



St. Matthew's
Roman Catholic High School
VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

St. Matthew's RCHS Newsletter

Round Up

Week 30 - Friday 12 May 2023

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to update you on an important event that took place at our school this week. We welcomed Ofsted in for our first monitoring visit over two days this week, and I am pleased to inform you that we are proud of the way our entire school community responded.

As you may know, confidentiality rules prevent us from sharing the outcome of the inspection at this stage as all inspections are subject to Quality Assurance procedures. However, I am delighted to inform you that the inspection team enjoyed their visit and recognised some of the key progress we are making. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, staff, and parents working together to create an environment that fosters growth and excellence.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for the supportive comments submitted on Parent View. Your kind words and positive feedback demonstrate the pride many of you have in our school. Your continued support and involvement play a crucial role in building the confidence and trust we need as we strive to make rapid progress.

In addition to the inspection, I want to assure you that we are fully focused on supporting our Year 11 students during this crucial time as they prepare for their exams. Our dedicated team of teachers and support staff are working diligently to provide them with the necessary resources, guidance, and encouragement to excel academically.

We will keep you updated on the outcome of the inspection as soon as we are permitted to share it. Your trust in our school and its vision is greatly appreciated, and we remain committed to providing the best possible education and opportunities for your children.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and for being valued members of our school community.

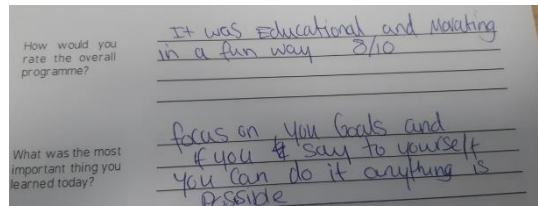
God bless



Highlights of the week...

Elevate Education

Elevate Education delivered a session last week to all Year 10 pupils around the qualities of a high-performing student, including goal setting. Students engaged well and they enjoyed the session. 216/219 students said that they would recommend the session and that it was time well spent. A copy of some student feedback...



Here are 5 of the Year 10 Top achievers this week. Parents were thrilled with the news that they had been recognised for their progress and excellent attitude to learning in lessons. Pupils enjoyed their chocolate treat, postcard and pen. Well done Michael, Alfie, Jacky, Alfie & Bella.



Weekly Focus

Improving uniform standards and pride in the SMRCHS badge

SMRCHS Gazette newspaper club trip to Manchester Museum on Wednesday 10th May was an incredibly successful one! Students from three-year groups enjoyed the opportunity to visit the recently reopened museum and explore the main collection and the Egyptian exhibition. It was also inspiring to walk through the university campus.

Sporting success

Well done to our Year 11 Basketball Team on their emphatic win against St Pauls





Micro Moston update

In art, some Year 7 & Year 8 classes were chosen to work on a community art installation - Micro Moston. We gave each house a theme celebrating the diverse culture of Moston & surrounding areas and decorated them using paint & decoupage. They will be displayed along with many others on Saturday 13th May at Moston Lane Methodist Church Hall with visual projections and enhanced audio.



Good Luck Year 11!

Dear Lord,
As we take our exams, bring back to our minds
everything we have studied and be
gracious with what we have overlooked.

Help us to remain focussed and calm,
confident in the facts and in our ability, and
firm in the knowledge that no matter what
happens today, you are there with us.

Amen

Thank you to all of the parents and families who were able to join us for the Year 11 Leavers' Mass on Wednesday 10th May. The mass was an opportunity for us to celebrate Year 11's time at St Matthew's and to pray for them as they begin their GCSEs. The exams begin on Monday 15th May with R.E. and continue until the end of June. Year 11 pupils have been working extremely hard with the support of their teachers, who have been running holiday and weekend revision, as well as extra lessons before and after school. We send all of our prayers and best wishes to our amazing Class of 2023 and look forward to celebrating their successes on results day, 24th August.

Next weeks exam timetable can be found on the last page of this week's newsletter. Please check the diary weekly in preparation for the following week. Good luck to all our Year 11's

Let's Beat Exam Stress session held for all Year 11 students during form time on Friday. Some really positive feedback from students with some great tips on how to manage stress during their GCSE periods.





