

## Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Our final newsletter of the year gives me an opportunity to reflect on the successes we have enjoyed celebrating and the highlights for staff and pupils alike. It has been a year when we got trips, visits and clubs back to the pre-covid norm. There were two firsts for overseas residential trips – a highly successful Business Studies and Computing visit to France for 40 year 9 and 10 pupils. The trip included a tour of Paris, trips to Euro Disney alongside subject conferences with a range of professionals and experts in their field. The second overseas trip was a first ever ski trip for SMA pupils. Everyone involved had a superb 9 days, made amazing progress on the ski slopes and came home with tales and stories to treasure forever. These trips will be repeated on a bi-annual basis so look out for information next term about the 2024-25 trips- early booking required!

Alongside two overseas residentials, there have been a wide range of other residential activities that you have read about in our newsletter over the last year. These include the Year 6 trip to PCL in Surrey, two Geography field trips to Juniper Hall, an outward-bound experience to the Peak District for a group of year 7s and four DoE expeditions for Year 9 and 10 pupils. What makes staff most proud when leading these trips is the response from our pupils. Their behaviour is always exemplary, they are friendly and polite to everyone and this is always commented on by everyone they meet. Our pupils really do Let Their Light Shine when beyond the school gates! I am pleased that we have been able to offer subsidised places to a number of pupils on these visits – giving them opportunities and experiences they may otherwise not have. We use our SMA Hardship Fund to provide these places – thank you to everyone that has donated to the fund, it really does make a life changing difference to an individual pupil!

The last couple of weeks at SMA have been busy ones and you will get a flavour of what has been going on in the next few pages. The Secondary Awards Evening was a grand affair with a full hall of parents, carers and friends sharing in the celebrations of our prizewinners and we were treated to some amazing performances by our talented musicians, singers and performers. On the same day, we managed to squash in the Annual SMA Summer Fayre! The weather was kind, there was the full range of games, activities and food stalls on offer and fabulous attendance from our primary parents and pupils across the school. Watch this space in September for the final amount of money raised on the day and details of the charities that will benefit from your kind donations.

As ever thank you to all of our parents and carers for your support - it is so vital to the success our pupils enjoy. I hope you have a great summer and I look forward to seeing you all at a school event in the autumn term.

**Ms Baldwin**  
Headteacher

## Prayer and Reflection

Pope Francis once said “Life is a constant ‘Good morning’ and ‘Farewell,’ with the goodbyes sometimes being for forever. You grow by encountering and by taking your leave and if you don’t learn to say goodbye well, you will never learn how to encounter new people. This moment of change in life is a challenge, but in life we have to get used to this journey of leaving something behind and encountering something new.” As we leave this academic year behind us, we thank God for all that we have achieved. We pray that we will have a restful summer with those we love. We think about those who will be moving on and encountering new things and we wish them God’s Blessings.

*Heavenly Father,*

*As we come to the end of an academic year, we thank you for giving us the opportunity to be a part of each other’s lives. We thank you for the growth we achieved this year both in and out of the classroom, for our successes and failures and for all those who helped us to let our lights shine. We pray that your holy spirit will be with us until we meet again, refreshed and ready come September. St Matthew The Evangelist Pray for Us. Amen*

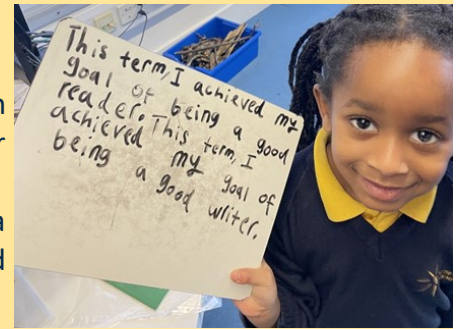


# Primary News

## Year 1

Dragonfly class have had an amazing end to the academic year. The children have been fortunate enough to have so many highlights that it is near impossible to choose only a few areas to discuss!

Firstly, we are incredibly proud of Year 1's phonics screener where we had a pass rate of over 70%. They worked extremely hard, thank you to all staff and parents who supported the pupils in this assessment.



The class has been lucky enough to have had a plethora of experiences this term, including our Forest School Day, Careers Day, Coronation Day and Windrush Day! During our Forest School day, children embraced and loved all our outdoor learning. Ranging from collecting and practising counting 50+ leaves, writing descriptions of some creepy crawlies and creating a bug hotel!

The children also loved Careers Day. They met many people with all different careers. They had the pleasure of meeting Katie, a paramedic from the London Ambulance Service. The children tried on the paramedic's uniforms, used some equipment, learnt how to do CPR and apply bandages.

With the heat wave, most of our golden times have consisted of ice-lollies and playing in our new sandpit or playing sports games to get ready for our PE day next week!

