



Welcome

We'd like to say a huge welcome back to all our families and staff. We hope you had a really lovely summer, with lots of resting and relaxing. The children have been telling us about the many wonderful experiences they've had. We'd also like to say thank you for all the kind messages of support and the lovely cards and gifts at the end of the Summer Term. We are all looking forward to a fabulous Autumn Term!



Upcoming Events September 2026

- Tuesday 15th September Year 6 Transition Meeting 3.45pm
- Celebration Collective Worship is held every Friday. All parents/carers are warmly invited. Please be in the alley at 2.50pm.
- Monday 21st September St Matthew's Day
- School Council Elections
- House & Vice Captain Elections
- Autumn Colours Celebration (details to follow)
- Autumn Movie Night (details to follow)

October 2026

- Black History Month Celebrations

School Council

We have our School Council elections coming up very soon and Miss Brady has written to parents/carers. The children have been given an application form which should be completed and brought in to school by Friday 18th September. Children will have the opportunity to read their application to their peers and then every pupil will vote for one boy and one girl to represent their class.



St Matthew's School Choir

Our wonderful school choir started this Tuesday, led by Mr Will Bruce who is the Artistic Director of Choral Partnerships at St Paul's Cathedral. Mr Bruce leads the music partnership sharing sacred music with schools and communities across London. During the Autumn Term the choir sings at many special places including the Department for Education, the Home Office and the DfE Carol Service. If you would like your KS2 child to join, please email the school office.

Please ensure that your child is in school on time each day. The school gates open 08:45.

LATENESS = LOST LEARNING

(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to **Year 1, 2 and 6** for the best attendance (100%)!

Last week's attendance in each class:

Year 1 100%	Year 2 100%
Year 3 97%	Year 4 91%
Year 5 96%	Year 6 100%

Wouldn't it be wonderful if every class hit 100%!



Music of the Week

Aretha Franklin 1942 : 2018

Say A Little Prayer For Me

Aretha Louise Franklin was an American singer, songwriter and pianist. Also known as the Queen of Soul, Aretha worked tirelessly as an activist against racism.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QelVRnXnqYo>



Year 7

We've had lots of visits from last year's Year 6 pupils. As you can see, they're settling in very well to Year 7 and embracing the challenges of secondary school. We send them all our St Matthew's best wishes for the future and we look forward to hearing about all their achievements in the years to come.



House & Vice Captain Elections

We also have our very exciting House Elections coming up. We're looking forward to hearing how the children in Abbey, Buckingham, Horse Guards and Whitehall can further build on our school motto of Belonging, Believing & Achieving. Our houses allow our children to continue to build on their teamwork and their sense of equality and community.

Blessing Backpacks

Please see this special message from St Stephen's Church.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Start the new school year with courage, kindness, and a joyful blessing. Join us as we pray for everyone heading back to school — pupils, teachers, and families

SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER AT 10AM
ALL AGES WELCOME — BRING YOUR BACKPACK!

BRING YOUR SCHOOL BAG (AND YOUR FRIENDS!) FOR A SPECIAL SERVICE FILLED WITH HOPE, COMMUNITY, AND CELEBRATION, AS WE ASK FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON THE YEAR AHEAD. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU!

www.sswsj.org

Online Safety

As we know, all of our children deserve to be, and feel, safe online. There are so many wonderful opportunities but we know there are also risks. So it's crucial that we do all that we can to keep children safe online.

Internet Safety Rules

- 1 I WILL NEVER USE COMPUTERS OR PHONES TO BE MEAN TO OTHER PEOPLE.
- 2 I WILL TELL AN ADULT IF I SEE OR HEAR SOMETHING I DON'T LIKE.
- 3 I WILL BE CAREFUL WITH WHAT INFORMATION I SHARE ON THE INTERNET.
- 4 I WILL NEVER PUT ANY RUDE WORDS, PHOTOS OR VIDEOS ON THE INTERNET.
- 5 I WILL KEEP MY PASSWORDS AND LOGIN DETAILS SECRET.
- 6 I WILL ONLY TALK TO PEOPLE I DEFINITELY KNOW ON THE INTERNET.