St Matthew Academy

St Joseph's Vale, Blackheath, London SE3 0XX Headteacher: Ms Miranda Baldwin Head of Primary: Ms Joanna Chick



1 April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is my pleasure to be writing to you at the end of a very busy and productive term for Year 9. This half term, Year 9 have participated in so many things to showcase their talents.

Year 9 News

The partnership with Trinity Laban has enabled our pupils to perform at Blackheath Halls as part of the Lewisham borough of culture. The performance was absolutely fantastic, although it wasn't a competition, I truly believe the SMA dance group were the best!

As you know, many of the pupils in Year 9 are involved in our school production of Madagascar. I've had a sneak preview of the talent this year group holds, and all I can say is get your tickets and invite all family and friends to see.

The Careers programme has begun to be a focus within the year group and we have had the Construction Youth Trust (CYT) coming in to deliver a talk and panel regarding apprenticeships. Pupils have also engaged with careers in engineering workshops. We have hopes to continue this in anticipation of their GCSE's with apprenticeship workshops, creative careers seminars and much more in the summer term.

Finally, it is my pleasure to share that Year 9 have been part of our academy effort to raise money for those experiencing conflict in Ukraine. Through the events held at the academy, we managed to raise over £2000. We have also spent the last days of term raising money for CAFOD by doing a walk 'against hunger', totalling just under of 4 kilometres to Greenwich Park and back to school. I would like to thank you once again, for your generosity and support.

Punctuality and Attendance

As a year group, we are really focusing on the quality of homework set, completion of homework and punctuality to school. Year 9 have made an improvement in these key areas of school life and we would like your support to ensure that this continues. Pupils know that they're expected to be present at the Year 9 line up by 8.37am. The following table outlines pupils who have had 100% attendance and punctuality thus far this term. I would love to see this list quadruple by next half term. Congratulations to the following pupils:

| Name | Tutor Group |
|------------------|-------------|
| Andrew Martin | 9M2 |
| Abidah Onigbanjo | 9R2 |
| Antony Zefi | 9R2 |
| Tianna Fogarty | 9T2 |
| Sara Khan | 9T3 |
| Cassel Chambers | 9T3 |
| Huray Tesfay | 9T3 |

Celebration of Achievement

I am delighted to congratulate the following pupils for earning their silver badges.

| Name | Tutor Group |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Shameemah Tanagidah | 9T1 |
| Mark Koutchedi | 9M1 |
| Subhan Domach | 9T1 |



Key Dates

Please see upcoming key dates for the coming term below:

| Date | Event |
|--|--|
| Tuesday 19 th April 2022 | Summer Term begins – Return to school date |
| Monday 2 nd May 2022 | Bank Holiday |
| Tuesday 3 rd May 2022 | Year 9 Rank examinations |
| 30 th May – 3 rd June 2022 | May Half Term |
| Thursday 9 June 2022 | Options evening |

As I have said to the pupils on many occasions, I am very proud of their maturity and development this academic year. They have been so focused and conscientious thus far. As we enter the final term, I ask that as well as congratulating your children, that you encourage them to continue in this rich vein of form.

I wish you a very restful and blessed Easter and look forward to celebrating with you and your children once again.

Yours faithfully,

R. Wanza

Mr R Wanza

Assistant Headteacher

Miss I Ahima

Director of Learning Year 9