



**St. Matthew's**  
Roman Catholic High School  
VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

# St. Matthew's RCHS Newsletter

# Round Up

Week 35—Friday 23 June 2023

Confidential

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

With only 4 weeks of term left to go and so much celebrating of student achievement still to do, I would like to share our delight in the first Ofsted monitoring report, which has recognised the remarkable progress we are making as a school. We are grateful for this acknowledgment, as it reflects the collective efforts of our dedicated students, staff, and supportive parents like you.

However, it is essential to emphasise that this recognition will not lead us to become complacent. On the contrary, it serves as a reminder that we must continue on our rapid improvement journey to build an excellent school for years to come. Achieving this goal requires a significant amount of work in all areas of our school, and we are fully committed to the journey ahead.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the strong partnerships we are forging with you, our parents. Your support and involvement play a pivotal role in our ongoing progress. We value the collaboration between home and school and recognise its vital importance as we continue on this journey of improvement. Should you have any concerns or issues regarding any aspect of the school, I encourage you to share them with us promptly. By addressing concerns directly and swiftly, we can work together to resolve them effectively.

This week, we have been conducting standards and expectation assemblies with all year groups, a process that will continue into next week. These assemblies serve as preparation for the upcoming academic year, during which we will fully enforce the school uniform policy. I am pleased to note that the standard of uniform has significantly improved across the school. However, it is important to ensure that every student understands that key items of the uniform are not optional. We will continue to reinforce this expectation, as a consistent and smart uniform contributes to a positive learning environment.

As we approach the weekend, I hope you and your family have a lovely time together. Thank you once again for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we can continue to create an exceptional educational experience for our students.

God bless

Mr A Nightingale



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## Ofsted UPDATE 2023

I'm delighted to inform you that we can now share the findings of our most recent OFSTED visit in May 2023.

We are thrilled that Ofsted have recognised the continued improvement at St. Matthew's Roman Catholic High School in our mission to become an excellent school at the heart of our community. Thank you for your continued partnership in this transformation.



Mr A Nightingale  
Headteacher

Teachers and leaders have benefitted from subject-specific training to increase their delivering of the curriculum, including the development of pupil's literacy skills

Attendance rates have risen and reducing pupil absence is a key priority

Leaders are working closely with the local authority and this has enabled them to make safeguarding a top priority and ensure that pupils are safe

New, experienced members of the local governing body have been appointed to strengthen leadership capacity

Leaders have made progress to improve the school

Students have confidence in adults to challenge incidents around behaviour

Reading is a high priority

Staff in the Pastoral Team who oversee pupil's welfare is proving successful

Greater emphasis on the provision to promote pupil' personal development

Introduction of clear routines and an increased staff presence around the school building are helping to make the transition between lessons calmer

We Pray · We Care · We Achieve



## Year 10

### Top 10 Achievers

- ◆ Jia Xin
- ◆ Patrick
- ◆ Wilson
- ◆ Kayla
- ◆ Anashe
- ◆ Bon
- ◆ Matthew
- ◆ Ridwan
- ◆ Shiven
- ◆ Olivia

**Sitting pride of place on our frame wall this week.**

Well done to Shayma for this beautiful piece of artwork created for her GCSE.



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Year10 Highest Attending Form 10TEL

Well Done to you all....

McDonalds breakfast scheduled for Monday morning!

**Diary Note:** on Tuesday the interviews for Senior prefects will take place with Miss Bunn, Head Teacher and Miss Lennon.

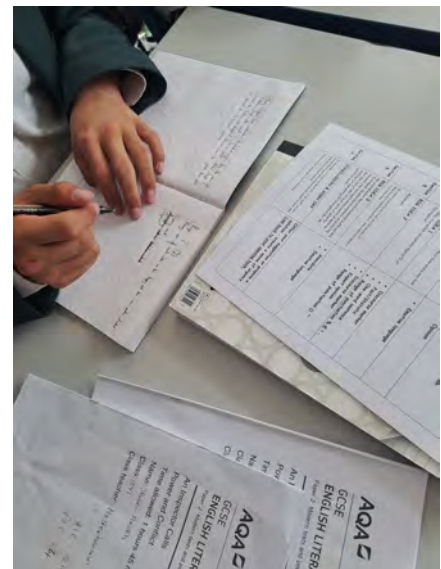
### Our Journey this year....

