

## **Chaplaincy update July 2017**

The inclusive, caring, Catholic ethos of the Academy is owned by all its members. The Catholic faith of pupils and exploration of other faiths within the academy and wider community, is developed through the work of the Chaplaincy Team and RE department. These are demonstrated by way of an engaging curriculum, insightful prayer and focussed events; which include the regular celebrations of masses and services, thus facilitating the development of spirituality and faith throughout our Academy.

Our enthusiastic, dynamic and highly motivated Chaplaincy Team are responsible for all chaplaincy requirements in our school. Each member is responsible for a key area; Charity, Liturgy, Retreats and Whole School Chaplaincy Lead.

The Chaplaincy Team offers 'open door' pastoral support to pupils and staff across the Academy.

Moreover, the Chaplaincy Team provides a listening ear and a presence outside the normal constraints of timetables and schedules. Chaplaincy exists to help guide St Matthew Academy towards reaching its fullest potential as a Catholic school; this includes not only providing a presence but also bearing witness to the place of Christ in a modern education system.

St Matthew Academy endeavours to live out its Christian values by serving others. The academy is committed to supporting the University College Lewisham Hospital's Children's ward. Our love and support also extends to other local, national and global causes.

### **Chaplaincy Team Activities**

Daily Prayer and reflection in the Prayer Room

Primary Assembly Mass every half-term

Celebration of whole school masses and services in

GREAT Time Reflection throughout the week: Gospel Reflection Equals Action Today and resources to accompany

All Souls 'Remembrance' activities in the Prayer Room every November

Advent, Lent and Easter 'Prayer Stations' in the Prayer Room

Ash Wednesday Whole School Service

Month of Mary Poster Project – alternate years in May

Mini Vinnies youth group in conjunction with SVP

Social skills groups

Working with pupils in the classroom settings to develop their understanding of RE and their faith