATED COPY OF ONE OF THE POEMS FROM THE ANTHOLOGY OF POEMS ON THE THEME OF 'REFUGE'

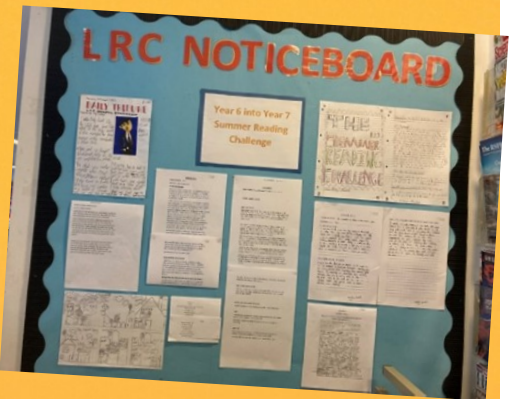
OR

COME AND WRITE AND/OR ILLUSTRATE YOUR OWN POEM TO BE DISPLAYED ON OUR POETRY WALL.

Thank you to all the year 7 pupils who entered our summer reading challenge. We had some fabulous entries some of which have been displayed in the LRC.



We were really excited to celebrate the European day of languages in the LRC. We have a big selection of books in lots of different languages including Spanish, French, Romanian, Ukrainian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese and lots more.



House Points Update

Week beginning 9/10/23

Total Achievement Points

1st – Romero: 3910

2nd – Teresa: 3823

3rd - Mandela: 3511



Attendance:

1st – **Teresa**

2nd – **Romero**

2nd – **Mandela**

What a great start to a brand new year! Romero has led the way with the most achievement points for three weeks in a row. Followed closely behind by Teresa house... Can Mandela catch up?

Overall attendance points are tied between Romero and Mandela for second place with Teresa leading the way 45 points ahead.

This week during house assemblies each house decided on ways they can contribute and gain house points.

Well done to our pupils elected as form rep for this academic year. They will work alongside the Year 11 Pupil Leadership Team to design and deliver House events and act as voices of their year group.

Our first event is the Harvest festival which we have turned into a competition. As a Catholic Academy we are mindful of our calling to support those in need. This is an opportunity for us to share with others who are less fortunate and live out our Christian values. Each year the pupils of St Matthew Academy let their light shine in the local community by donating items to give to the Lewisham Food Bank.



Going Above and Beyond!

Secondary phase

Pupils with the most achievement points during September

Year 7

Elijah MARGAI 7T1
Yousef ELHUSSEINE 7M2
Abigail JACOME ASQUI 7M1
Kairos BAILEY 7T1
William MACHADO 7T2

Year 8

Jayden TYLER 8R1
Ebenezer WILSON 8R1
Vladyslav STEPANIUK 8M1
Muhammed AKINKUNMI 8R2
Jonathan ADEKOYA 8T1

Year 9

Alanya KOUROMA 9M2
Rickael CLARKE 9T1
Michael TRAORE 9M3
Aarib QAISAR 9R2
Malachy COX 9R1

Year 10

Jahbarrie WATSON 10M1
Rihanna CARRINGTON 10R1
Alfie HAWKINS 10M1
Crystal BOWLING 10T1
Wilson ZHOU 10R2

Year 11

Dylan GILHOOLEY 11KDE
Abdul Malik ADEBOWALE 11MKE
Laura ARIWODO 11MKE
Shameemah TANAGIDAH 11KDE
Andrius SANKER 11MKE

Well done to these pupils for all their hard work!

Staff Stars



Ms Dryden

"For always being extremely calm whilst making crucial decisions."



Mr Cole

"For always being a supportive team player."



Mr Kamara

"For being steadfast, resilient and forthcoming in the face of each days pressures and challenges."

REPORT IT!



If you have some information that you feel should be reported, e.g. bullying, or you are feeling low, worrying about something or if you have any safeguarding concerns you can:

Tell a Teacher



Ms Chick
Head of Primary



Mr Gunningham
Senior Assistant Headteacher

Mr Magar
Senior Assistant Headteacher



Ms Dryden
Child Protection Officer



Staff at St Matthew Academy are always here to help and listen to pupils, if you ever want to talk to someone or share a concern please don't feel worried about doing so.