Year 10 considered what they are thankful for in HT 6...



Positive relationships and friendships  
 A calm climate to learn in  
 Support from teachers, support staff and other students  
 Extra curricular opportunities to shine  
 Opportunities to develop us as people eg leadership  
 The high quality of learning and standards  
 I am thankful to have a space where I feel safe  
 I am grateful that there is always someone here to listen.

Year 10 led staff prayer this week. Our theme was 'Thanksgiving'. As a year group we reflected on Psalm 23 and what we are thankful for in half term 6 after a challenging few months. Year 10 articulated and shared with staff what they are thankful for at this point on our Journey.



Lesson 6 has started this half term. Despite a busy exam timetable, Year 10 are seizing this valuable time to consolidate their learning. It has been great to see students engaged and motivated to challenged themselves in the lead up to the challenges of Year 11.



## Year 9

### Top Achievers

- ◆ Giorgia
- ◆ Meya
- ◆ Mia
- ◆ Ollie A
- ◆ Skeinah



Year 9 Highest Attending Form 9SOI

Well done to the 22 students with 100% attendance

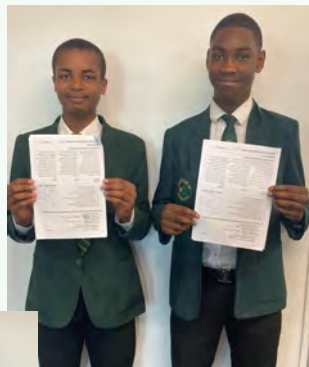
### It's a 'Big Bang' shout out for 5 Year 9 students

As part of raising curriculum standard in STEM subjects in our school, 5 of our Year 9 students embarked on taking part in the STEM Big Bang project which occurs nationally on a yearly bases.

Our students are currently working on designing a tool of sustainability, where they are able to generate electricity using students and staff mobility. They have spent over 7 weeks carrying out an investigative scientific research to ensure maximum efficiency in their design that suits St. Matthew's RC High School. Our students are looking forward to collaborating with Science industries on their projects, as well as taking into consideration everything they have learnt in their STEM Lesson.

They have each been awarded a certificate in recognition of the work they have done by

Students from Left to Right : Tina, Daniella, Edward, Unity, and Ollie



### Continuing to be a very proud MFL team

Mrs Gyves-Walker is really proud of her year 9 students who are currently completing their summative assessments in French. Prosper and Fortune achieved 100% in their listening, reading, writing and speaking tests. Codie, Edward and Emmanuel have all achieved full marks in their speaking exams and improved their overall result from last time. Patryk achieved 100% in his French tests and also completed his GCSE Polish this week! Finally Mr Ryan would like to congratulate Charlotte for her excellent year 7 French writing assessment!

**Bravo tout le monde!!**



## Year 8

### Top 5 Achievers

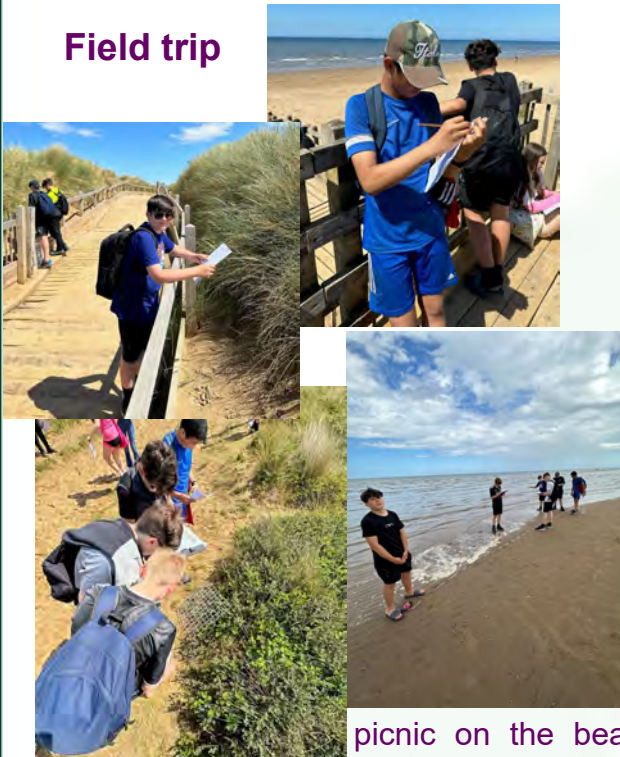
- ◆ Soreesa K
- ◆ Prosper E
- ◆ Leslie O
- ◆ Etinosa O
- ◆ Elizabeth B



