



St. Matthew's
Roman Catholic High School
VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

St. Matthew's RCHS Newsletter

Round Up

Week 33 - Friday 09 June 2023
Confidential

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope this message finds you well and that you had a restful and enjoyable half term break. As we welcome all our students back to school, we would like to take a moment to recognise the exceptional resilience displayed by our Year 11 students during their ongoing exams. We are immensely proud of their dedication and effort throughout these challenging weeks. So much is at stake through the exams system but I can assure you that I have been impressed with the cohort overall in my first few weeks in school.

I also wanted to inform you about some recent improvements we have made to enhance security on our school premises. In our continuous commitment to ensuring the safety of our students and staff, we have installed new fencing and added magnetic locks to the ground floor doors. These measures will provide an additional layer of security and peace of mind for everyone in our school community. This work will continue over the next few months to ensure that our premises are as secure as they can be.

Furthermore, we have been actively engaging with our students to reinforce the importance of maintaining high standards. We have discussed the significance of adhering to the school uniform policy, being well-equipped for classes, and cultivating a positive attitude towards learning. These conversations are part of our broader efforts to raise standards across the school and create a conducive environment for academic growth.

As parents, your partnership is invaluable in supporting our students' progress and success. We encourage you to continue reinforcing these messages at home, emphasising the importance of punctuality, organisation, and a strong work ethic. By working together, we can provide our students with the best possible foundation for their future endeavours.

We look forward to the remainder of the academic year and the opportunities it brings for our students to learn, grow, and achieve their full potential. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

God bless



Highlights of the week

Year 11 - Student Shout Out

A huge well done to all our year 11 students who have attended promptly, and smartly to sit their GCSE's, their behaviour during the examinations has been outstanding. We are extremely proud of all our students and they should each feel very proud too.



Year 10

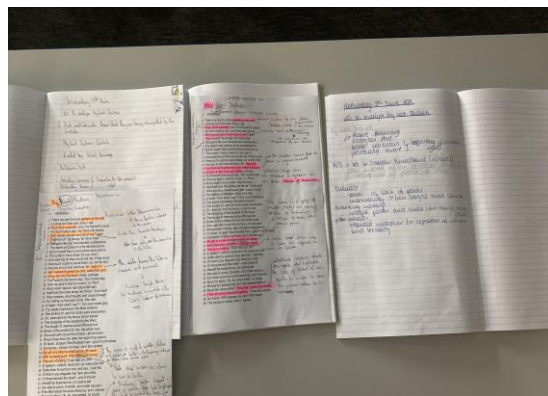
Year 10 Top Achievers

Wilson
Kayla
Jessica
Shiven
Marissa
Chana
Jia Xin
Micaela
Filip
Gift

Attendance

Year 10 Highest Attending Form

This week, 26 students achieved 100% attendance in year 10, lets aim for higher next week



Fabulous dedication shown towards revision for mocks this week, well done to 10Y1!

Fantastic Year 10 attendance at English Lesson 6 this week, with Miss Alexander, Miss Stephenson, Mrs Taylor and Miss Rayson





Highlights of the week

Year 9

Year 9 Top Achievers

Abeeha

Ollie

Shekinah

Meya

Daniella

Attendance

Year 9

Highest Attending Form
9AMi
with 93%

This week, 22 students
achieved 100%
attendance in year 9, lets
aim for higher next week

Year 8

Highest Attending Form
8RSK
With 95.26%

This week, 22 students
achieved 100% attendance
in year 8, lets aim for
higher next week

Year 8

Year 8 Top Achievers

Beyonce

Minahil

Loredana

Alicia

Talbiyah



Drama, Drama, Everywhere

Yet another productive and
very well executed drama
lesson; always enjoyed by
our Year 8's.

Well done to Kai in Year 8 who has been selected to represent Manchester, in the long jump, at the Greater Manchester Athletics Competition.

Everyone at St. Matthew's and in Year 8 wishes you the very best of luck!

Great to see our Year 8 students enjoying more Art & Craft activities this week.





Highlights of The Week

Year 7 Top Achievers

Rean
Ava
Harry
Rodrigo
Hailey

Attendance

Year 7 Highest Attending Form – **7DMO with 94%**

This week, 31 students achieved 100% attendance in year 7, lets aim for higher next week

Yr 7- Amazing poet visit to the Mother Tongue club

The members were mesmerised and captivated by the spoken poetry narrated by Ruth Awolola – she is of Nigerian and Jamaican heritage who works for the Manchester poetry library and curated a workshop surrounding identity and name heritage. We're all super enthusiastic to continue working with the library for our Mother tongue performance and meeting amazing city poets.