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**CLARION
FUTURES**



Full Address

**Lewisham Central
Orchard Gardens Community Hub
Columbine Way, Lewisham Road,
London, SE13 7LQ**

Secondary phase extracurricular provision Autumn 2023					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast / before school			Business Breakfast Year 11 – Mrs Green	Business Breakfast Year 11 – Mrs Green	Business Breakfast Year 11 – Mrs Green
Lunch	SMA News / Media Club All years – Mr Blakemore	SMA News / Media Club All years – Mr Blakemore	SMA News / Media Club All years – Mr Blakemore	Light Bearers Years 7, 8 and 9 – Miss Eduvie	Light Bearers Years 10 and 11 – Miss Eduvie
	Science Educake Homework All years – Ms Day	History Club (Week B) KS3 – Miss Wilkins	Science Educake Homework All years – Ms Day	EAL lunch club All years – Ms Gilpirez	Guitar Club KS3 – Mr Watson
	Inclusion lunch club All years – Inclusion team	Inclusion lunch club All years – Inclusion team	Inclusion lunch club All years – Inclusion team	Inclusion lunch club All years – Inclusion team	Inclusion lunch club All years – Inclusion team
	Football Years 7 and 8 Miss McDonald and Mr Wood	Football Years 9 and 10 Miss McDonald and Mr Wood	Football Years 7 and 11 Miss McDonald and Mr Salih	Football Years 8 and 10 Mr Salih and Mr Wood	Football Years 7 and 9 Mr Salih and Mr Saunders
			24 Club Mathematics team		
After school	Sparx Club Years 7-10 – Mathematics team	Sparx Club Year 11 – Mathematics team	Rowing All years – Mr Simmons-Hedges	Rowing All years – Mr Simmons-Hedges	Careers Hub Year 11 – Mr Simmons-Hedges
	Media Scholarship Year 7 – Mr Blakemore	Media Scholarship Year 9 – Mr Blakemore	Media Club All years – Mr Blakemore	Media Scholarship Year 8 – Mr Blakemore	Media Club All years – Mr Blakemore
	Mandarin Years 7, 8 and 9 External provider	School Production All years Ms Barallon, Mr Charlery, Mrs Smith	Indoor athletics Years 7 and 8 Miss Cefai and Mr Wood	Basketball Years 7 and 8 Titans and Mr Garrick	Football Years 9-11 – Miss McDonald
	Art Club All years Mr Dunne	Basketball Years 9-11 Titans and Mr Garrick	Football Year 9 Mr Salih	Girls’ football All years Mr Salih	Football Years 10 and 11 – Mr Saunders
	Choir All years – Mr Watson	Sporting Excellence rotation Years 7-9 – PE team	Step Into Dance Mrs Smith	Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award Year 10 – Mr Saunders	
	Dance Company Year 8 – Mrs Smith		Debate Mate All years – Ms Purslow		
	Netball Years 7 and 8 – Miss McDonald				
	Boys’ football Year 7 – Mr Wood				
	Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Year 9 – Mr Saunders				
	Table Tennis All years – Mr Cole				

English	Mathematics	Science	Religious Studies	Humanities
Sport and Outdoor Education	Art, Design & Technology	Business and Computing	Film and Media	Performing Arts
Careers	Chaplaincy	EAL and Inclusion	Grammar +	

There are additional activities on rotation or planned activities as follows:

In different time slots	Violin, Grammar + pupils, Visiting music teacher	In different time slots	Various music tuition lessons
Starting next half term	Singing Club, KS3, Mr Watson	Starting next half term	Wednesday, Gifted and Talented Dance, Year 7, Mrs Smith
	Mathematics, UCL Outreach		Science Club, KS3, Mr Coote
	RE provision for Year 11		RE Gifted and Talented Club

Primary After School Clubs and Intervention Timetable

Autumn Term 2023

After School Clubs				
Year Group	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
EYFS/KS1	Messy Play (14) Mrs Ferrigan	Lego (16) Miss Toprak	Creative Arts (14) Miss Mraihiy	Team Games (14) Miss Mitcham
Years 3 and 4	Sewing (10) Ms Toprak	Football (20) Mr Szwejkowski	Arts & Crafts (14) Miss Pollydore	Cooking (14) Miss Mraihiy
Years 5 and 6	Cooking (15) Mrs Holding	Board games (16) Ms Nelson	Tennis (20) Miss Toprak	Football (20) Mr Szwejkowski
Open to all year groups		Choir/Singing Club (20) Miss Butterworth	Sign Language (16) Miss Boileau	

After School Interventions			
Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 1 Phonics – Miss Norman-Mercer	Year 1 Phonics/Reading – Mrs Ferrigan	Year 1 Blending – Mrs Ferrigan	
Year 2 Phonics – Mr Szwejkowski	Year 2 Phase 3 Phonics – Miss Boileau	Year 2 Comprehension – Mr Colomb	
Year 3 Reading Fluency – Miss Mitcham		Year 3 Comprehension – Miss Mizon	
Year 4 Maths – Mr Bowen	Year 4 Reading – Miss Pollydore		
Year 5 Reading – Ms Nelson	Year 5 Maths – Miss Lyambo		
Year 6 Maths – Ms Chick Year 6 Maths – Miss Roostan	Year 6 Reading – Mrs Holding	Year 6 Reading – Mrs Holding	