A particular highlight was Year 1's last assembly. They performed their very own Gruffalo rap with beat boxing. They are a class who love stories and love to express themselves through many different creative outlets such as singing, rapping, dancing, writing and drawing. I cannot wait to watch them grow and see their talents nurtured and their knowledge build as they progress in the school.



## Year 6

We are extremely proud of the hard work, determination and resilience shown by our Year 6 pupils this year! They have shown that with the right attitude and sheer determination that they are capable of anything. All of the children in Year 6 performed exceptionally well in their SATs and made accelerated progress in all core subjects. They should all be incredibly proud of themselves and the commitment that they have shown towards their learning, future goals and aspirations.

Louise Gilkes and Elijah Margai performed exceptionally well in all subjects and secured the greater depth standard in reading, writing and maths. Both Louise and Elijah have gone above and beyond this year and have worked tirelessly in school and at home to achieve this.



We are extremely proud of Year 6's maths this year – a subject that they have shown a deep love of. 88% of the class are working at the expected standard or above. There are many gifted mathematicians in Year 6; however, it is important to note the progress of Roman Churakov who achieved full marks in his SATs for maths.

Alongside their fantastic academic achievements this year, Year 6 have continuously shown the school virtues and been exceptional role models for the rest of the primary phase. They took on roles as light bearers, head of houses, sports leaders and librarians to improve the experiences of all children in the primary phase – we are incredibly grateful to them for this. As many of them continue their journeys at St Matthew Academy, we wish them the best of luck in their future endeavours and look forward to hearing about their future successes!



# Secondary News

## DoFE Trip

Last month 11 pupils and 3 staff went to the South Downs, Brighton area to practice navigation and camp craft to help prepare for their September Qualifying Expedition in the New Forest! Lots of good training was completed and a good time was had by all the pupils.



## Spelling Bee

This year, as part of the whole school reading literacy initiative, the English department facilitated whole cohort spelling bees to test years 7, 8 and 9 on their ability to memorise a list of 40 words and their definitions. Subsequent rounds consisted of the most difficult words to spell in the English language! We were amazed by how well all 42 finalists did and are incredibly proud of their courage, confidence and persistence. Each set of 14 finalists were wonderfully supported by their peers; the atmosphere in each 'Bee' was one of friendly competition, excitement, and passion - full of the usual SMA spirit!

Well done to all involved, and a special congratulations to the 9 top spot winners:

### Year 9

3<sup>rd</sup> place - Shakeem

2<sup>nd</sup> place - Jemimah

1<sup>st</sup> place - Aayush



### Year 8

3<sup>rd</sup> place - Ade

2<sup>nd</sup> place - Laurel

1<sup>st</sup> place - Daniel



### Year 7

3<sup>rd</sup> place - Caleb

2<sup>nd</sup> place - Erin

1<sup>st</sup> place - Henry



# Year 11 Prom





# Events

## Summer Fayre



## Primary Beach Trip



## Year 6 Prom





# House Points Update

Week beginning 17/7/23

## Total Achievement Points

1<sup>st</sup> – Teresa: 44223  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Romero: 37987  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Mandela: 37191

## Attendance:

1<sup>st</sup> – Mandela  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Romero  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Teresa

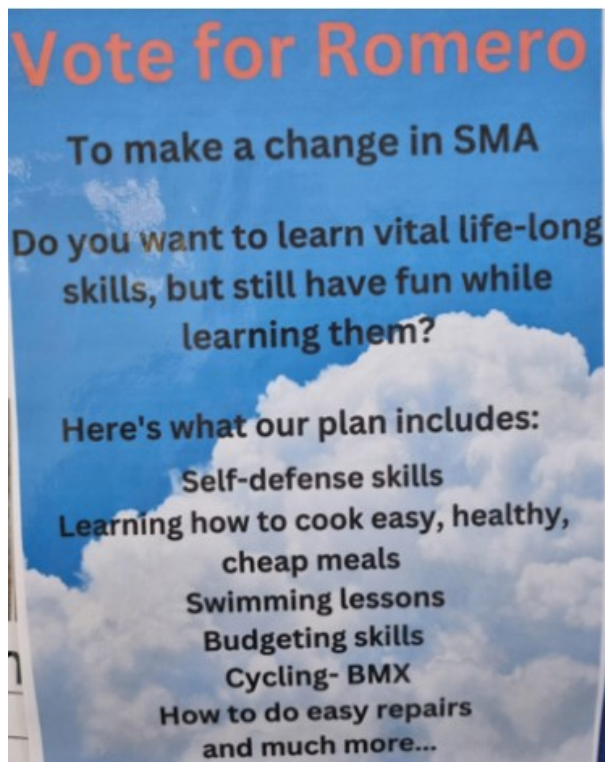
## Overall House Points

1st - Teresa: 3066  
2nd - Mandela: 2773  
3rd - Romero: 27421

It is the final week of the academic year and all houses have been working hard to collect points. Congratulations to Teresa house, who maintained their lead from the start of the year. The battle for the second seat was won by Romero house. Well done to all houses.