Rewards & Recognition

Year 7 took part in a session with Alison Cope, who is a speaker working with GM Crime Reduction Unit. She shared her very important message about her real-life experience and loss, talking about living with the effects of knife crime with our pupils. She also spoke to them about the impact of violent crime and social media discussing how it can have a negative influence of young people but can also be used as a tool to promote knowledge and empower young people to make the right choices. Year 7 were amazing in the session and Alison commented on how mature, respectful and engaged they were.



This week we have been celebrating the success of pupils across the year group. Highlighting attainment, effort, improvement and academic excellence. Rewards and certificates were given those pupils with the highest achievements and improvements and there were 33 pupils who were also invited to a Domino's rewards lunch.



Year 9 have completed RE assessments this week and staff have praised them on their attitude to learning and the ability to take part in a test setting. Well done Year 9!

Chaplaincy Corner

Domino's Dinner - last week three forms have been rewarded for their fundraising efforts for our diocesan charity of Caritas, A special shout out to 10Cra who raised an amazing £15.91 in pennies during the Lenten period. Well done again to all the forms who were rewarded with their Domino's pizza during lunchtime. 8JAC, 9KMO and 10CRA.

Whole School Hail Mary - On Friday 5th May the whole school community read the Hail Mary together via Google Meet. This is a wonderful opportunity of us together as a school and offer our prayers to Mary during the month of May. In particular we thought of our Y11 pupils who are preparing for their GCSE examinations. This will continue once a week during May.

Staff Prayer - The whole staff body gathers weekly to reflect on various different themes, led each week by a different department. This week's Staff Prayer was led by our senior leadership so watch this space and we'll get some reactions in next week's round-up. The RE team will lead on Thursday 18th May, no pressure there then!!

Y11 Leavers Mass - On Wednesday 10th May, Y11 celebrated their leavers Mass, marking the start of the end of their life at St. Matthews. Parents, Staff and Pupils gathered together with the Mass being led by Fr. Andrew Starkie. It was wonderful to have so many Y11s volunteer to take part in the Mass by reading and bringing gift forward during the offertory. We wish our pupils all the best as they begin the examination period, good luck and God bless.





These pictures were taken during some serious competition! All students are welcome to join in and we would welcome any requests for other games that you would like to play, just see your Head of Year.



Well it's been several months in operation and now that its embedded into the structure and ethos of St Matthew's it's time to comment! The GSA (The Gay, Lesbian, Straight, Alliance) has been a resounding success.

The concept of the group was initiated from conversations from the pupils themselves. Their perspective was that there was a lack of acknowledgement throughout the school of pupils identifying with various sexualities. Some pupils identifying as 'straight' were confused by societies various labels and clarification of terminology.

Therefore, the GSA was formed.

The group provides a great facility for friendship and empowerment in a safe, monitored, supported space.

There are drinks and snacks provided and lots of chats, humour and hopefully enlightenment. It has been a pleasure to help facilitate this group.

Long may it continue and here's to a bright and successful collaboration!

Mr Will

Spotlight on success

A huge well done to Shaymaa, Evie and Kayden who have been recognised in the Art department for their outstanding work. Well done!

A huge well done to Jem and Melissa for their focused and detailed Media reports which received the highest marks in the class. Year 9 top achievers. This week, year 8 were rewarded with a special lunch for outstanding effort and engagement. Well deserved



Year 9 top achievers

This week, Daniella, George, Chanel, Nokutenda and Marisa are the highest achievers. Keep up the great work! During lunch breaks, pupils have the opportunity to play card and board games.



These students created a new design for FC United football club, and the club used the designs on their new crest. Fantastic achievement!

Huge well done to Ollie and Leighton for their hard work in Drama this week. Actors in the making!



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Diary Events

W/B 15 May	Event
MON	GCSE Exams – RE, Drama & Italian Pastoral Theme – The importance of exercise and healthy lifestyles
TUES	GCSE Exams – Biology, Combined Science, German (Listening & Reading), BTEC Music
WED	GCSE Exams – English Literature, Turkish (Reading & Listening) & Sports Studies Y8/ 9 Track & Field Championships - Eastlands
THURS	GCSE Exams – History & Chinese (Reading & Listening)
FRI	Maths (Non Calculator, BTEC Health & Social Care & Computer Science PWC Careers Day