Thank you to Miss Prendergast for the support and care leading our fantastic club.



Carol Ann Duffy – an award winning Scottish poet

A definite date for the diary – one not to miss

On Thursday 13th July 2023 Our school has been exclusively invited to perform and meet Carol Ann Duffy for the evening performance – an opportunity Miss Mohamed does not want us to miss.



Highlights of the week

Proud about History



SMQ

Wow!

I feel very humble reading the above. Changing history is what I wanted to do and changing history we did.

20:49

Sharing this really cool message sent to Miss McKechnie for the Y8 class who have been studying empire and slavery and used the TV series Small Axe as a source when studying the Windrush generation. A contact who worked as a producer on the series very kindly passed on some photos of their work to the director Steve McQueen; Just look at the attached message such an icon sent in return. Needless to say the class were overwhelmed with the response.

Chaplaincy Corner



This Weeks Theme

The Environment

Whole School Prayer – each Monday we will be gathering as a whole school community via Google Meet. This will be an opportunity to offer our intentions and prayer together. This week we remembered our Y11s as they continue their examinations.

Staff Prayer - The whole staff body gathers weekly to reflect on various different themes, led each week by a different department. The English department set the standards for this half term, with Miss Cross delivering a beautifully symbolic reflection on 'Wild Flowers'. It reminds us that even in the harshest conditions, wild flowers can grow. It's the turn of the Y10 Pastoral Team to lead next week. We're looking forward to see if they can beat this weeks efforts.

Still to come- class Masses will begin this term, with Y7s. Daily Prayers will continue to be written by our form groups. Thank you to Eti in 8JPR and 7STA who contributed to this week's prayers.



Highlights of the week

Anyone For Cricket?



We have started a KS3 cricket club on a Wednesday 3-4 pm. This week we had a great time out on the field.

Everyone is welcome to join. Meet at PE after school.

AND THERE'S MORE SPORTS NEWS TO COME
Rounders club starts every Tuesday from next week 3-4pm, again students to come to PE after school.

More Drama



Miss O'Brien managed to capture the action during exam rehearsals earlier this week. Brilliant effort and engagement by all. Super proud, well done.

Caring For Each Other

This week saw the first session for our new peer mentors. Pupils from Y7-10 have volunteered to support other pupils with their well-being and mental health. We were absolutely DELIGHTED to receive over 100 applications!!

This speaks volumes about the dedication of our young people and we can't wait to begin the course. Watch this space for more updates!



Leighton supported Brother Mark from the parish St Malachy's in Collyhurst, in building and designing a religious garden inspired by the Stations of the Cross

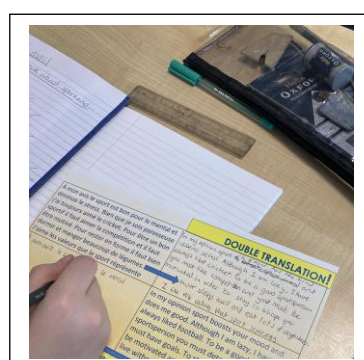




Highlights of the week

Bravo tout le monde!

Lots of great effort and progress in the MFL these last few weeks! With Year 10 pupils having been completing End Of Unit assessments. Year 9 producing excellent work which is of GCSE standard and also enjoying Sentence Stealer speaking activities. Finally not forgetting our French GCSE students who completed their listening, reading and speaking exams ... just the writing exam to go! Here are some pictures of our students from the last week!



The 'Sweetest' Student Apology

What a fabulous apology from a wonderful but chatty year 11 student.

We really are so lucky to be surrounded by such talent!



Setting The Trend....

St Dunstan's Primary recently contacted us following a visit from some of our staff. They wanted to feedback how great our branded HiViz vests look, really generating that team St Matthew's spirit. They liked it so much they asked for the supplier and how we went about arranging them. As they to will be getting team Hi Viz jackets. What a great initiative this has proven to be.

