



St. Matthew's RCHS Newsletter

Round Up

Week 6 Friday 13 October 2023

Headteacher's Message

Dear St. Matthew's Parents and Carers,

We hope this newsletter finds you well and ready to celebrate another fantastic week at St. Matthew's. Our school community continues to thrive, and we have much to be proud of.

First and foremost, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our students for consistently wearing their uniforms with pride. We've received numerous compliments from various visitors to the school, highlighting how smart and respectful our students look. Their commitment to maintaining our high standards is truly commendable.

This past Monday, we were honoured to welcome two highly experienced headteachers from Liverpool to our school. They were in awe of the calm and purposeful atmosphere here at St. Matthew's. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of both your children and our dedicated staff. Together, we create an environment that fosters learning and personal growth.

We are delighted to share that our attendance levels this week have been outstanding. We have surpassed both national and regional averages, and this is a testament to the commitment of our students, parents, and staff. We must remember that each day missed represents a missed opportunity for vital learning and growth.

We are also thrilled to see our extracurricular offerings expanding once again. It's marvellous to witness so many children enthusiastically engaging in these activities, broadening their horizons, and pursuing their passions outside of the classroom.

As the weekend approaches, we encourage you to take time to relax, reflect, and spend quality moments with your family. Let us not forget the values that unite us at St. Matthew's. We are reminded of the words from Matthew 22:1-10, that God is like the king inviting us to the feast. We are invited to share in God's life, to celebrate our belonging to the family of God forever, and to live in peace with everyone.

We are truly blessed to have such an amazing school community, and we are grateful for your continued support and trust in us. May you all have a lovely weekend, and may God's blessings continue to shine upon you and your families.

With warm regards,



Highlights of the week

Year 11

- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
- ★ **Top 5 Achievers** ★
- ★ • Noh ★
- ★ • Grace ★
- ★ • Kamsiyochukwa ★
- ★ • Shaymaa ★
- ★ • Alexis ★
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Highest attending form this week is **Mr Millington's form - 11E**

Well done!

Mrs Bunn's treat of a free breakfast will be on its way!!

Mrs Bunn is so proud of her year group. They put on a fabulous musical treat for visiting parents and future students at the recent open evening, representing St. Matthews superbly. Well done! Here is Jacky and his audience, a budding pianist star in the making.

Follow us [st.matthews2023](https://www.instagram.com/st.matthews2023) for a musical treat



Young Writer Winner



Horaib won a young writer's competition where her writing has been published. Her writing continues to develop, we are so proud of you Horaib

Well done!



Shout Out ...

from Mrs Callison who has been very impressed with the level of maturity and focus from Yaer 11 in PSHE this week.



Highlights of the week

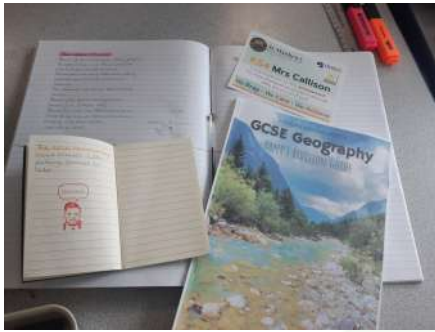
Year 10

- ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
- ☆ **Top 5 Achievers** ☆
- ☆ • Henok G
 - ☆ • Remia M
 - ☆ • Molly L
 - ☆ • Safina O
 - ☆ • Miriam J
- ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

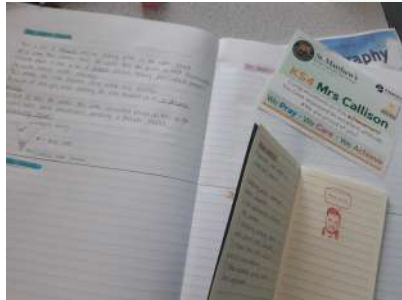
ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Highest attending form this week is
Mr Hall's form - 10D with a fantastic 92.26% attendance
Well done!

Geography



Brilliant examples of pupils using their 'passports' for independent work, receiving achievement rewards from Mrs Callisons. Applauds to a fantastic climate for learning in Mr Hancock's lesson on display here.



Well done Year 10!

Miss Ackers Yr10 Drama class were absolutely fantastic in their filmed performances this week. They were focused and had some excellent technique and skill. Shout outs to: Kalu, Connor, Neve, Millie, Sarah, Divine, Jamie, Miah, Callum, Charlie, George, Jayden, Tegra and Naomi.

