

## Message from the Senior Leadership Team

We are approaching the end of a more normal academic year at St Matthew Academy. We have all been enjoying the change in the weather that comes with the transition into summer. But before we say goodbye for our summer break, we have much to celebrate!

After working through the challenges of the past two years, our Year 11 pupils have now come to the end of their GCSE exams. Much hard work has been done by both pupils and their teachers. Prom was a fabulous opportunity to say goodbye and wish our pupils every success in the future. Our Year 6 pupils have also worked hard to prepare for their SATs and many are now looking ahead to joining the secondary phase. But first, they will get to have their own prom, too!

Aside from prom, we have many fantastic events to look forward to and send us off on our summer break., from creating artworks inspired by the Windrush generation to Year 7 pupils performing Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, from the Summer Street Fair to Sports Day being back at Sutcliffe Park – so much is happening in just a few exciting weeks at SMA!

From all of us at St Matthew Academy, we look forward to an exciting last couple of weeks of term - they are going to be warm!

**Mr M Bradley**  
**Assistant Headteacher**



## Prayer and Reflection

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual World Meeting of Families took place in Rome from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The gathering was attended by over 2000 families from around the world. Pope Francis continues to call us to be disciples of Christ and so spread his message of peace and love. The following message entitled "Missionary Sending of Families" was delivered by the Holy Father at a mass at St Peter's last Saturday.

### Missionary Sending of Families

Dear families,

I invite you to continue your journey by listening to the Father who calls you: become missionaries in the ways of the world! Do not walk alone! You, young families, be guided by those who know the way, you who are further along, be companions on the journey for others. You who are lost because of difficulties, do not be overcome by sadness, trust the Love God has placed in you, plead daily with the Spirit to revive it.

Announce with joy the beauty of being family! Announce to children and young people the grace of Christian marriage. Give hope to those who have none. Act as if everything depends on you, knowing that everything must be entrusted to God. Be you who "sew" the fabric of society and of a synodal Church, creating relationships, multiplying love and life. Be a sign of the living Christ, do not be afraid of what the Lord asks of you, nor be generous with Him. Open yourselves to Christ, listen to Him in the silence of prayer. Accompany those who are most fragile, take charge of those who are alone, refugees, abandoned.

Be the seed of a more fraternal world! Be families with big hearts! Be the welcoming face of the Church! And please pray, always pray!

May Mary, our Mother, come to your aid when there is no more wine, be a companion in the time of silence and trial, help you to walk together with her Risen Son.

Franciscus

# Primary News

## Year 5

In year 5 we had the opportunity to do a two-week block of swimming lessons which were very successful. Initially we only had four confident swimmers and this soon advanced into a total of eight. It was amazing to see them encouraging each other as well as seeing their development and progress over the few weeks.

We have been looking at Earth and Space in science and the children have made their very own Earth and Space projects which really showcased their creative side. They have truly enjoyed this topic especially as it links into our English unit. We are currently looking at the book Hidden Figures which the children have loved learning about the four black women who helped build Nasa. The children have had an in depth look into Katherine Johnson's life and her contributions. The children have explored the theme of segregation and also applied their current knowledge of Earth and Space from their Topic work.



## Year 6 News



Year 6 have been very busy preparing for their end of year production which will be Bugsy Malone. The children have been working tirelessly to learn their lines, incorporate dance moves and learn song lyrics. The performance will be on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm and we are looking forward to seeing lots of you there to share what will be an amazing performance.

We also had an amazing overnight stay on 1<sup>st</sup> July when we camped under the stars, were treated to the best barbeque ever, toasted marshmallows and enjoyed telling campfire stories.

## Year 1 News

Science lessons in year 1 have been amazing this year, from opening flowers and vegetables and looking at how the food and water travels to creating our own smelly eggs! Collective worship has been an enormous success this year with the children using stones or flowers and candles to help relax in the gentle hands of God. Friday morning reading with parents has been lovely culminating with the very success EYFS and KS1 parent's reading picnic. Eva's Godmother came into school on cultural day and told the stories of the God of water, sang songs and made beautiful pictures using beads.





# Secondary News

## National Debate Mate Champions 2022! Y9 team wins cup!

They did it! 4,400 students, 300 schools Across 14 cities in England. 2 qualifying heats, 1 regional final and 1 Grand National Cup final later - SMA brings it home again! What is more remarkable is this is the first time a YEAR 9 team have made it to the final AND WON! A really big well done to Bess, David, Hawa and Rapolas alongside Gracie and Daksh, their coach Mrs Purslow and the English Team !

The same team came third in the National League another very impressive performance as the two winning teams were both single sex girls' schools and all were Y10's! There was two points in it. They could not have worked harder and in Mrs Purslow's 14 years of the Debate Mate programme she has never seen a school win the double.



