

# St Matthew Academy

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

Headteacher: Ms Miranda Baldwin

Head of Primary: Ms Joanna Chick



23 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable half term spent with your families.

I want to take this opportunity to express my immense gratitude to you all for your continued support with your child/children's online learning over the last half term. The fabulous videos, photos and examples of the children's outstanding work that you have sent in, have been a daily highlight for me. I fully appreciate that this has been no easy task and do not envy parents that are juggling remote learning, whilst still having to work from home.

Thank you to all our parents and pupils who completed our online survey regarding our remote learning provision. The feedback, overall was very positive and I would like to share with you some responses:

'SMA is doing a great job! Thank you to my child's teacher and the whole team at SMA.' EYFS parent

'I am really happy with the teacher's efforts and they give their best to produce interesting lessons and activities.' KS2 parent

'The teacher is doing a fantastic job supporting the children during this difficult time. My son is enjoying the tasks that he is given daily and feels even more motivated to complete them when he sees the feedback from his teacher.' KS1 parent

We have taken on board all of your comments and our dedicated staff will endeavour to ensure that the learning experience we provide for our children is of the highest quality. As a result of the feedback, we are now conducting weekly class well-being sessions via Zoom and aim to increase the number of sessions until the children fully return.

Although the Academy has not been operating as usual, we are proud of the successes that we have achieved despite the lockdown, these are showcased on our website and Twitter – remote PSHCE Day, Lent Liturgy, Awesome Avocado Awards to name but a few.

This half term we are really looking forward to World Book Day on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March and have lots of fun activities – virtual theatre performance, author visits, storytelling, planned for the children. I will send out the full details and timetable for this event on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

I am sure that you are all aware of the government announcement yesterday informing us all that schools are open to all pupils from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Once we have reviewed and clarified our plans, I will be writing to you with the arrangements for ensuring our pupils return in a safe manner on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

We all look forward to seeing all our children return to school and I know that our staff cannot wait to start teaching face to face lessons.

I feel privileged to be part of such a supportive SMA community and the last half term has illustrated how children, staff and parents have all come together.

Yours faithfully



**Ms. J Chick**  
**Head of Primary**