The rain never stops us...

Shout out for Year 10 boys in Mr Broadheads full hour PE lesson in the rain. Looking good boys in full St. Matthews kit!





Highlights of the week

Year 9

- ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
- ☆☆ **Top 5 Achievers** ☆☆
- ☆☆ • Rohan ☆☆
 - ☆☆ • Cain ☆☆
 - ☆☆ • Rose ☆☆
 - ☆☆ • Zara ☆☆
 - ☆☆ • Emma ☆☆
- ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

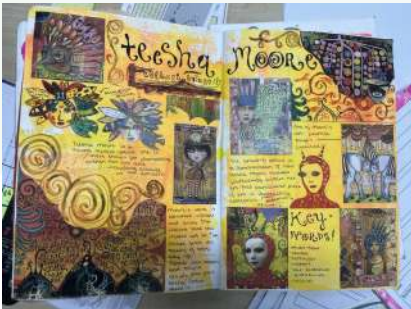
Highest attending form is 9H.
Well done again!
Seems to be no beating you lately
Mrs King is extremely proud of you all.



Netball ...
Well done to the girls who attended the Year 9 Netball training this week, Attitude and Enthusiasm was first class. Thank you girls, Miss Hill.
Teresa Chelsea Stacy Favour Debbie Eliane Victory Elisabeth Eti



Miss Lee shows off some amazing sketchbook development from Ewa R 9J and from 9F, Amy N, Emma AK, Grace L and Natalie U.



Shout out to 9K ...
Who have been working really hard in geography and science with me over recent lessons! Well done and keep up the good work!!
Mr Napier

Praise from Miss Stephenson
My English class have been outstanding since the start of term. Their hard work and engagement with their English lessons has shown great maturity and resilience.



Year 8

- ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
- Top 5 Achievers**
- * Rehan R
 - * Felicia A
 - * Ava-Jayne G
 - * Kayden G
 - * Najma B
- ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



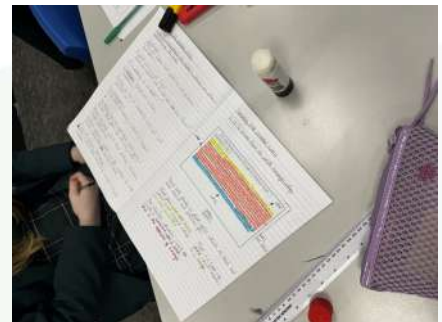
Highest Attending Form is 8A again with a fantastic 97% attendance.

121 students with 100% attendance.

Lets keep improving on these numbers Year 8 Miss Travis is a very proud Head Of Year.

English with Miss Garman

An exceptional lesson with 8J! They analysed key quotations and explored an analytical paragraph. Look at the incredible work they produced! I'm beyond proud of each and every one of them. Star of the lesson tickets have been awarded to Ethan, Mariatu, Jessica, Brandon, Christy, Larisa and Miah.



Poppy Month

Year 8 students have started making ceramic poppies in their art lessons.



They will be fired and painted ready in time for remembrance. They're looking fantastic!

Another great football victory this week for Year 8!



Miss O'Brien is so impressed with how well Year 8 are doing and how mature and well thought-out their scenes and themes are. They have exploring Brecht this week and the impact of an image. Well Done Year 8



Highlights of the week

Year 7

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Top 5 Achievers

- Lillie K
- Rawand H
- Tolu J
- Lavaeh D
- Jnae E

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



Highest attending form is 7B & 7E
attaining 100% attendance

Form of the week with highest achievement
points 7J

Most improved form - 7G

Mrs Walsh's star of the week - Jnae E
Mrs Rolt's star of the week - Leo J
Mr Johnston's star of the week - Tyler W
Mrs Lennon's star of the week - Sefora C



10 Year 7 Students Attended the Greater Manchester Determination Festival at the Graystone Action Sport Centre this week! All those involved had a great time and were complimented by the Graystone Staff. Mrs Rolt and Mr Johnston were extremely proud!



Reward Breakfast

Huge shout out to 7B & 7E for Achieving 100% Attendance last week! Both classes were awarded with a Reward Breakfast during Form Time this week! Mr Johnston also wants to say a huge thank you to Bernie who helped serve the waffles and ice cream to members of his form!