Big shout out to the pupils leaders and the prefects who have taken on their role to support staff members at lunch time like ducks to water. The pupil leaders and prefects have demonstrated their commitment and haven't been setting an excellent example for the younger years groups.

Following the campaign of the house leadership team for next year activities, we are pleased to announce that pupils voted Romero House their winner. Romero's initiative is an extracurricular provision aimed at developing life skills, below is a glance of their proposal. Well done to the Romero pupils leaders: Fatima, Gracie and Morgan and the prefects. We hope you enjoy your summer holidays and see you in September 2023.



# Going Above and Beyond!

## *Secondary phase*

*Pupils with the most achievement points during June and July*

### **Year 7**

Roberto TOADER 7R1  
Caleb AROGUNDADE 7R2  
Souleymane SOW 7T1  
Vladyslav STEPANIUK 7M1  
Jacob BARCLAY 7T2

### **Year 8**

Phoebe MAURER-SMALLEY 8T2  
Lieselotte MAURER-SMALLEY 8T2  
Michael TRAORE 8M3  
Aarav NAIR 8M2  
Racheal ADEDIJI 8M3

### **Year 9**

Blessing AKINNUSI 9T1  
Savannah ELLIOTT 9M1  
Sophia MINNOCH 9M2  
Evaluna HERNANDEZ MOLINA  
Eriane ANGWE-NZE 9M2

### **Year 10**

Laura ARIWODO 10M2  
Abdul Malik ADEBOWALE 10M2  
Jake SHELLEY 10T1  
Matthew ADEGBOLA 10T2  
Tayo MARTIN 10T3

**Well done to these pupils for all their hard work!**

# Staff Stars

**Ms Barallon**



*“For doing a great job taking over as director of learning for year 8 and always being available to help with an issues that arise in the year group.”*

**Mr Kibunga**



*“For all of his excellent and hard work in the Primary.”*



# Safeguarding our pupils at St Matthew Academy

At St Matthew Academy our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mr Young supported by Mr Gunningham (secondary) and Ms Chick (primary), and our Child Protection Officer is Mrs Laker. 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](http://www.childline.org.uk)
- NSPCC **0808 800 5000** [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

## Term Dates 23/24

### Autumn Term Dates

**Tuesday 5 September 2023 to Friday 20 October 2023**

**Half Term: Monday 23 October 2023 to Friday 27 October 2023**

**Monday 30 October 2023 to Wednesday 20 December 2023**

**Christmas Holiday: Thursday 21 December to Monday 8 January**

### Spring Term Dates

**Tuesday 9 January 2024 to Friday 9 February 2024**

**Half Term: Monday 12 February 2024 to Friday 16 February**

**Monday 19 February 2024 to Thursday 28 March 2024**

**Easter Holiday: Friday 29 March 2024 to Friday 12 April 2024**

### Summer Term Dates

**Monday 15 April 2024 to Friday 24 May 2024**

**Half Term: Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May**

**Monday 3 June 2024 to Tuesday 23 July 2024**

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

Tel: 020 8853 6250

Email: [info@stmatthewacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@stmatthewacademy.co.uk)

# Summer Timetable

Come and join us for **FREE**  
fun for 0-8 years olds



**Goes Live  
Monday 17th July!**

are **FREE** and run each week from Monday 24th July until Friday  
25th August unless a date is stated.  
Bookings open Monday 18th July  
on [www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/booking-form/](http://www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/booking-form/) or call centre directly



