



### Dear Parents, children, families, friends, governors and volunteers

I would like to thank all parents for their day to day support at school. Each week, myself and Mrs Roberts spend the majority of our time focusing on teaching, learning and progress of children in class. This makes the biggest difference. The more time we get to spend in class the more we are able to ensure that teachers are coached, mentored and guided. Parents talking to class teachers in the first instance regarding issues is helping greatly. Thank you all!

Re-elected Governor: We are delighted that Mr Mike Smith has been re-elected as one of our school governors and we would like to thank him for his contributions to provide a high quality education and improving outcomes for all children at the school.

### World Book Day

Some fabulous characters on World Book Day. Thank you to all the parents for getting the children involved to feel part of a whole school event. A huge thanks to all the staff—What a team!

It was a great success with the children dressing up as a wide range of characters. Several of the staff joined in the fun too. This week the popular Book Fair will be in school at the end of the school day and your child will be able to spend the £1.00 book voucher they have been given.



### PUPIL REPORTS

We will be preparing your child's annual report and this will be given to you on Wednesday 23rd March, before the Easter holidays.

The report will cover the pupil's:

- achievements
- general progress
- attendance record

Please feel free to speak to your class teacher with any queries you may have.

School reports for pupils in Years 6 and for Reception will be given out in July.



### TRAFFIC WARNING

Please be careful on the crossing and parents please drive carefully near the school . There have been a couple of near misses recently with impatient drivers and thoughtless parking.



### MUSICAL DONATION

We would like to thank Mrs. Jessica Brierly for the wonderful music lessons she provides for pupils wishing to play an instrument and thank her most kindly for her generous donation of the handheld dry erase music boards she has kindly given to our school.

### **Pack lunches**

**Please ensure that they are healthy - no crisps or chocolate.**

**RECORDER CONCERT**—Year 3 had an amazing afternoon at TWGGS playing recorders as a mass ensemble. Several other schools took part, making it a unique experience for the children. As well as playing six pieces learned off by heart in their school recorder lessons, the children participated in a range of musical activities such as rhythm games and part songs.

### **Some events—dates for the diary**

Please continue to look at the website for the latest news and events and the regular updates: **www. St-matthews-school.org**

Recent events -

- Year 5 school trip to the Maritime Museum
- Year R Farm visit to our school
- The Mighty Zulu Theatre visit to our school

**SCHOOL NURSE**—Jean Ravenna, our school nurse will be holding a Health Clinic in our Community Room from 9am on **Tuesday 15th March.**

The Health Clinic is an ideal chance for parents or carers to discuss any aspect of their child's health or general wellbeing. To make an appointment please call Jean on **07795 256 891** or drop in on the day.

**Friday 18th March**—SPORTS RELIEF DAY —We are celebrating Sports Relief Day. Sports Relief is the charity event in association with BBC Sport, which brings together the worlds of sport and entertainment to raise money to help vulnerable people in both the UK and the world's poorest countries. At St Matthew's we are supporting this event by asking the children to come into school wearing their sports wear gear and with a voluntary donation of 1£ we can raise some money to make an incredible difference and help transform lives

EASTER SERVICE—**TUESDAY 22ND MARCH** for the children only at St Matthew's church. Parents may be asked to volunteer walking duties to and from the church.



### Tag Rugby next term

We would like to inform parents in Years 3-6 that your children will be doing Tag Rugby on the field for the next term. Please ensure that children have warm outdoor clothing, suitable footwear, and a carrier bag for any muddy clothes/footwear that may occur. There will be no plimsolls but maybe children can wear trainers that you don't mind getting muddy and jogging trousers as it will be cold and muddy on the fields.

### SPORTING NEWS



#### P.E. Kits

Please ensure that your child has their P.E. kits in school each day. This is especially important after they have worn it for an after school club the day before!