Beehive



Our Year 9 Beehive form have been looking at static electricity and observing how things move.

They used a student's hair to demonstrate static friction. They also used plastic rods. After using friction, they moved small balls of tin foil placed in water.

'Learning is more effective when it is active rather

Miss Tilbury is very proud of you all.

Keep up the hard work!

than a passive process.'

Young Minds Charity

Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets and yellow wrist bands this week in support of World Mental Health Day on 10th October.

We managed to raise £100. The charity will be delighted with this donation. Thank again Miss Eckersall

#HelloYellow
YOUNG MINDS

MA for Mr O!

"Congratulations to Mr Oduniyi from the Science department, who has just completed his post-graduate study and qualified as a Master in Education Leadership.

Mr Oduniyi has spent the last two years attending weekend and mid-week classes and completing lengthy assignments alongside his full time 'day job' at St Matthew's.

What a great example to all our students of how hard work pays off!"





Chaplaincy Corner

This week we have met various saints during our form time prayers.

- On Monday we celebrated the English Saint John Henry Newman by reflecting on his famous quotation which applies to each and every one of us: "God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission."



- On Tuesday we met one of the less well known black saints of history: St Benedict the Moor. His parents were African slaves who had been taken to Italy and he went on to become a monk who was known for his great wisdom and knowledge of the Bible, despite not being able to read. We prayed together for an end to the evil of racism.

- On Thursday we met Blessed Carlo Acutis who was the first millennial to be declared as a blessed (the last step before becoming a saint). He was a "computer geek" who used the internet to spread the good news about Jesus and in particular to spread his love for the Holy Eucharist. He died from cancer aged just 15.



We have also continued our Harvest Collection and would like to invite any final donations of tins to be brought in on Monday to support the Manchester Central Foodbank which does such important work in our local area.

Our staff prayer this week was led by the Modern Foreign Languages Department. Mrs Gyves-Walker reminded us that even if we think we only speak English, we are actually using lots of words which come from a variety of other languages (for example umbrella comes from ombrella = "little shadow" in Italian). She challenged all teachers to learn how to say "good morning" in some of the native languages of the pupils in their forms so that we can continue to strengthen the welcome we give to all people in our community.

Wishing you all a very blessed weekend.



Language is Adventure

Mrs Gyves-Walker is delighted with the effort and engagement of her 10B French class. Excellent progress is being made by all!!! Elle est fière de vous!



Spotlight on literary texts in French! Here are Noruwa and Minashe showcasing their French work on literacy texts on daily routine, as well as a closer look at Erin's work. The lesson involved the pupils singing 'Ma Routine' to the theme of the 'Marseillaise' (French National Anthem) and exploring a text from a book. Pupils focused on shadow reading for prosody and silent reading to enhance their literacy skills in French.

Excellent effort and engagement by all - look out on social media for the class singing the song!!!



Délicieuse ...

Another box of cookies made for year 7 French class.

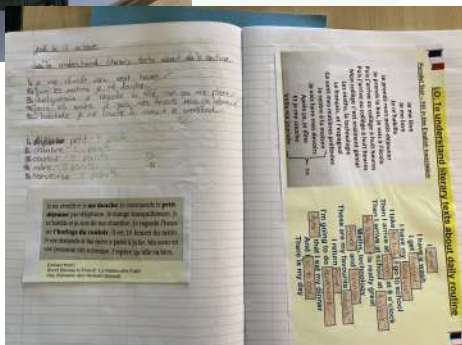
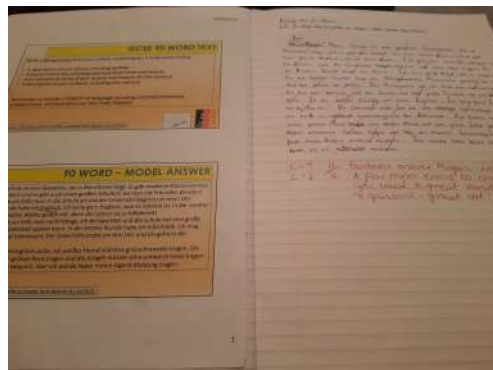
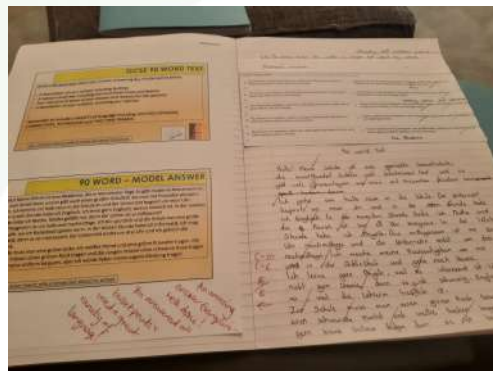
Merci mille fois Christina!



