

St. Matthew's Church of England Primary School

Our Vision is to enable our whole school community to live life in all its fullness

Autumn 1 No 5 2023

stmatthews.kingston.sch.uk



Children arriving late are generally unsettled in the morning which has a significant impact on their learning. They are at risk of missing key lessons such as phonics and reading.

Punctuality Reminders

Lessons start at 8.40 am prompt!

Gates open at 8.30 am – this is the time you should aim to arrive at school for.



Jeans for Genes Day is this coming Friday 6th October here at St. Matthew's. This is a special non-uniform day in exchange for a donation to raise money for children and families affected by a genetic disorder. Please donate via School Gateway.

Racial Justice- At St Matthew's we are proud to be developing racial justice approaches across all areas of our school life. In the next few months, we have some interesting work planned to help us move forward on this journey. We are looking forward to celebrating **Black History Month**, as part of our ongoing work on decolonising the curriculum.

As a staff, we will also be exploring how we understand and deal with racist incidents across the school using a safeguarding first, trauma informed approach to racism with wellbeing at the centre of our work. We truly value the voices of you and your children, and will be putting a date together soon for our next parent workshop.

In the meantime, if you have any thoughts, questions or ideas please do let us know!



SEND Coffee Morning on Friday 6th October '23

Reminder that from 9.00am – 10.00am all parents of children with SEND are warmly invited to our Autumn SEND Coffee Morning.

If anyone else has any concerns that their child might have Special educational needs, please contact the SENCO via the school office and she will be happy to speak to you.

We had a wonderful final **Harvest Service** from our Reverend Helen last week. Thank you so much to all those who contributed either financially to the Trussell Trust or through food gifts for those who are struggling. We really appreciate all your kindness- Thank you. A fabulous **£269.50** was raised!

Rev Helen Hancock also wanted to add a contribution this week: Thank you so much to everyone for your really generous gift of theatre ticket vouchers, as I leave St Matthew's. What a great idea for a gift - we shall enjoy choosing what to go and see and will think of you all as we do so. The card is an amazing gift too - so many kind wishes and lovely flowers from each class! My time at St Matthew's - both church and school - has been (mostly!) such a delight and it is with something of a heavy heart but excitement that we move on. That popular song is now my prayer to God for myself and for all of you too:

'One more step along the world I go,

One more step along the world I go,

From the old things to the new,
Keep me travelling along with You.'

Thank You and God bless.

Is there a Parent or Carer that would be interested in joining our flourishing adult Faith Team?

We meet between 1-2pm twice a term on a Thursday if anyone has an interest in faith matters within the school, responsible to the Governing Body. Please email admin@stmatthews.rbksch.org

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Don't forget the fabulous FOSMPS Comedy Night '23 which is on Thursday 19 October at 19:30 at Langley's on Langley Road, Surbiton. Tickets are payable via School Gateway



Do remember to visit St M's Eco Re-fill Sale on Thursday 5th October from 3pm (run by KS2 Eco Champions) tomorrow!

Transfer to Secondary School in September 2024

If you have a child in Y6, please do not wait until the last minute to complete the secondary application form. Applications opened on Friday 1 September 2023 and there are less than 4 weeks until

Secondary applications close on Tuesday 31 October 2023!

Kingston Secondary Schools hold open events in September and October. If you need some help, please email or call our School Office



The Butterfly Group

Information for Parents

Helping adult and child relationships following a challenging time or event.

Have you experienced a difficult time in your life?

Through bereavement, relationship breakdown or other traumatic events.

Has this impacted on your relationship with your child?

Is your child experiencing difficulties with their behaviour?

How can you reduce yours and your child's anxiety?

Build stronger relationships with your child?

If you can relate to any of the above. Our 5-week course may be for you.

It aims to help parents

- Recognise how difficult events and trauma can affect children.
- Understand what may be behind a child's behaviour
- Build healthy relationships between adults and children
- Understand what anxiety is
- How to have difficult conversations with your child

Please complete the expression of interest form:

<https://forms.gle/8cCxKBB3ZNTtAYSnr6> a member of the Children's Centre team will be in contact with you.

Starting Thursday 9 November 2023

10.00am to 12.00pm

Chessington Children's Centre Buckland Road,
Chessington, KT9 1JE

☎ 020 397 2006 option 5

Free creche



Pupil Premium Grants

For the first time, all pupils at St. Matthew's are entitled to receive a free school lunch. To enable your child to access this, you must book your child's lunch via School Gateway

If you were **previously eligible for means tested free school meals** or are in receipt of any of the following benefits...

- ☑ income support
 - ☑ income-based job seeker's allowance
 - ☑ income-related employment and support allowance
 - ☑ the guarantee element of state pension credit
 - ☑ support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - ☑ child tax credit (but not working tax credit) and have an annual income of less than £16,190
 - ☑ working tax credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for working tax credit
 - ☑ Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- ...your child may be eligible for a Pupil Premium Grant. This will give your child access to:
- This gives your child access to:
- ☑ Choice of a free place in one of the extra-curricular clubs
 - ☑ A discount on trips and school residential visits....and much more!

Thank you to all those who came to a brilliant FOSMPS AGM last night. It was very much enjoyed and lots of great events planned!