St. Matthew's
Church of England Primary School

An Academy within the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education Multi-Academy Trust

Friday 15th February 2019 • Spring Term • Newsletter 21

Please remember that next week is **HALF TERM**. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Monday 25th February 2019**. All the staff at St Matthew's hope you have an enjoyable half term week with your families.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February 2019	
Mon18th - Fri 22nd	Half Term
Tues 26th	4pm Yrs 3,4,5,6 Cross country race at Priory Park
March 2019	
Fri 1st	Football v St John's (Home)
w/b 4th	Book Week
Tues 5th	'Red' performance Star Steppers show at Harlequin Theatre
Weds 6th	Netball Match away at St John's
Thurs 7th	World Book Day
Fri 8th	**5.15-6.15pm Bedtime Story event**
Mon 11th	Inset/staff training day (with local schools) - School closed
Tues 12th	5.30pm - 8pm parents/teacher consultation evening
Weds 13th	Football v Reigate Parish (Home)
Wed 13th	3.30pm - 6pm parents/teacher consultation evening
Fri 15th	**3.30 Yr 5/6 hockey tournament at Royal Alexandra & Albert**
Mon 18th	Yr 5 air pollution workshop
Mon 18th & Tues 19th	Year 4 bikeability
Tues 19th	Netball v Reigate Parish (Home)
Wed 20th	Year 5 Netball Rally at Reigate Grammar School
Wed 20th	PM Yr. 5 & 6 Football Tournament at Sandcross
Thurs 21st	PM Reserve date for Yr 5 & 6 Football at Sandcross
Fri 22nd	Yr5 Sparkfish "Easter Experience" at Reigate Park Church
Mon 25th	Performing Arts Show dress rehearsal at Harlequin
Wed 27th	pm Yr. 5 & 6 Netball Tournament **at St Bede's**
Fri 29th	AM—Junior Citizen Event for Year 6
Sun 31st	10am Mothering Sunday Service at St Matthew's Church
April 2019	
Mon 1st	St Matthew's Performing Arts Show at Harlequin Theatre
	10am and 4pm Details re tickets to follow
Wed 3rd	Last day of swimming for this term
Wed 3rd	**Year 2 visit to Brighton University**
Thurs 4th	10am Easter Service at St Matthew's Church
Fri 5th	Last day of term for the children. Finish 2.30pm (No Stars)
Tues 23rd	Inset/staff training day (moderation) - School closed
Wed 24th	Children return to school
Wed 24th	Swimming starts (3H,4P, 5K, Sun Class, Yr 6 boys, booster)
Thurs 25th	**Yr 6 trip to Harry Potter Experience**
May 2019	
Mon 6th	Bank Holiday
Throughout May	KS1 / Yr 2 SATS
w/b 13th	KS2 / Yr 6 SATS (Mon: SPAG; Tues: Reading; Wed & Thurs: Maths)
Tues 21st	Cricket tournament at Merstham CC
Thurs 23rd	**Lent Call Service at Southwark Cathedral**
Fri 24th	Inset/staff training day (assessment) School closed to pupils
Mon 27th - Fri 31st	Half term
June 2019	
w/b 3rd	Year 6 Bikeability
Wed 5th	Swimming: 3P, 4B, 5C, Sun Class , Yr 6 girls, Yr 5/6 booster
Thurs 6th	9.15 - 11.30am KS1 Multi Skills at St Bede's
w/b 10th	Yr 1 phonics screening check
Weds 12th	'A Class Act' performance at Harlequin Theatre
Fri 21st	Rounders Tournament at Earlswood
Wed 26th	Science Show - whole school
Fri 28th	St Matthew's School Sports Day am: KS2; pm: KS1 / Rec
Sun 30th	**Sunday Funday**
July 2019	
Tues 2nd	Induction Day for new pupils. Yr 6 to secondary schools
Wed 3rd	District Sports am field events pm track events at RGS
Wed 10th	Last swimming lessons of year.
Thurs 11th	Year 6 trip to "Connect with the Countryside "
Fri 12th	**Year 6 Leavers' Service at Southwark Cathedral**
Wed 17th & Thurs 18th	7.30pm Production
Fri 19th	School reports sent home to parents
Mon 22nd	3.30pm - 5pm Drop in parents evening
Tues 23rd	10am Leavers' Service at St Matthew's Church
Wed 24th	Last day of term. Children go home at 2.30pm (No Stars)

What a great end to the first half of the spring term!

On Tuesday, a talented group of our Year 3 and Year 4 children participated in a special Able Maths Day, applying their mathematical reasoning skills to "real life" situations. The children displayed clear thinking and logic. Thank you to Mr Challenger and Mr Knox for organising this opportunity!

Year 5 had a treat on Wednesday morning, enjoying St Bede's School's musical production of "Beauty and the Beast." Thank you to Mr Wood and our friends at St Bede's for inviting us! It is always lovely to see former St Matthew's pupils performing so well in the cast of these shows.

Yesterday, a selection of Year 1 and 2 children completed in the local; schools' multiskills sports event at St Bede's. Well done to everyone who took part, showing great effort, skills and teamwork.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our teachers and other staff and volunteer helpers for their continued hard work and commitment to our children this half term.

Sports News!

St Matthew's footballers played three matches this week. The first game against Merstham was played in monsoon rain conditions! We fought hard but, on this occasion, came out second best . The second game, against Lime Tree, was an exciting 3-3 thriller with both teams scoring late on to secure the draw. Special mention to Alfie who scored a goal from his own half! The third match yesterday away at Royal Alexandra & Albert School ended in a 8-1 score, which reflected the strength of the opposition rather than the dogged determination of our team. Well done to Dami, William, Jimmy, Samuel, Alex, Diogo, Joshua and Alfie.

On Wednesday, we played Netball v RAAS. We were leading up until the last quarter and were unfortunate to concede a frustrating last minute goal. Well done to Alex, Anjola, Dami, Sophie, Diogo, Michelle and Alicia.

On Tuesday, Years 3-6 ran in the District Cross Country practice race at Priory Park. The conditions were good and everybody completed well. Well done to the children who were selected to participate in the main race on 26th February!

A great day, in school every day…
Children must be in school every day!

Improving attendance is a key priority!

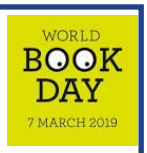
Good attendance at school improves children's achievement and success now and in the future. The next major attendance prize will be awarded at Easter.

Class attendance w/b 11th February

Nursery	90.4%	Sun Class	89.2%
Squirrels	88.5%	Hedgehogs	97.2%
1C	86.8%	1M	94.8%
2G	93.5%	2P	97.7%
3P	91.9%	3H	99.3%
4B	91%	4P	91%
5C	95.2%	5K	93.2%
6M	97.9%	6F	95.6%

Thank you to all of the parents who came to our **Attendance Awareness** courses this week. The positive feedback has been very encouraging. The aim of these events is, of course, to overcome any barriers impacting on attendance at school and reduce children's absence. Thank you to Mrs Adjei for planning and delivering the course. If you received an invitation letter but were unable to attend this week's course, please contact the school office to arrange a separate meeting. Mrs Adjei will be contacting parents to discuss this further.

BOOK WEEK!



It's not long to go until our always-enjoyable **Book Week** (w/b 4th March) including **World Book Day** on Thursday 7th March when the children are always excited to come to school dressed up as a favourite book character. Half term might be a good time to start thinking about which character you want to be. If you are stuck for ideas, take a look at the World Book Day website. www.worldbookday.com

Other Book Week activities will include visits to Redhill Library and Waterstones, special writing workshops, a Book Fair and, on **Friday 8th March 5.15-6.15pm a Bedtime Story event** where the children can wear their pyjamas and dressing gowns and enjoy reading favourite bedtime stories with their parents and teachers while enjoying drinks including hot chocolate and tasty cookies. This has always proved to be a really popular event - don't miss out! Put the date in your calendar now!

Steps to Outstanding!

We have had a busy but extremely encouraging week, with the half termly visit from our Diocesan School Improvement Partner, a review of our governance and, yesterday, an external and robust **Teaching and Learning Review.** While we are still to receive the written report, the verbal feedback was very positive indeed with **leadership** and the capacity to continue to improve described as **"solidly good."** Many examples of **strong teaching** were seen across the school with particular praise for the **quality of the children's writing** across curriculum areas and **clear evidence of progress**.

The full-day review included lesson observations, scrutiny of children's work and focused discussions with leaders, teachers, governors and, most importantly, the pupils. This successful review is testament to the significant professional skills, care and dedication of your child's teachers, school leaders and other staff.

Home Learning Projects

We hope that parents enjoyed coming in to classrooms this afternoon to see the children's home learning projects. We are impressed with the time, effort and inspiration that went into this work. We know that the children enjoy these activities; thank you to parents for helping and encouraging. At St Matthew's School, we believe that home learning gives the children the opportunity to be creative, to practise and apply their skills and knowledge and develop their interests. Learning and achievement do not begin and end at the school gates!

East Surrey Dance Festival Star Steppers Show

Date: Tuesday 5th March 2019

Where: Harlequin Theatre, Redhill

Time: 5pm 'Red Performance'

Tickets are selling quickly! Don't miss out! Tickets are available from the Harlequin Box Office or on their website directly.

Please note, there is a rehearsal for all children taking part in Star Steppers on Wednesday 27th February until 4:30pm. This includes all dance clubs.

Please remember that the **pupil entrances** must be used to enter/leave school premises. **Children and parents are not permitted to walk through the car park.** This is for the safety of the children as cars, taxis and deliveries arrive and leave. Also, please park courteously and legally and do not block or park in our neighbours' drives; this includes the flats next door.

Useful telephone numbers:

Father Andrew, St Matthew's Church 01737 761568
Friends of St Matthew's School (PTA) FOSM@stmatthews-redhill.surrey.sch.uk
Welcare Children's Centre 01737 780884 • www.welcare.org • 24 Warwick Road, Redhill RH1 1BU
Childline 0800 1111