Fantastisch German

Fantastic GCSE style answers from Evangeline and Megan in Yr 10, writing about their school.

Mrs Callison is very proud.





Attendance continues to be a key priority in school this year for all pupils.

If students are not in school, they are not learning.

Thank you to the parents and carers of students who are sending their children into school every day. These students will be getting the full benefits of lessons and school life.

As the Attendance Team, it is our role to support families to ensure that students attend school every day.

High levels of attendance = high levels of attainment.

Each week, we will be sharing 'Attendance Facts' to help support you to encourage your child to attend school every day.

If your child has a minor ailment for example a cough or a cold, menstrual symptoms, please send them to school. If they are unwell, we would contact you. Often, when students arrive to school with their friends, they feel much better.

As you will be aware if your child has been absent, we are out doing home visits to try and encourage students to return to school. We are required to ask for medical evidence if a student's attendance is below 93%.

Please try to send your children to school every day to give them the best possible chance to be successful young people.

This week's 'Attendance Fact'

'Don't believe that the 'odd day off' can't harm. Research carried out on the effects of broken weeks and achievement is astounding. A student can have 95% attendance but still have 10 broken weeks! This is hugely detrimental to a student's learning, leaving big gaps in knowledge.'

If you need any support or advice to help your child improve their attendance, please get in touch with us at school or email attendance@smrchs.com

G Matthew – Strategic Attendance Lead

C Grainger – Attendance Lead

S Ross – Attendance Officer/ Safeguarding Officer



Congratulations to 10D who won the reward breakfast this week with 100% attendance last week:



Each half-term there will be new attendance initiatives for students.

This term, the form with the highest attendance will win a full English breakfast during form time: Year 11 – Friday 20th October

The winning form for breakfast on

Friday 20th October is 11G with 97.80% attendance – congratulations to all students in Mr Chilvers form.

Number of students with 100% attendance:

Year group	W/e 22.09.2023	W/e 06.10.23	W/e 13/10/23
Year 7	148	143	132
Year 8	136	135	120
Year 9	151	143	129
Year 10	149	141	137
Year 11	158	149	133

651 students had 100% attendance last week. Congratulations to them all.

Can your child achieve 100% attendance next week?



Last week the Attendance Team ran a competition during Open Evening with a quiz all about attendance facts. huge congratulations to Year 5 Ruby from Christ the King Primary School who won a pair of Apple AirPods. She was delighted.





There are still many students who do not have an active Parent Pay Account. Please contact the school if you have not received your unique username and password to activate the account or if you need assistance.

Your child will need their account setting up as they may need to purchase academic items or if they want to go on school trips.

When calling select to speak to Finance or email

parentpay@smrchs.com

How To Activate A New Account

You will need an activation letter or email from school to get started. If you have lost this or not yet received it, email the school at parentpay@smrchs.com

You need a valid email address as a username and for account verification.

1. Navigate to parentpay.com
2. Select Login at the top right corner of the screen
3. Enter the username and password provided in your activation letter / email and select activate.
4. Complete the activation as detailed on screen.
5. That's it you're all done!

How To Top Up A Parent Pay Lunch Account

1. Navigate to parentpay.com
2. Select Parent Login
3. Username—this is your email address
4. Password—this is what you chose once you had activated your account
5. Select Login
6. Click Continue—(or if you want to set up one click payments follow the screen prompts)
7. Select Pay for meals
8. Enter how much you want to pay (minimum payment is £5)
9. Select Add to Basket
10. Click on Basket and check the amount is correct
11. Click proceed to Checkout
12. A receipt will be sent to your email address from Parent Pay.
13. That's it you're all topped up!



Free School Meals

We encourage all parents/ carers to check if their child is entitled to free school meals (FSM). Being registered for free school meals benefits both the student and the school as we will receive extra funding. It is the parents/ carers responsibility to apply for free school meals on behalf of their child.