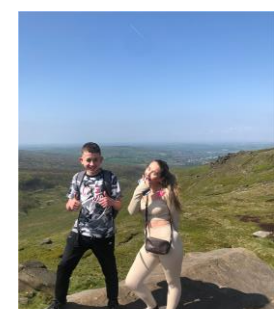
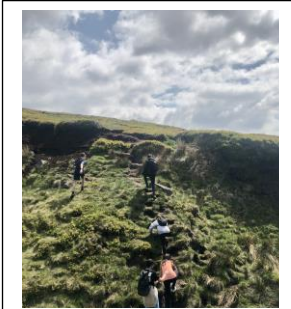
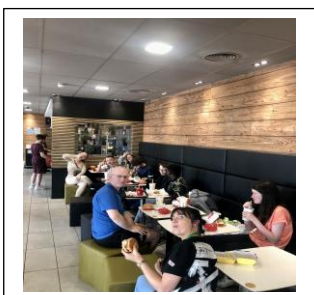
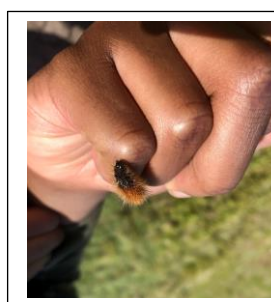


Highlights of the week



Congratulations to our first ever Beehive leaders Kayleigh and Lacey, both the students went through a thorough application and training process going live this term. Our leaders have been fantastic role models to our younger pupils, wearing their leaders' badges with pride and helping with the academic progress of our younger pupils and facilitating teamwork and inclusive games.

Congratulations to our year 10 Beehive students who successfully summited Bleaklow which sits 2076 feet above sea level in the Derbyshire High Peak. Conditions for the climb were perfect and the pupils romped the 6.2 kilometre challenge. Near the summit lies the wreckage of an American B-29 Superfortress reconnaissance aircraft that crashed in 1948, sadly none of the 13 airmen survived. The students prayed at the memorial for the fallen airmen as well as all those that have perished in conflict. The students were respectful and hardworking throughout and were a credit to the school and their families. After their endeavours all the pupils were treated to a McDonalds.





St. Matthew's
Roman Catholic High School
VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Information



Parent Governor Vacancy

Apply now!

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join us on our journey for improvement. If you would like further information or wish to apply, please contact Mrs Gibson, Headteacher's PA on 0161 681 6178 or via contact@smrchs.com



St. Matthew's
Roman Catholic High School
VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



We are Hiring!

Post: Teacher of Geography

Closing Date: Thursday 22 June 2023

Interviews: Thursday 29 June 2023

Application pack and further details are available on the school website. To arrange an informal visit, please contact Mrs Gibson, PA to the Headteacher.

Tel: 0161 681 6178

Email: K.Gibson@smrchs.com



St. Matthew's
Roman Catholic High School
VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



We are Hiring!

Post: Teacher of PE

Closing Date: Friday 23 June 2023

Interviews: Friday 30 June 2023

Application pack and further details are available on the school website. To arrange an informal visit, please contact Mrs Gibson, PA to the Headteacher.

Tel: 0161 681 6178

Email: K.Gibson@smrchs.com





Media Matters

Follow: [St Matthew's RC High School | Facebook](#)

In an effort to grow our Facebook page, I have sent out a link to all parents/ carers which takes you directly to our Facebook page.

Facebook is an online social media platform that has over 2 billion users across the globe. It was initially for university students but soon expanded out and since 2006, anyone over the age of 13 is able to join the platform. It is available on all devices from your desktop and laptop computer to smartphones and tablets. Users can add photos and videos, update their status, interact with others and catch up with the latest news. Despite requiring users to be over 13, there are no age verification measures and children can easily create an account. It's therefore important that parents familiarise themselves with the main features of the platform to ensure their young ones remain safe if and when they use it.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+
Requires the supervision of a parent or legal guardian required.

What parents need to know about FACEBOOK

Add To Story

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Facebook can be hugely addictive as it offers a physiological high and a quick reward cycle which comes from the likes and comments on shared posts. Communication is so instant now that teenagers are always checking, and it can sometimes feel like self-worth. This keeps children going back, encouraging them to post things and also increases the Fear Of Missing Out (FOMO) that is commonplace today. On the flip side, because of the way teenagers interact these days through Facebook and Facebook Messenger, they can seem addicted even when they're not.

CYBERBULLYING

Around a quarter of children have experienced online abuse, according to Ofcom's 2019 'Online Nation' report. Figures show that 23% have been cyberbullied, 39% subjected to abusive language and a fifth have been trolled. On Facebook, teenagers can receive communication in a number of ways, from private messages in Messenger to public comments on profiles, pages and posts to pages or groups set up just to torment a victim. Exclusion from pages or groups to cause the victim to feel left out has also been seen.

