

St Matthew Academy

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

Headteacher: Ms Miranda Baldwin

Head of Primary: Ms Joanna Chick



19 December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the first term, I would like to thank you and your child for all your hard work. As you will by now be aware, Ofsted visited St Matthew Academy in October and as a result, our Ofsted grading is now 'Good,' an outcome of which we can all be very proud.

Sadly, over the last half term, our Year 7 Director of Learning Ms Ntoko has been unwell and I have been leading the Year Group. I am pleased to inform you that in January, there will be a new Director of Learning for Year 7, Ms Ahima. As the attached member of SLT for Year 7, I will continue to work closely with the Year 7 team and will also be supporting Ms Ahima as she takes on her new role at SMA. Having already met Ms Ahima, I know that she is hugely excited about joining us in the New Year and I'm sure you will join with me in extending a warm SMA welcome to her!

I am very proud of all the pupils in Year 7 who have adapted so well to life at 'big school' - we all have so much to celebrate this Christmas. Many pupils have received awards for their approach to learning and their daily support of our SMA Values. Pupils have also had many new experiences including those provided through our extra-curricular programme. Highlights of the first term include:

- Open Evening
- School trips and visits
- The first set of ranking exams
- Inter-House competitions
- Personal Development Day
- Rewards assemblies
- Charity drives
- Performing Arts performances and showcase

Notices

Health and Safety/Uniform

All pupils who attend St Matthew Academy have been issued with an identification card, which pupils must wear on a lanyard. This is part of the Academy uniform and I expect pupils to wear the lanyard at all times throughout the school day. Damaged or lost lanyards/I.D cards can be purchased via Parent Pay. I would be grateful if parents/carers would support the school in ensuring your child is fully equipped for the school day, punctual to school and in full school uniform.

Behaviour Policy

The Academy has made some changes to its behaviour policy, which will be implemented next term. Pupils receiving two or more behaviour points in a day will subsequently receive a 90-minute sanction. Pupils arriving between 8.37am and 8.50am will receive a 20-minute sanction. Any pupil arriving later than 8.50am will have a 90-minute sanction. Four behaviour points in a week will result in a SLT Saturday sanction. We hope you will

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support the school in the change to the behaviour policy as the school continues to strive for excellence in pupil achievement and behaviour.

Early closure

The Academy will close 12.00 noon tomorrow, Friday 20th December 2019 and reopen for pupils on Tuesday 7th January 2020.

May I now wish you all a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year on behalf of everyone at SMA. We look forward to seeing all in 2020.

Yours faithfully

Mr Gunningham
Assistant Headteacher

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