

Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter – September 2020



Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome back to another year at St Matthew Academy! I hope you have had a lovely, relaxing Summer Holiday and are looking forward to the year ahead. Please find information about our topics and class expectations below.

Curriculum

This year we are implementing a new exciting and engaging curriculum taught through a topic based approach. The curriculum will allow our children the opportunity to develop as successful, independent learners acquiring a wide range of skills and knowledge. Their learning will be extended and challenged as they have the chance to fully immerse themselves in the topic. This term our topic will be **Day and Night**.

A key focus this year in year 2 is reading. We will ensure that our children can read fluently, comprehend a range of age appropriate texts and foster a love of reading.

Weekly Activities

PE will be every Wednesday and Thursday. Please ensure your child comes to school in their **full St Matthew Academy PE kit**.

Library – due to the COVID-19 crisis, we will be unable to take the children to the library. However, there will be a good selection of books to choose from in our class reading area.

After School Provision – this will begin the week commencing 28th September. Further information will be provided closer to the time.

Homework

Homework will be set each Friday with the expectation that it is handed in the following Friday morning. The purpose of homework is to provide the children with the opportunity to consolidate and extend the learning that has taken place that week in class. It is essential that homework is completed as it will be marked in class collaboratively every Friday afternoon. Each child will receive a comprehension activity, maths homework and spellings on a weekly basis. We expect all children to read for at least 20 minutes each evening, practise their spellings and times tables. Children will also receive 2 pieces of RE homework during the half term and a topic based project which they can present in a way of their choosing, allowing opportunities to pursue personal subjects of interest; science, art, music, drama, ICT.

Contact Details

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or queries.

Year 2 Teacher

Ms O'Shea

CO@StMatthewacademy.co.uk

Our TA this year will be Mr Al-Souss, who is really looking forward to working with the class.

Reading

I cannot reiterate how important it is for your child to read often. Statistics show that if a child reads 20 minutes per day compared to 1 minute per day, they will hear 1,800,000 words per year compared to 8000 words per year. This in turn shows that a child who reads 20 minutes a day will likely score better than 90% of their peers in standardised tests.

Please ensure your child reads **every evening** and this is marked in their homework diary which is checked daily.

Expectations

Because of the importance of not mixing bubbles, it is essential that you drop your child to school for **9:20am** and collected at **3:20pm**. Please ensure your child is dropped off/collected on time to avoid children mixing with other bubbles.

Children are expected to bring their reading diary to school every day, signed by their parent/carer to show they have read the previous evening. Please ensure that you check their homework diary and sign every Friday.

Labelled water bottles must be brought into school every day as water fountains are out of use.

Humanities (Geography)

- Classify jobs into night jobs and day jobs
- Explain why some jobs are only day/night jobs and why some are both.
- Identify different time zones
- Name and locate continents around the world.
- Name and locate oceans of the world
- Look at key features of the continents of the world
- Locate the continent we live in and describe some of its key features
- Make Journey lines
- Locate and discuss hot and cold climates and where we find them
- Make observations using aerial photographs

English

- Writing a story, identifying the beginning, middle and end
- Writing poetry and understand its structure
- Write information texts and understand what makes a good non-fiction text

Maths

- Counting to 100 in 1's, 2's, 5's and 10's
- Place value
 - Reading and writing numbers to 100
 - Partitioning numbers into tens and ones
 - Use a place value chart
 - Compare objects
- Add and subtract numbers using knowledge of place value



Science

- Explain what makes a living thing living
- Classify animals into day animals and nocturnal animals.
- Investigate how shadows are made
- Explain what causes day and what causes night

Phonics

We will continue to use Letters and Sounds to help us with our Phonics

Music

- Rhythms
- Patterns
- Natural Sounds

Art/DT

We will study Vincent Van Gogh's Starry Night painting and use a range of techniques to reproduce our own versions.

We will also be making shadow boxes to help us in our Science

PE

- Team Games
- Gymnastics