

St Matthew Academy

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

Headteacher: Ms Miranda Baldwin

Head of Primary: Ms Joanna Chick



25 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Primary are celebrating our first full two weeks back in school and already we are really proud of how hard our children are working. It has been a busy and exciting start to the new academic year with many outstanding learning experiences taking place.



Our reception children have all settled in well and are really enjoying the immersive outside area; planting flowers, cooking in the kitchen, dressing up and construction are just some of the activities that they love to do.

Throughout Primary, our teachers are working extremely hard to ensure that lessons promote awe and wonder and ignite the children's passion for learning. In Year 4, children dressed up as Romans and spent a day in the life of a Roman to really enthuse them in their new topic. Cave painting and foraging in the Forest School for Year 3 gave them a great understanding of how people lived during the Stone Age.



Year 5 and 6 have been focusing on their literacy skills and embedding their learning through many practical sessions incorporating role play, generating vocabulary by exploring their senses in the Forest School and debate. The Year 6s can even tell you whether Socrates' death was caused by events in his professional or personal life – an introduction to their new topic of the Greeks.



It was delightful to see all of our Year 1 children arriving at school in their pyjamas to immerse themselves in a day of activities based on the book, 'Peace at last'. Year 2 have been carrying out practical science investigations linked to their topic of Night and Day.

On Monday 21st September, the whole Academy celebrated the feast of St Matthew with a day dedicated to focusing on how we can support each other as a community. Each class had a session in the Forest School to listen to the story of St Matthew and reflect, as well as taking part in a whole Academy liturgy.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents and carers for their continued support during this difficult time and remind parents of the new procedures we have had to put in place.

Breakfast Club

All children who attend Breakfast Club must be on site between 7.30 -7.45am to be met at the main gate by a member of our staff. Any queries regarding this provision can be emailed to: info@stmatthewacademy.co.uk.

☎ : 0208 853 6250 ✉ : info@stmatthewacademy.co.uk 🌐 : www.stmatthewacademy.co.uk 🐦 : @stmattacad

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Successful, confident learners High expectations, outstanding achievements Inclusive, caring, Catholic community Nurturing talent, cultivating ambition Excellence for all

Drop off and collection

Can I remind all parents that if they are dropping their children off at the primary gate, they must follow the arrows and walk on the pavement alongside the building and exit between the yellow tram lines in the car park, following the yellow arrows. Please accompany younger children through the car park and do not allow them to run around the cars. **If children have siblings in other year groups please drop them all off at the earlier start time and pick them all up at the later time.**

Secondary siblings

Please inform the class teacher via email if your child is to be picked up later by a secondary sibling. We need to be able to track those children that are picked up late.

Contact details

Please email info@stmatthewacademy.co.uk if your contact details need updating. In line with safeguarding and in the event of a lockdown, we need to have current telephone numbers and email addresses for all of our parents.

Interventions/after school clubs

All interventions and after school clubs begin on Monday 28th September. You have been notified by letter detailing the after school interventions your child has been invited to attend. You have also been asked to sign up for any after school clubs that are on offer for your child's bubble. After school clubs are to be paid for using parentpay. Please ensure that children are picked up from all after school activities at the correct time. If you have any questions please contact the class teacher.

I appreciate your support in working with us to create a safe and systematic environment.

Yours faithfully



Ms J Chick
Head of Primary Phase