### **Cross Country at Tunbridge Wells Rugby Club**

On Thursday 11th February thirteen children took part in the inter schools cross country race at Tunbridge Wells Rugby Club. The conditions were incredibly wet and muddy, making the races a lot tougher than normal. Despite the mud there were some exceptional performances; firstly from Kyra in the Year 5/6 girls race, who finished in an amazing 7th place out of 60+ runners. She had a truly wonderful run displaying strength and determination. Another wonderful performance came from Abbie who although in Year 2, ran against Yr 3 & 4 girls and managed to finish in 23rd place; a fantastic display of running for someone so young. Jamie finished in 20th place in the Year 5/6 boys race, again showing great strength. I was incredibly proud of all the runners and it was evident that all their hard training is paying off. The other results are as follows:

Year 3/4 boys race : Kieran 34th, Joe 37th, Jack 56th, Charlie 61st

Year 5/6 girls race: Emma 27th, Olivia 31st

Year 5/6 boys race : Ben 35th, William 43rd, Evan 52nd, Hamish 55th

#### SCHOOL UNIFORM

##### REMINDER :

**PARENTS PLEASE REMEMBER TO PLACE YOUR ORDERS SOON FOR THE GREEN POLO SHIRTS FOR THE SUMMER UNIFORM!**

**No more white polo shirts please but bottle green ones will be expected.**



### Class Assemblies

Day—Class

Friday 18.03.2016—3 S

Wednesday 20.04.2016—4 B

Wednesday 27.04.2016—4 G

Friday 06.05.2016—3 BB

Thursday 19.05.2016—5 H

Wednesday 01.06.2016—6 W

Friday 10.06.2016—4 VT

Thursday 16.06.2016—3 P

Wednesday 29.06.2016—6 TW

Friday 08.07.2016—Reception

### COATS

I know we've asked this before but can you PLEASE ensure your children bring a coat to school at this time of the year, but also encourage them to actually put it on before they go outside? If it starts to rain a little bit we do try to keep them outside for as long as possible so they are getting fresh air and exercise, and if they have not put on their coats they do get damp! Thank you so much, in anticipation of you working with us on this.

### Emergency Contact Details

Please make sure that the school office is aware of any changes to emergency contact details. Thank you !

### **Year 5/6 Tag Rugby Friendly match against Beechwood School**

On Wednesday 24th February eleven children from Years 5 & 6 were invited to an afternoon of friendly tag rugby games at Beechwood School. The team consisted of Harley, Evan, Arthur, Olli, Rathaphum, Deacon, Jamie, Saarah, Caitlin, Humairaa and Kyra. They played three games against an A, B & C team from Beechwood. The first game against the C team, St Matthew's won 10-8. The second game against the B team St Matthew's won again 11-5 and the third game against the A team we lost 13-12. Considering the children have not have that long to train for this event all of them played superbly well showing some great rugby skills. We look forward to carrying on with our training ready for the Inter schools tag rugby festival in May.

### **Inter schools cross country race at Eridge Park**

On Wednesday 2nd March, seven children ran in the inter schools cross country race at Eridge Park. The team consisted of Joe, Jack, Kieran, Luka, Emma, Kyra and Rathaphum. The conditions were horrendous with freezing cold temperatures, sleet and gale force winds. The course the children ran was incredibly hard with long steep hills, but all of them still performed really well. The most spectacular performance of the afternoon came from Kyra who finished in 4th position in the Year 5/6 girls race, this being her highest finishing position to date. Another amazing result came from Luka who finished 9th in the Year 3/4 boys race. Nearly all of the children finished in their highest positions this season and their results were as follows:

Joe 38th , Jack 43rd, Kieran 19th, Emma 22nd, Rathaphum 19th

### Water bottles

**Please can you ensure that your child brings in a fresh water bottle daily—the reusable bottles are excellent and once bought you're doing something great for the environment by not adding to the plastics in landfills. Media has made us aware however that they are in fact nearly impossible to clean leaves you vulnerable to the bacteria that can breed in there. But here's the dirty little water bottle secret: Even when you switch to reusable bottles, bacteria and fungi can build up, so please clean the lids as well.**