

St Matthew Academy

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

Headteacher: Ms Miranda Baldwin

Head of Primary: Ms Joanna Chick



28th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We have come to the end of another successful term at SMA, not only in the classroom but also with the wealth of activities, sports fixtures, charity and careers events and trips and visits. Today our pupils have all attended an Easter Liturgy where many sang with joy and enthusiasm and our primary pupils have been excited all day about the Easter Bonnet parade. I would like to say a well-done and good luck to all of our Year 6 and Year 10 & 11 pupils who are working extremely hard preparing for their SATs and GCSE examinations which are only a matter of weeks away! Many of them will be in school for some of their holiday taking advantage of the extra sessions their teachers are providing for them - so huge thanks to the teachers too!

It has been good to meet so many of our parents and carers and events on site this term including a number of parent's evenings. We welcome your feedback at these events and always endeavour to improve on present best. We also ask you to complete a parent questionnaire after the event that gives you an opportunity to answer Ofsted based questions regarding the offer and experience you and your child receive at SMA. The outcomes from these surveys are found in the table below. Our aim is to provide your children with a happy, safe and purposeful learning environment where they can flourish and the data indicates that almost all of you believe this to be true. The main area for improvement is where parents and carers raise concerns as some of you feel these concerns are not dealt with properly. In order to address this can I please ask that if you do have a concern you email info@stmatthewacademy.co.uk . This email box is monitored closely and enables us to track concerns raised and ensure the correct person is asked to deal with it. If you email staff members directly then we are unable to log the issues and track responses. I understand that phoning school can sometimes be easier but most staff at the academy are in classrooms all day and do not have direct access to a phone so email is always the preferred approach.

Questions	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Primary
	Responses 46	Responses 51	Responses 52	Responses 42	Responses 23	Responses 39
My child is happy at this school	100%	98%	92%	88%	95%	100%
My child feels safe at this school	96%	94%	92%	91%	95%	100%
The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	92%	90%	88%	88%	100%	95%
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	94%	68%	75%	71%	81%	90%
When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly	67%	76%	77%	64%	86%	89%
The school supports my child's personal development	87%	84%	86%	81%	95%	97%
This school has high expectations for my child	91%	96%	90%	93%	100%	97%
My child does well at this school	100%	92%	84%	93%	95%	97%
The school lets me know how my child is doing	93%	90%	90%	83%	95%	100%
There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school	96%	98%	89%	98%	90%	100%
My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school	100%	100%	94%	91%	95%	97%
The Academy is welcoming to pupils of other faiths or no faith	87%	90%	96%	88%	91%	100%
Pupils benefit from the Catholic ethos of the school	82%	82%	73%	74%	76%	90%
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Primary
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
My child has been bullied at this school	9%	12%	30%	12%	13%	11%
If yes, the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	56%	59%	75%	57%	50%	100%
I would recommend this school to another parent	91%	92%	90%	91%	100%	100%

I encourage you to take some time during the upcoming break to rest, rejuvenate, and spend quality time with your loved ones. The Spring Term has been a busy one, and both pupils, parents and carers alike deserve a well-earned break. Thank you once again for your continued support and partnership. Together, we will continue to empower our pupils to *Let Their Light Shine* and make a positive difference in the world.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable break. School begins on Monday 15th April for all pupils. I have attached a list of important dates when we return.

Yours faithfully



Ms M Baldwin
Headteacher

Date	Key Events
Tuesday 16 th to Friday 19 th April	Year 7 Assessment Week
Thursday 18 th April	Year 11 Targeted Parents Evening
Thursday 25 th April	Year 2 Retreat
Thursday 2 nd May	Year 8 Curriculum Evening
Thursday 2 nd May	GCSE Examinations begin
Thursday 9 th May	Whole school Feast of Ascension Mass
Mon 13 th to Fri 17 th May	Year 9 Assessment Week
Monday 13 th May	SATs begin
Thursday 16 th May	Year 7 Parents Evening
Thursday 23 rd May	Year 3 Retreat
Monday 27 th to Friday 31 st May	Half term
Thursday 6 th June	Year 9 Options Evening
Friday 14 th June	SMA Oscars
Monday 24 th June	Year 10 Assessment Week
Friday 28 th June	Year 11 Prom
Friday 28 th June	Year 5 overnight camping
Tuesday 2 nd and Wednesday 3 rd July	Reception to Year 5 Parents Evening
Wednesday 4 th July	Secondary Sports Day
Tuesday 9 th July	Primary Sports Day
Thursday 11 th July	Awards Evening and Summer Concert
Friday 12 th July	Year 6 Prom
Thursday 18 th July	Summer Celebration