Applying for Free School Meals only takes a few minutes. Please click on the following link to apply:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

If you are struggling with your application, please contact finance@smrchs.com and the Finance Team will be happy to assist you with your application.

Qualifying criteria for free school meals:

You are receiving Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

Income Support

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The guarantee element of Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit



Search for us on Instagram

st.matthews2023

We receive some great feedback on our weekly Round Up so if you enjoy the read and what you see, why not follow us on Instagram you'll get to see more news and highlights of 'what's going on'. Here's just a few examples of the things posted.





What's On Offer At Break & Lunch time

With much greater choice, complexity, and more opportunities to spend money in the cafeteria it is important you discuss what your children are choosing and ensure they are getting a healthy balance with their choices. This will help you decide on the right amount of break and lunch money to allocate to your child's Parent Pay account.

Some parents chose to pay for the cost of lunch only, while others give their children a bit extra to cover a snack at morning break or for an additional drink. Whatever you decide you should expect to budget somewhere between £12.50 - £20 a week.

If your children are on Free School Meals the £2.50 allocated to their Parent Pay account each day will not show on Edulink or on your Parent Pay account, but rest assured it is sat there waiting to be spent. Any unspent money is carried over to the next day. At the end of the week any unspent money will be removed.

It is very important to ensure your children manage their Free School Meal allowance properly and are mindful that if they spend money at break they will not have enough money to buy a meal deal at lunch time, unless you add money to their account.

Please take a look at the following menus, deals and price lists and talk to your children about how best they can maximise their spend, there is a lot of choice and it would be good for them to look through the menus with you.

Innovate IFG

HOMEBAKED & SWEET TREATS

Cake Slice	£1.15
Rocky Road	£1.70
Croissant	£1.55
Pain Au Chocolat	£1.55
Cookie Small	£1.15 / 85p
Muffin Small	£1.30 / 85p
Flapjack Small	£1.15 / 85p
Brownie Small	£1.15 / 85p
Chocolate Straw	£1.15
Cheese Straw	£1.15



Innovate IFG

COLD DRINKS

Water 330ml	80p
Fruit Slush Small	£1.45 / £0.90
Capri Sun	£1.30
Dalston's Cans	£1.40
Radnor Fruit Carton - 200ml	£1.10
Radnor Splash Bottle - 500ml	£1.15
Milk Cartons	£1.00





What's On Offer At Break & Lunch time

The Blue Dot Deal is exceptionally good value allowing your child to chose 4 items, for example; if they wanted something to eat at break they could chose something from the hot deli, get a roll for lunch from the cold deli, select a drink and get a fruit pot or something from the Homebake all for £2.50.

**4
AMAZING
ITEMS
£2.50**

HOT DELI

- Garlic Bread
- Pizza Melt Bap/Boat
- Cheese On Toast/Bap
- Pizza Melt Quesadilla
- BBQ Melt Bap

COLD DELI

- A Selection of Rolls:
Ham, Cheese, Tuna, Chicken
Mayo, Egg Mayo

DRINKS

- 125ml Radnor Drink Carton
- 330ml Water Bottle
- 8oz Slush
- Small Generation Juice

40Z POTS

- Selection of Fruit Pots
- Selection of Jelly Pots
- Selection of Yoghurt Pots
- Selection of Seed Pots

HOMEBAKES

- Mini Muffin
- Mini Cookie
- Mini Shortbread
- Mini Flapjack

* Not all items are available everyday



What's On Offer At Break & Lunch time

Innovate IFG

GRAB & GO

HOT

Breakfast Roll	£2.05
Breakfast Pot	From £2.00
Breakfast Baguette	From £1.40
Pasta Pots	Small £2.15 Large £2.50
Ciabatta	£3.20
Toastie	£2.15
Panini	£2.60
Combo Pots	£2.65
Loaded Nachos	£2.25
Dough Balls	£1.40
Burrito	£2.65
Chicken Wings	£2.15
Pizza Slice	£1.50

COLD

Roll	£1.00
Sub	£2.05
Wrap	£2.60
Pasta Pots	Small £1.00 Large £2.50
Baguette	£2.65
Sushi	£3.00
Fruit	55p
Fruit Pot	£1.00
Naturally Range	From £2.85
Dip Pot - Houmous	£1.20
Edamame Beans	£1.60
Self-Serve Salad	From £1.80
Yoghurt/Jelly Pot	£1.00