**Baby Messy  
Play**

**Circus  
Skills**

**Mud Mess  
& More**

**Storytelling**

**African  
Drumming**

**Gilbert  
Giggles**

**Download  
timetable  
here**



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Story Telling Sessions</b> 10.00am - 11.15am Join us for these fun interactive sessions. Sessions: Storytelling and Song Age group: 0 - 8 years	<b>Baby Messy Play</b> 10.00am - 11.15am Sensory, fun & messy play. Bring a change of clothes if possible - it will get messy! Age group: Birth to 18 months	<b>Little Explorers Sessions</b> 10.00am - 11.15am Based on the Five to Thrive key activities: Relaxing, Relax, Play, Talk. You will learn how positive interactions with your baby helps develop their brain. Age group: Under 18 months	<b>Gilbert Giggles</b> 10.00am - 11.00am Come and join us for fun, magic and music with Gilbert Giggles. Age group: 0 - 8 years	<b>Gilbert Giggles</b> 10.00am - 11.00am Come and join us for fun, magic and music with Gilbert Giggles. Age group: 0 - 8 years
<b>Outdoor Explorers</b> 1.00pm - 2.00pm Come and experience how the outdoor environment benefits your child's physical and mental well-being. Age group: Under 5's	<b>Arts &amp; Crafts</b> 1.00pm - 2.30pm Join us for these fun arts & crafts activities. Age group: 0 - 8 years	<b>Arts &amp; Crafts</b> 1.00pm - 2.30pm Join us for these fun arts & crafts activities. Age group: 0 - 8 years	<b>Mud, Mess &amp; More</b> 1.00pm - 2.30pm Explore and discover your senses at our messy play sessions. Age group: 0 - 8 years	<b>Mud, Mess &amp; More</b> 1.00pm - 2.30pm Explore and discover your senses at our messy play sessions. Age group: 0 - 8 years
<b>Story Telling Sessions</b> 3.15pm - 4.15pm Join us for these fun interactive sessions. Sessions: Storytelling and Song Age group: 0 - 8 years	<b>Story Telling Sessions</b> 3.15pm - 4.15pm Join us for these fun interactive sessions. Sessions: Storytelling and Song Age group: 0 - 8 years	<b>Story Telling Sessions</b> 3.15pm - 4.15pm Join us for these fun interactive sessions. Sessions: Storytelling and Song Age group: 0 - 8 years	<b>Story Telling Sessions</b> 3.15pm - 4.15pm Join us for these fun interactive sessions. Sessions: Storytelling and Song Age group: 0 - 8 years	<b>Story Telling Sessions</b> 3.15pm - 4.15pm Join us for these fun interactive sessions. Sessions: Storytelling and Song Age group: 0 - 8 years

**Bookings open a week before each session**

To book your **FREE** places go to  
[www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/booking-form](http://www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/booking-form)

or call centres directly

**Bellingham CFC** 07513 727793

**Ladywell CFC** 07513 727795

**Evelyn CFC** 07513 727797

[www.lewishamcfc.org.uk](http://www.lewishamcfc.org.uk)

@lewishamchildrencentres @lewishamcfc

Code: StMATTfair  
7th Jul '23



FROM  
**TODDLER to DANCER**

**COMPLIMENTARY  
CLASS\***

(Children's classes)

T&Cs: **MUST BE REDEEMED UPON FIRST CONTACT** and within 3 months from issue date in code box - One voucher per family - New families only - NOT valid without validation code - Does NOT allow trial classes - Cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounts or promotions - Full school T&Cs apply

BALLET • HIP HOP • STREET DANCE • MODERN • TAP

[www.eosdance.co.uk](http://www.eosdance.co.uk)

For more information, please contact:  
Arianna Willis  
[ari@eosdance.co.uk](mailto:ari@eosdance.co.uk)





# Fremantle

## DO YOU KNOW ANY FUNNY & CHATTY 12 - 13 YR OLDS??

Fremantle Media are making a brand-new TV special celebrating one of the nation's most loved adventure movies!

We are looking for pairs of children (siblings/friends) aged 12 - 13 to be filmed watching and reacting to some of the movie's most exciting scenes!

If you are interested in your child taking part, and for more information, please email [adventurecasting@fremantle.com](mailto:adventurecasting@fremantle.com) and one of the team will be in touch!

Any personal information you provide us will be used in accordance with our privacy policy. For further information on our Privacy Policy for Programme Applicants or to find out more about your rights in relation to your personal data please see the Privacy Notice for Programme Applicants, a copy of which is available here: <http://fremantle.co.uk/privacy-notice-applicant.pdf> or by emailing [privacy.officer@fremantle.com](mailto:privacy.officer@fremantle.com)



**Fremantle Media** have contacted SMA regarding the above opportunity for TV work in the Summer holidays. They are making a programme with **Sky** in which they film the reactions, responses and opinions of 12-13 year olds friends/ siblings watching "a very popular film". There will be a Q&A in which they may ask questions such as, "How would you get over a pit full of snakes?" *hint, hint ;)* You would need to be available for filming at a cinema in north London the last week of August – probably around the 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August (but these dates are very approximate)/ first week of September.

You need to be 12-13 years old, confident, funny and chatty... which is, let's be honest, most of you!

If interested, they would like parents/ carers to contact them directly. Come see Ms England if you would like any more information.

**Applications by July 28<sup>th</sup>** and reference **St Matthew Academy** in the email subject.

# FREE SCHOOL MEALS

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS AT SCHOOL

YOUR CHILD MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A FREE SCHOOL MEAL.  
IF THEY ARE, THEY CAN OPT TO ENJOY OUR MEAL DEAL OFFER

SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT

