

HEADTEACHER HIGHLIGHTS



10th September 2021

WELCOME BACK!

What a positive start we have had here this week! It has been lovely to see all of the new reception pupils begin their school careers with us. They have made friends and have really enjoyed all of the lovely activities on offer. As one of them was leaving today, she informed her dad that she had enjoyed 'THE BEST DAY EVER!' The staff have really enjoyed being so welcomed on the home visits and I would like to thank the reception parents for allowing staff to have this invaluable opportunity.

We have also welcomed some new staff to St Matthew's this week. Mrs Bradshaw and Mrs Hughes have joined reception, Miss Stuart is supporting in Y3 and Miss Ravilious is now teaching in Y4.

Unfortunately, we have some sad news that Mrs Odell will be leaving us at half term, following 23 years of association with our school. She has decided that she would like to spend more time with her grandchildren and less time on her long commute. Whilst we are sad to see her go, we thank her for everything she has done to support our families and colleagues over her many years of service.

Yesterday saw some of our Y6 pupils take the Kent 11+ test. They sat papers in English, Maths and reasoning. The papers contained some very tricky questions and we were so proud of the mature attitude our children demonstrated. It was a long day of tests, finishing with a writing task, however all of the children showed courage and perseverance until the very end! We are very proud of you. The results will be sent to parents on 21st October.

REMINDERS

The times for EYFS and KS1 are 8.50am drop off and 3.10pm pick up. For KS2 the times are 8.55am drop off and 3.15pm pick up. The gates will open at 8.45am and at 3.05pm. Can you please make sure that you are here on time, as it is very disrupting for classes when children arrive late. Whilst parents are waiting for the gates to open, all children need to be supervised and there should not be any children running around cars in the car park.

Early Start Club operates in the new hall each day from 8am onwards. Children are supervised doing a variety of activities at a cost of £2 per morning. Pupils do not need to attend every day. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact the office for more information.

Have a lovely weekend!

TERM 1 ENDS ON 22nd OCTOBER



**TO ALL OUR NEW
PUPILS AND STAFF!**

FULFILLING GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL



This is a quick round up of what has been happening in each year group this week. You can see what the staff have got to say about the pupils across the School.



School News

YR	We are so proud of all of the reception children for starting school this week and for settling in so well! They have been making friends, sharing toys, playing outside and taking on new challenges! The adults have really enjoyed visiting the children in their homes. Thank you for being so kind and welcoming to us. We look forward to the year ahead!
Y1	Y1 have been busy with lots of number work this week! We have worked on counting carefully, using lots of different objects around the classroom. We have also been thinking about where we live and building models of the local area.
Y2	We have had a great week settling into Y2. We have got used to new routines and new teachers. We have been exploring Maths equipment and learnt our Song of Sounds. In RE we have learnt about the creation story and practised our ball skills in PE. It has been a busy and fun start to the year!
Y3	Y3 have hit the ground running! From identifying and talking about emotions and acting out the story of Noah's ark, to starting French and recorder lessons. Year 3 have had a wonderful first full week!
Y4	Y4 have thought carefully about our new class rules and have really been enjoying learning to play the recorder with Mrs Morton! We have been listening to a lot of adventure music and are hoping to learn it ourselves!
Y5	We have had an excellent first full week. We started reading our new class text 'Around the World in 80 Days' and enjoyed using atlases and Google Earth to explore the globe. In Music we sang our own version of a sea-shanty and, in ICT, began to code our own computer games. We had great weather to enjoy some fantastic outdoor learning at Forest School.
Y6	Y6 have made a super start to the year! They have been learning about numbers up to 1,000,000 and exploring how we see things and how light travels. The pupils are also building up their reading stamina and have chosen their first reading book from the library. A big thank you to all the pupils who have put themselves forward for House Captain and Prefect. The children have spoken to the class and voting is underway. They will find out the results next week. Good luck!

WHEN TO WEAR PE KITS TO SCHOOL.

MONDAYS

5S

5D

Goslings

TUESDAYS

Owls

Robins

6W

6H

WEDNESDAYS

3TWP

3DB

Kookaburras

Lorikeets

6H

6W

THURSDAYS

3TWP

4R

4M

Kookaburras

Lorikeets

FRIDAYS

Ducklings

Goslings

4M/4R

Owls

Robins

FOREST SCHOOL NEXT WEEK

5D