

St. Matthew's Church of England Primary School

Believing Achieving Succeeding

Autumn 3, 2020

www.stmatthews.kingston.sch.uk



Keeping Children Safe – If you are worried or concerned about the safety or wellbeing of a child out of school hours, please contact Kingston's Single Point Access (SPA) on 0208 547 5008. If you are worried about a child's immediate safety you should phone the Police on 999.

Advice for Year 6 Parents/Carers

Secondary schools are more likely to hold 'open events' and tours virtually this term (rather than accommodating visitors in person) so please visit the schools' websites (that you are interested in) for the updated information on dates and events in advance of the published dates.

Congratulations and well done to Jake Collisson!

During lockdown, Jake Collisson in Year 2, not only worked incredibly hard studying via google classroom but he also learned to play the guitar to a high standard. He then managed to raise over £500 for the NHS by playing in front of his house for an hour every day. We are so proud of Jake's dedication and selflessness! Well done, Jake! Please do have a look at the following links to see his progress.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jake-rocking-4-nhs?fbclid=IwAR2cF8pq6x5KTcJbKuFu9ygLZenUfFPOQFpW4uzDdAm7igVXkR1bzAzwDNs>

Here's a link to his new youtube channel if you'd like to see his progress :

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMD49g8mu311aOUTUgoJpmQ>

And if anyone else raised money for good causes during the lockdown, please do let the school office know!

New Starters

We are aware that we have had some new starters in year groups throughout the school in the last week, so wish to remind that we are using 'blended learning' within school. This expression means that the children will learn via electronic means as well as traditional classroom teaching. This would make it easier to switch totally to using google classroom and Tapestry (for Reception), in the event of school closure or pupils self-isolating. In order to help the children access the resources they would need to learn from home effectively, we have emailed parents/carers a short Technology Survey. All home learning and spelling work is already being distributed by google classroom to ensure that everyone is accessing via this platform. Many of you have returned this – and we thank you – but all families will be contacted by the office if you haven't as we need to collate this information.

October is Black History Month

The month of October sees the country celebrate Black History Month, and here at St Matthew's we are planning our own dedication to this pertinent and very current event.

Year groups will be celebrating and learning about Black Britons that have shaped our historical timeline, yet whose success has so often been minimised and undermined in the past.

We will dive into the lives of sporting icons; poets and writers and movers and shakers who have fought for black rights throughout history. With each year group also receiving a specifically chosen book around the topics surrounding Black History, year groups will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in some inspiring and thought-provoking literature, which supports and explains this topic.

Library Books

Some families may still have some school library books at home that were borrowed over the lockdown. Please do send them in with your child and we shall 'quarantine them' for 72 hours and then get them back in use. Thank you!



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FOSMPS

A reminder that it is FOSMPS Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Monday 5th October at 7.30pm via Zoom.

Reminder Friday 23rd October is an Inset Day and therefore the school is closed to pupils.

Face Coverings

Out of respect for others, especially those who have previously been shielding and are more vulnerable, we ask all parents and carers to wear a face covering when they accompany their child at drop off and pick up times if they possibly can. We feel that that this further safety measure will help keep everyone in our school community safe.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Rule of 6

In England, the limit of up to six people from multiple households meeting up applies both indoors and outdoors, and to all ages.

Gatherings in private homes, venues like pubs and restaurants, and in outdoor spaces like parks are all affected.

Coronavirus

Hands, Face, Space This new slogan is to remind us all of three preventative measures to reduce the spread of coronavirus ahead of the Winter.

Hands refers to the need to wash our hands thoroughly and regularly.

Face refers to wearing a face covering which is now compulsory in many indoor settings such as on public transport and in supermarkets.

Space refers to social distancing and reminds us to abide by the guidance to prevent the transmission of coronavirus

Is your child eligible for free school meals?

During Covid 19 lockdown St Matthew's was able to provide invaluable support to our families who are known to be eligible for free school meals, providing food deliveries and vouchers for extra groceries. Your child may be eligible to get free school meals if you are in receipt of any of the following:

- 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 guaranteed 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 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income is less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the whole primary phase. St Matthew's is able to check eligibility for free school meals on behalf of all of our families. Please do contact the school office by 24th September 2020 if you do **not** want the school to check this eligibility:

admin@stmatthews.rbksch.org