Year 9 Highest Attending Form AGAIN is 8RSK  
Well Done to you all

Number of students with 100% attendance 22

### Field trip



### 'Geog' on Formby Beach

Mr Hancock and Mr Mason took year 8 geographers out for a very sunny day at Formby beach. Students found out lots of information about longshore drift, scaled the sand dunes to discover the types of vegetation and explored how the national trust manage the huge number of visitors. Students were then able to enjoy a well earned

picnic on the beach and a very competitive game of football. All students represented the school impeccably and are already looking forward to another field trip next term!

### Year 8 Drama....

exploring scripts and developing characterisation skills in rehearsal and performance.

This is just a snap shot of the creative input from 8YV in Miss O'Brien's lesson.

Excellent effort and engagement.





## Year 7

### Top 5 Achievers

- ◆ Ava
- ◆ Emanuele
- ◆ Kayden
- ◆ Paige
- ◆ Reaan



Year 8 Highest Attending Form is 7 DMO with 95.23%  
Well Done 7 DMO!  
Number of students with 100% attendance 29

### Big Shout Out To Fama....



#### Fama.

Où Toute la nourriture au Sénégal qu'il y a.  
Tout est merveilleux.

Toutes les petites villes du Sénégal, au milieu des petits enfants.

Où sont tous les villageois couchés, qui ont une fois cogné les bolays?  
Où sont toutes les belles femmes qui se promenaient autrefois dans les rues?

J'avais l'habitude d'entendre les grands tambours battre au loin.  
J'entendais le rugissement des lions.

Léegi mën naa wax ne mën naa giv ay jigéen yu rafet ci mbeedd mi.

Léegi mën naa wax ne dégg naa baatu mbej bu baax.

Léegi mën naa wax ne dégg naa ay xale yu ndaw di fexe ci sore.

Léegi mën naa wax ne dégg naa baatu gaynde bi.

Where All the food in Senegal there is.

Everything is wonderful.

All the small towns of Senegal, in the midst of small children.

Where are all the young villagers, who once hit the bolays?

Where are all the beautiful women who once walked the streets?

I used to hear the big drums beating in the distance.

I used to hear the roar of lions.

Now I can say that I can see beautiful women on the street.

Now I can say that I heard the sound of joy clearly.

Now I can say that I have heard young children playing from a distance.

Now I can say that I heard the lion's voice.

This poem means a lot to me. My native language is not celebrated in school and this poem is about feeling proud and visible in a society that doesn't display as much diverse backgrounds. Senegal has conquered and experienced a whirlwind of turbulence; perhaps it feels peaceful and serene to envision the journey to freedom. Senegal means liberty, happiness and eternal blessings.



The Mother Tongue club has been running since February with many of our diverse students running workshops, designing posters and creating poetry in their native language. Fama (7LMO) wrote a various of poetic writing and has written a piece inspired by her native country Senegal. It was entered into the national competition and she has been successful in winning a section of her own in the book alongside representing our school for the Manchester Mother Tongue anthology – please congratulate her and promote the club to your form/classes.

### Baking Treats

Making scones & delicious cup cakes - pupils learnt the rubbing in method and weighing/measuring ingredients accurately to make a quality batch of scones and cup and helping with the LSA bake sale. Well done to the year 7 pupils!!!





## Rewards & Recognition

Uniform prize draw winners

- ◆ £50 voucher of choice – Sarah 9AWH – (2<sup>nd</sup> week on the run!)
- ◆ £25 voucher of choice – Edward 9All
- ◆ £25 voucher of choice – Hardan 9STa

High uniform standards are indicative of the high standard that we have at our school



## Chaplaincy Corner

**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 prayed for the Computing and IT department and our Y9 pupils as they continue with their transition to Y10. We also prayed for the Geography fieldtrip and all the Y8 pupils and staff, that they had a pleasant journey and returned home safe.