FUTURE IMPACT

Regardless of age, anything that's posted on Facebook, or other social media platforms, develops a personal brand and leaves a digital footprint that is there forever. It can be difficult to explain the consequences but many universities (and employers) look at Facebook before making a decision on accepting people. It is therefore wise to always think twice before posting anything online you wouldn't want people to hear or see offline.

STRANGERS/FAKE PROFILES

Generally, people are who they say they are online. That said, much like the real world, Facebook isn't free of malicious users and children have received friend requests from people they don't know, including individuals who may look to take advantage of young and impressionable children.

OVERSHARING

Facebook encourages you to share "what's on your mind" but children need to be aware of what they're revealing about themselves online. Facebook allows users to share their location, create live videos and much more. Some photos can be traced using file data, too, so it's important to keep a tight group and share only with people you know.

INAPPROPRIATE ADS

While Facebook is getting ever stricter on the content of ads and who they are targeted to, there is still the chance that children could be subject to ads during their experience on the platform. This could be innocuous but is worth bearing in mind when using the app.

LIVE STREAMING

Facebook Live provides users with the ability to stream video live-time to their friends and followers or watch other people's broadcasts live. During the video, people can react and comment and it's difficult to moderate the content given everything happens in real-time. This could mean your child is exposed to inappropriate material or worse still, could be coaxed into doing something online by others which they wouldn't normally do.

PRIVATE MESSAGING

Facebook Messenger is closely linked to your Facebook profile and provides the ability to share private messages away from friends and family, it is therefore important that parents ask their children who they are communicating with and ensure that the only people they are exchanging messages with are people that they also know in real life.

Safety Tips For Parents

MAKE PROFILES PRIVATE

Within the settings of a Facebook account, you can choose whether a profile is public or private. Make sure that your child's setting is switched to private. This way they will only be able to interact with friends and people they know within the platform.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Show your children how and why you use Facebook. This will help to demonstrate that it can be used safely when used in an appropriate manner and help to reduce the risk of them encountering harmful content.

SHARE DEVICES

Depending on the age of your children, it's worth considering letting them use Facebook from a general family iPad or laptop. This allows them to use it without being constantly connected everywhere they go and may give you more reassurance around what they are doing on the app.

REPORT VIOLATIONS

On Facebook you're able to hide people or groups and report things that are harmful. Make sure you spend some time to show your children how this works and why it's important to do so before they start spending serious time on the platform.

RESPECT BOUNDARIES

As with anything, there are potential risks and dangers on Facebook but once you've talked about the ideas of safety on the platform, give children some space. Trust them to make smart choices but always be open to talking about social media.

CHECK-IN

Once they've had some time to use the platform, don't be afraid to check in and see if there's anything on Facebook they'd like to discuss. This isn't always easy but being open with your children is the best way to deal with any issues head on.

The school encourages parents and carers to be aware and involved in their child's social media activity and to educate them on safety matters online. Each week in the Parent Round Up we'll be including a safety poster covering all types and aspects of social media. If there is anything you specifically want covering on this subject one week, just shout out.



Did you know.....

We provide Free School Breakfast for all students every school day from 7:45am.

A good breakfast helps with concentration, focus and stimulates the mind. The children can choose from a selection of freshly cooked bagels or a hearty pot of porridge with various syrups.



Why not try it, after all its free

If you think you qualify for Free School Meals, please register online on <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

Students on Free School Meals have an automatic allowance of £2.40 added every day to their account, which covers for a meal deal: main, drink and dessert. At the end of the day any money unspent is taken away and another £2.40 is added the following day. Please note that the free allowance is not shown on Edulink or Parentpay, but is there for you to be used on a daily basis.

Please do not hesitate to contact the finance office if you need any assistance, by emailing ParentPay@smrchs.com



Diary Events

W/B	Event
12 June	
MON	GCSE Exams – English Language Transition Morning – Christ The King
TUES	GCSE Exams – Triple & Combined Science – Chemistry. Spanish - writing
WED	GCSE Exams – Maths, Polish, Portuguese and Music Transition Morning – St Dunstan's Year 7 Boys Basketball – Belle Vue Year 9 Rounders – Parris Wood
THURS	
FRI	GCSE Exams – Triple & Combined Science – Physics. Geography Transition Morning – Mount Carmel Year 7-9 Athletics League - Eastlands