

WELCOME

Welcome to you all - families who are returning to St Matthew's, and families who are joining us for the first time this academic year! I hope you have all had a restful summer and I look forward to working with you all in partnership this academic year. On behalf of the staff team, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your many cards, gifts and kind messages at the end of last term, they were all gratefully received.

It has been a wonderful start to the new school year today with lots of exciting activities taking place in every class. Class teachers are sending welcome letters home today with information about various arrangements for each year group and Curriculum Overviews for this term (Term 1) will be sent home later this week. Our Parent Information Pack has been updated and is available on our [school website here](#). This is a helpful summary of school procedures and arrangements so please do take a moment to have a read of this in preparation for the new academic year. We are delighted to welcome three new members of staff to our team this year - Miss Selina Atwal (Year 1 and Early Years Coordinator),

Miss Catherine Brady (Year 2) and Mrs Sarah Dearlove (Music Teacher). A full staff list is available in the Parent Information Pack and on the school website.

We are delighted that it has been possible to begin works to the Early Years during the summer holidays. Improvements to the congestion and noise in Early Years had been raised in recent Parent Questionnaires, so it is wonderful to be able to report some developments with this. The Reception class has now moved from upstairs in Early Years to the old Year 1 classroom, and the toilets are being refurbished, expanded and remodeled. All children in Early Years now have direct access to an outside area throughout the school day. The building work is not yet complete and so we expect work to continue until the end of September; but it will be worth the wait!



Rachel Jewitt -



Headteacher



DIARY DATES

Thursday 5th September - Coffee Morning, 9am, School Hall. All parents welcome.

Friday 6th September - Celebration Worship, 2.50pm, School Hall. Parents should be at the black gates on St Ann's Lane by 2.45pm. Unfortunately, once Celebration Worship has begun it is not possible to let in late arrivals.

Thursday 12th September - Meeting for Year 6 parents and carers regarding Secondary Transfer at 3.40pm, Year 6 Classroom.

w/b Monday 23rd September - School led after school clubs begin. More information will be sent out to parents next week.

*2019-2020 Term Dates are on page 2 of this newsletter and on the school website. Please note the government's alteration of the May Bank Holiday - now Friday 8th May. School for all children as normal on **Monday 4th May 2020**.*

ARBOR

Please do ensure that the contact details we hold for you (and any other contacts for your child) are up to date as well as information about medical needs and allergies. It is the responsibility of parents to check that any medication held in school is up to date (eg asthma pumps, epi-pens). Please do contact the school office if you have any changes to make with regards to your child's record.

SCHOOL LUNCH

School lunch is now £2.10 a day and payments should be made in advance on ParentPay.

SHINE AT ST MATTHEW'S

At the end of the summer term, Mrs Jewitt spoke to the whole school about our Christian Values. All of the children had an opportunity to contribute to the Christian Values that they thought best suited our school vision:

“You are the light of the world”

BELONGING | BELIEVING | ACHIEVING

Koinonia	Humility	Wisdom
Compassion	Trust	Thankfulness
Creation	Peace	Endurance
Forgiveness	Hope	Service

We all try to live out our school vision each day and focus on a different value each week. This week we are focussing on **koinonia** (community).

2019-2020 TERM DATES

**Please note the government's alteration of May Bank Holiday - it is now Friday 8th May. School for all children as normal on Monday 4th May 2020.*

Term 1 (33 days)

Wednesday 4th September 2019 - Friday 18th October 2019

INSET Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September

Term 2 (39 days)

Monday 28th October 2019 – Thursday 19th December 2019

Term 3 (30 days)

Monday 6th January 2020 – Friday 14th February 2020

Term 4 (30 days)

Monday 24th February 2020 – Friday 3rd April 2020

Term 5 (24 days)

Monday 20th April 2020 – Friday 22nd May 2020

*BANK HOLIDAY – ~~Monday 4th May~~ Friday 8th May**

Term 6 (34 days)

Tuesday 2nd June 2020 – Friday 17th July 2020

INSET Monday 1st June

INSET Monday 20th July

INSET Tuesday 21st July

**Absences for travel or holidays during term time are not authorised.
Please check school term dates before booking any flights or making
travel arrangements.**