**Staff Prayer** - The whole staff body gathers weekly to reflect on various different themes, led each week by a different department. The Y10 Pastoral Team, led by the wonderful Mrs Wrigley, reflected on the words of Psalm 23. ***Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*** Staff were reminded that, although we all face difficulties in life, God is always there by our side. Staff were also treated to the vocal delights of our beautiful singers in Y10 with their version of 'This Little Light of Mine'

**Still to come-** class Masses will begin this term, with Y7s. Daily Prayers will continue to be written by our form groups.



## Transition Mornings Continue



Our Transition Mornings continued this week, with 37 different schools and over 100 children visiting our school. We know they enjoyed their time with us and cannot wait to see them back at our parent event, followed by the Transition day.

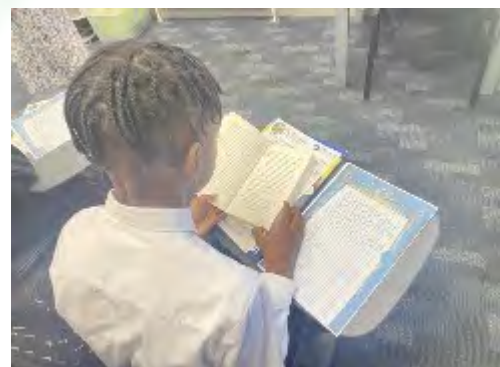
### A great success

Year 6's successfully completed a warm welcome session, NGRT test, followed by a tour of the school and a literacy lesson.

Their behaviour and enthusiasm, has been outstanding throughout they have left us with a great impression of what is to come and we know St. Matthew's has left a great impression on them alike.

Year 6's brought with them their Lion above the door books! Which was great to most remembered. We have encourage them to read every night for 20 minutes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [r.walsh@smrchs.com](mailto:r.walsh@smrchs.com)







# Highlights of the week



Congratulations to our Year 8 Footballer's for their performances at the Finals of the Manchester United Tournament held at the Carrington 1st team training complex. A great experience for them and they were a real credit to the school displaying excellent attitudes towards the other teams and the United





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# Highlights of the week

Grease Rehearsals are well underway for the big Performances on the 4th/5th/6th, July 2023.



St Matthew's Performing Arts Faculty Presents...



**SCHOOL EDITION**  
Book, Music and Lyrics by  
JIM LECARNO and WARREN T. ASSEY  
Kings Creased and Directed by  
ALEX GUSTY and HARRY BURGHAMAN

**4TH/5TH/6TH**  
**JULY 2023 @ 6PM**

Purchase tickets from [yourboxoffice.co.uk](http://yourboxoffice.co.uk):  
School / RLTY / TICKETS / School / Grease / St Matthew's  
**Adults/£4.50 Concession/£3.50**

\*Grease™ is presented through special arrangement with all authorized performance materials are owned by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), www.theatricalrightsworld.com



Make sure you're not disappointed, get your tickets here:  
[yourboxoffice.co.uk/st-matthews-rc-high-school/951-grease](http://yourboxoffice.co.uk/st-matthews-rc-high-school/951-grease)



## SPARX Celebrations

A massive shout out from the maths department to the fantastic pupils in all year groups for completing independent work SPARX over the last few weeks.

A huge congratulations to the following pupils, who went above and beyond last week.

They all have received a 'jump the queue' dinner pass for the week— well done guys.

Keep an eye out for those lucky Dominoes winners next time!!



Year 7 Kayden, Lyla, Najma  
Year 9 Shan, Abeeha, Nived

Year 8 Eshall, Maryann, Junaid,  
Year 10 Abishan, Florina, Ana-Maria



# Diary Events

<b>W/B</b> <b>26 June</b>	<b>Event</b>
MON	Pastoral Theme – Ready to be rewarded LGBT Youth Summit Maths London Trip
TUES	Chaplaincy – Year 10 – Our Lady's High School Rounders semi-final – St Bede's London Theatre Trip – Parent Meeting Student Leader Interviews
WED	Year 10 Poetry Tip Year 7 Citywide Track & Field
THURS	Transition Parents Evening
FRI	