# Secondary News

## Jack Petchey Foundation - Count On Us Secondary Maths Challenge

We are proud of our Year 9 maths team that got through to the Grand Final of the Count On Us Secondary Maths Challenge which took place at City Hall, the Mayor of London's office, on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

The team consisting of six year 9 pupils: Bess, Gracie, Rapolas, Daksh, David and Paapa, have been participating in the maths club since year 7 consistently every Tuesday lunchtime.

On the day, to fuel them with energy, they enjoyed pizzas, and then travelled in style by cable car via Emirates Air Line from North Greenwich across to the Royal Docks.



## More Year 9 News .....

After another set of assessments Year 9 have done it again, with another set of great results in their exams— a true reflection of how well they can do when they put their minds to it!

This half term we also had the opportunity to invite parents in to the Academy. It was the first time as an entire year group since Sep 2019 and the first time their Director of Learning, Ms Ahima met them on masse - it was a useful evening for everyone.

Year 9 are now ready to fully step into KS4 and hit the ground running with their GCSEs, with all of the advice from options evening, they can't go wrong. They have a careers day to look forward to as their Conference is on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July** Professionals from multiple sectors will be coming in for speed mentoring sessions and to deliver some workshops around employability. Then they will have the Careers expo in the afternoon where they can gain more information about a range of pathways. It is set to be a fantastic day, setting them up for work experience next year!





# Literacy Corner



**Well done to our new group of year 7 Student Librarians who are now fully trained members of our student librarian team. All of them were awarded their Librarian badges this week.**



**This month in the Learning Resource Centre we are celebrating Pride month and we have also been celebrating the winners of The British Book Awards 2022.**



**We were very excited to receive some new books for both our primary and secondary phases.**





# Literacy Corner



## Book Reviews

This month Sienna-Rose in year 7 reviewed 'Lost' by Eve Ainsworth.



'Lost' is about a boy called Alfie whose mum dies. Alfie feels incredibly lonely until he meets Alice at the school gates and over time they become friends. Both Alfie and Alice have sadness to overcome. Alice moved away from her dad with her mum but her mum's new partner treated them very badly and they kept having to run away from him. Alice and her mum live in a cramped room.

The book is very inspiring and shows the struggles Alfie had to overcome following the death of his mum. Alice helps him with this. Initially when his mum died, Alfie and his dad struggled to get along but they have now reached a good place.

I would definitely recommend this book. The way it is presented is quite unique from the beautiful front cover to the different fonts used to denote the past, when Alfie's mum was alive and the present day. The book is quite slow moving to start with but gradually builds up the tension. This is one of my favourite books so far that I have reviewed.



Henry and Caleb from year 6 reviewed 'The boy who swam with piranhas' by David Almond for KS2.

Stanley is a boy who lives with his uncle. Stanley's uncle is fired from his job and decides to create a fish company in the family home. Stanley's life becomes frantic and hectic and so he decides to leave home. He joins the fair where he meets a man called Pancho who decides to train Stanley to be the boy who swims with piranhas.

We would recommend this book to KS2 children and those children who are very brave. I enjoyed the book and would definitely recommend it as it talks about someone's life and how they feel.

Our combined rating for this book is 3 stars out of 5 stars.



# House Points Update

Week beginning 4/7/22

## Total Achievement Points

1<sup>st</sup> - Teresa: 23287(10pts)  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Mandela: 21983(5pts)  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Romero: 22518 (3pts)

## Attendance:

1<sup>st</sup> – Teresa (10pts)  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Mandela (5pts)  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Romero (3pts)

## Overall House Points

1<sup>st</sup> - **Teresa: 727**  
2<sup>nd</sup> - **Mandela: 726**  
3<sup>rd</sup> - **Romero: 692**

Two weeks left and the house points are really close!

It's been a fantastic year, with so many house competitions and such generous donations to all of our charities. Well done all of you who have taken part and support your house.

It's ALL to play for in this years sports day on the 12th July at Sutcliffe Park!

We would also like to congratulate our new head of houses and perfect team who went through a rigorous application and interview process to secure their places on the pupil leadership team. They have made a fantastic start to their role at the end of Year 10 creating and delivering thought provoking assemblies on discipleship. More on our Leadership next time!

Well done to the following forms for earning the most achievement points for their house!

