

St Matthew Academy

St Joseph's Vale, Blackheath, London SE3 0XX

Headteacher: Ms Miranda Baldwin

Head of Primary: Ms Joanna Chick



28 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We have reached the end of another very busy half term for Year 8. The pupils and school have so much to be proud of, not least the resilience and fortitude that the children continue to exhibit in what has proved to be a really challenging year. With one more, busy half term to go, I would like to share with you some important information as well as some moments from the last few weeks.

While some of our pupils observed the month of Ramadan through fasting and prayer, the entire Y8 cohort used this opportunity to support their peers by exhibiting generosity. All pupils were asked to bring one non-perishable item to donate to Lewisham food bank. The pupils and staff were very grateful.

The Key Stage 3 Debate Mate team have been phenomenal! Their hard work and dedication has paid off this term, as they made it to the Regional finals! In such unusual circumstances, this is no small feat.

Our Light Bearers have been very busy and contributed to a beautiful Pentecost assembly celebration this week, to celebrate the Holy Spirit resting on the followers of Jesus. They were very comfortable presenting to the entire academy via Zoom, and as usual – they let their lights shine!

A very special shout out to the following pupils who have 'gone above and beyond' so far this academic year in demonstrating our values of kindness, respect, honesty, understanding and helpfulness: Sylvia, Mohamed, Abigail, Cassel, Samuel, Hanako, Luxmy, Tianna, Bess, Andrew, Tamira, Fatima, David, Akshayan, Natalia, Resma and Kemahri. Also, to the 65 pupils in Year 8 with 100% attendance since our return on the 8th of March!

We are now looking forward to the final half term of this academic year and Year 8 ranking exams await them on the other side of the holiday. Year 8 know that all we require from them is their very best effort. We wish all the pupils luck and look forward to celebrating with them when they receive their results.

Key Dates:

- **Monday, 7th June - Friday, 11th June** - Year 8 ranking exams
- **Tuesday, 8th June** - Early closure for staff training 1.50pm
- **Thursday, 17th June** - Year 11 Performing Arts Showcase 6.00pm
- **Tuesday, 13th July** - Madagascar performance 6.00-8.00pm
- **Wednesday, 21st July** - School closes for the summer holidays at 12.00pm

We ask that you put these dates into your diaries, enjoy the coming week and make sure that your children prepare thoroughly for their upcoming exams. We will report the results to you as soon as all the data is in but in the meantime stay safe and we will see you in June.

Yours faithfully

Mr I Gunningham
Assistant Headteacher

Ms I Ahima
Director of Learning