October Half Term Holiday Programme 2023

MONDAY 23 - SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER

MUSIC | ART | DRAMA | DANCE | DIGITAL

GOING UNDERGROUND

EARLY YEARS | CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE | ADULT

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CALENDAR

WEEK-LONG & MULTI-DAY COURSES

Mon 23 – Fri 27	10.00 – 16.00 each day	Make A Musical!	8–14 yrs
Mon 23 & Tue 24	10.00 – 12.30 both days	Roundabout: Half Term Taster	4.5–7 yrs
Tue 24 & Fri 27	12.30 – 14.30 both days	Pop Choir	7–14 yrs

OCTOBER

Mon 23	09.30 – 15.30	Make a Short Film and Journey to the Centre of the Earth	8–12 yrs
Mon 23	09.30 – 15.30	Botanical Illustration with an Abstract Twist	8–15 yrs
Mon 23	10.00 – 16.00	Moving With The Earth	5–11 yrs
Mon 23	13.00 – 15.00	Brilliant Brass	6–12 yrs
Mon 23	15.30 – 16.30	Scale Club	6–12 yrs
Mon 23	16.45 – 17.45	The Teen Piano Workshop (Grades 5+)	11–18 yrs
Mon 23	18.00 – 19.00	The Big Piano Workshop (18+yrs, All Levels)	18+ yrs
Tue 24	10.00 – 12.00	What’s Under The Bed!	3–5 yrs
Tue 24	18.00 – 20.30	Pop Performance Workshop	16+ yrs
Tue 24	12.30 – 14.30	Pop Choir	7–14 yrs
Tue 24	13.00 – 15.00	Uke & You!	5–7 yrs
Tue 24	13.30 – 15.30	Watercolour Vegetables	4–7 yrs
Tue 24	13.30 – 17.30	Make Your Own Tube Poster	11–15 yrs
Tue 24	18.00 – 20.30	A Beginner’s Guide to Repeat Print Making	18+ yrs
Wed 25	09.30 – 10.15	Teeny Toes	6 mths – walking
Wed 25	10.00 – 12.00	Roots & Trees	3–5 yrs
Wed 25	10.00 – 13.00	Welcome to the Orchestra!	7–15 yrs
Wed 25	10.30 – 11.15	Toddle Toes	Walking–2.5 yrs
Wed 25	11.30 – 12.15	Tots Toes	2.6–5 yrs
Wed 25	13.00 – 15.00	Uke & You!	3–5 yrs
Wed 25	13.30 – 15.30	Monster Stories	4–7 yrs
Wed 25	16.00 – 19.00	Tiles of the Tube	7–14 yrs
Wed 25	19.15 – 21.45	Create Clay Tiles	18+ yrs
Thu 26	09.30 – 15.30	Autumn Hibernation with Andrew Goldsworthy	5–11 yrs
Thu 26	09.30 – 15.30	Become an Archaeologist!	6–11 yrs
Thu 26	10.00 – 11.00	Cello Journey	6–10 yrs
Thu 26	10.00 – 16.00	Drama in a Day!	7–11 yrs
Thu 26	11.15 – 12.15	Cello Journey	8–12 yrs
Thu 26	12.45 – 14.45	Join a Band!	9–13 yrs
Thu 26	14.00 – 18.00	Bioluminescent Bookbinding	8–14 yrs
Thu 26	15.30 – 19.30	Young People’s Jazz Pop Up	9–15 yrs (Grade 3+)
Fri 27	09.30 – 15.30	Make an Ant Farm	5–11 yrs
Fri 27	09.30 – 15.30	Underground & Undercover	7–12 yrs
Fri 27	10.00 – 16.00	Become a Podcaster	8–14 yrs
Fri 27	12.30 – 14.30	Pop Choir	7–14 yrs
Fri 27	16.00 – 18.00	Creative Dance for Kids	5&6 yrs
Fri 27	16.30 – 19.30	Drama School Audition Prep	17+ yrs
Sat 28	09.30 – 15.30	My Underground City	5–11 yrs
Sat 28	10.00 – 16.00	Family Ceramics	8–15 yrs (plus adults 18+yrs)
Sat 28	10.00 – 16.00	Beatmaking and Songwriting	8–12 yrs