**7M2 - 109**

**7R1 - 116**



# Going Above and Beyond!

## *Secondary phase: June*

### *Top 5 pupils with the most achievement points*

<b>Year 7</b>	Ademide OYELEYE 7M3 Phoebe MAURER-SMALLEY 7T2 Nana OWUSU-DONKOR 7M3 Racheal ADEDIJI 7M3 Minnesota UJU 7M1 Catherine DUGIN-UMUSU 7T2	<b>Year 8</b>	Pablo SANTOS DO CARMO 8R1 Kaiky LOPES ALEXANDRINO 8R3 Jodelee OWUSU 8R1 Fara YAHIAOUI 8M2 JSavannah ELLIOTT 8M1
<b>Year 9</b>	Shameemah TANAGIDAH 9T1 Hillary OYENEYIN 9T1 Abigail BEPAT 9R1 Kemahri TAYLOR-BAILEY 9R2 Jamai BROWN 9T1	<b>Year 10</b>	Jallen OWUSU 10R2 Dejahnae DUNBAR 10R1 Joshua NELSON 10R2 Jamall MORRISON 10M1 Ayomide MAKOYAWO 10R1 David RIVERA 10R2

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



# Staff Stars

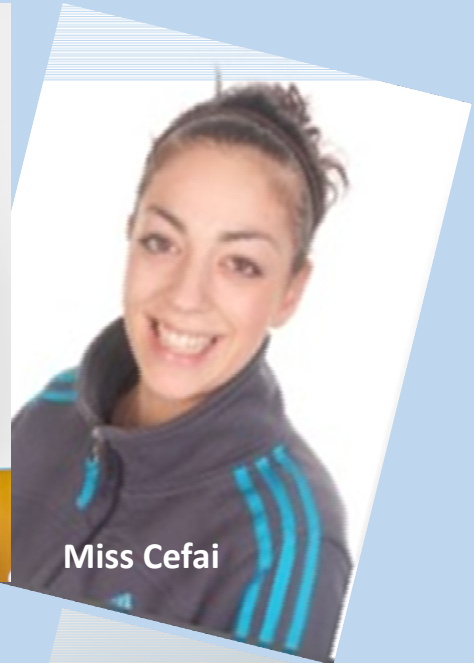
Introducing our staff stars nominated by their colleagues...



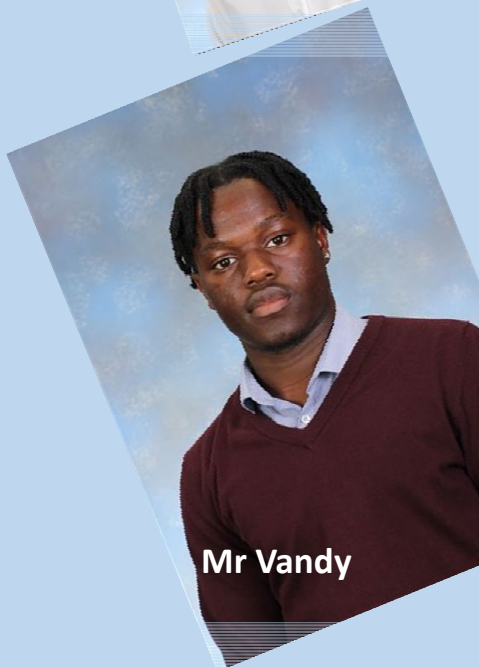
**Jane Stephenson**



**Miss Chick**



**Miss Cefai**



**Mr Vandy**



**Miss Barallon**



**Mr Szwejkowski**



**Staff Stars**





ST MATTHEW  
ACADEMY  
Let your light shine



# *StMA Multicultural Street Party, Summer 2022*

Friday 8th July, 3:00-5:30pm



- Food stalls
- Gift Shop
- Pre-loved uniform available
- Games
- Bouncy Castle
- Ice Cream Van
- Performance poetry
- Dance
- Music
- Face painting
- Henna
- And much, much more!

All welcome!

All money raised for school charities, pupil enrichment i.e. theatre trips and school journey etc.







We are Lewisham Mental Health Support Team (MHST) and we work within your school to support emotional wellbeing and mental health. Our focus is on early intervention, prevention and promotion which means supporting everyone to understand how to look after their mental health and wellbeing, as well as addressing difficulties as soon as they begin. Some of the things we help with are:

- Feeling sad or numb
- Anxiety or fears
- Friendship difficulties
- Managing emotions
- Dealing with change
- Not going to school

For further information on the type of support we offer as well as how best to contact our team please visit [www.slam.nhs.uk/mhst-home](http://www.slam.nhs.uk/mhst-home)

# Safeguarding our pupils at St Matthew Academy

At St Matthew Academy our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mr Young supported by Mrs Wickliffe (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

### Autumn Term 21/22

**Friday 3 September 2020 to Friday 22 October 2021**

**Half Term: Monday 25 October 2020 to Friday 29 October 2021**

**Monday 1 November to Friday 17 December 2021**

### Spring Term 21/22

**Tuesday 4 January 2022 to Friday 11 February 2022**

**Half Term: Monday 14 February 2022 to Friday 18 February 2022**

**Monday 21 February 2022 to Friday 1 April 2022**

### Summer Term 21/22

**Tuesday 19 April 2022 to Friday 27 May 2022**

**Half Term: Monday 30 May 2022 to Friday 3 June 2022**

**Monday 6 June 2022 to Thursday 21 July 2022**

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)