



# Newsletter 1

## St Matthew's Church of England Primary School (Voluntary Aided)

<http://www.st-matthews.gloucs.sch.uk>

7th September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a lovely restful summer. It is great to see the children so refreshed and ready to learn and rising to the expectation of their new year group.

I would also like to welcome our new families in the Reception class. We wish you all the very best, we will all do our best to make this transition smooth and enjoyable. The first few weeks are always a little scary but in no time I don't doubt that it will feel like you've been with us for much longer. Make the most of every minute, the time does seem to fly!

For our Junior families (year 3, 4, 5 and 6), we have had to make changes to our morning routine. Due to new safeguarding regulations, the junior gate will now be opened at 8:30. A member of staff will be on the gate and welcome the children into school. The children will then go straight into their classrooms where they will meet their teacher. The register will be taken as usual at 8:40.

This new system will guarantee that, once the children are in school, they will be supervised at all times. Please do note that until the children are in school they are your responsibility to keep safe. I appreciate for some this may cause some inconvenience however, we have to put the safety of the children first. Please do not leave your children stood by the gate unsupervised. If your child walks or cycles to school please make sure they plan to arrive between 8:30 and 8:40 and then we know they are safe.

This system has been incredibly successful in Key Stage 1 and we are sure it will be the same in Key Stage 2.

On Sunday our Year 6 class are off down to Osmington Bay for their residential. They will be raft building, climbing, rifle shooting, quad biking, swimming, hiking, swinging from a zip wire and a giant swing. They will have a disco and a night 'Ambush'(!?). I am sure they will have a fabulous time and I am not at all jealous of Mrs Panton, Mrs Bateman and Mr Szkrybieniec..... Have a fabulous time Year 6!

Best wishes,  
Gina Thomson

### Extra Curricular Activities

The table below provides information about the lunchtime and after school clubs that we are running during the Michaelmas and Advent Terms. As always, if you would like your child/children to take part in any of these activities, please complete a permission slip which can be obtained from the school office or class teacher.

Day	Activity	Staff	Start time	End time	Year Groups	Start Date
Monday	Rowing	Mr Pritchard	3:15	4:30	Yr 5/6 (Max 20)	17/09/18
Tuesday	Benchball	Miss Beebee	3:15	4:15	Yr 4/5/6 (max 18)	18/09/18
	Football	Mr Halliwell/ Mr Boulton	3:15	4:15	Yr 4/5/6	18/09/18
Wednesday	KS1 Multiskills	Mr Marsland	3:15	4:15	Yr 1/2 (Max 16)	19/09/18
Thursday	Music Club	Mrs Newbould	3:15	4:15	KS2 (Max 15)	20/09/18
	Knitting	Dr Ashe	12:30	1:20	Yr 2-6 (Max 12)	20/09/18
Friday	Handball	Mr Marsland	3:15	4:15	Y4/5/6 (Max 16)	21/09/18

**Weekly Whole School Attendance**

**99%**



**PTA September Sizzle—Friday 28th September**

This hugely popular event takes place straight after school until 5pm. There will be a BBQ and a bar. This is not a fundraiser it's more about the school community. Come along and enjoy!

**Academic Calendar**

With this newsletter you should receive this years Academic Calendar which will give you details about all the events that are coming up this year including Parents' Evenings and Class Assemblies. Please pin on your fridge!

**Black Post Box**

In the Office Reception area we have a black post box on the wall which parents can put any paperwork, payments or confidential information. If you don't have time to wait to hand something in at the office, just post it in the black box.

**Forest Schools**

Years 3 and 4 will be alternating Forest School this term. Year 4 have already had their first session this week so next week on Tuesday 11th September Year 3 will have their turn.

Please remember to bring waterproof clothing into school in a named bag with wellington boots as they will be going outside in all weather conditions.



**School Tuck Shop**

We would like to remind parents that the children run a daily tuck shop at break time for junior children to purchase a piece of fruit. Each piece of fruit costs 20p. This does not apply to infant children as they have free fruit as part of a government initiative.

**Just Sing—Community Choir**

Led by Celia Hart this choir meets here at St Matthew's every Wednesday evening 7.30—9.00pm. Entry is £4. Please contact Celia for more information on 07713155125.

**Dates for your Diary**

**Michaelmas Term**

Sunday 9th September	Y6 Residential to PGL
Wednesday 12th September	Y6 return from PGL
Friday 14th September	Y6 Class Assembly
	Y4 tour Stroud
Friday 21st September	St Matthew's Day Service (Church)
Friday 28th September	Interhouse Football & Netball
	PTA September Sizzle
Friday 5th October	Harvest Festival (Church)
	Interhouse Football & Netball (reserve date)
Tuesday 16th October	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 17th October	Parents' Evening
Thursday 18th October	Michaelmas Term Ends
Friday 19th October	Inset Day



**Head Teachers Certificate**

Week Ending 7th September 2018	
Year 1	Leo Pritchard
Year 2	Oliver Jameson
Year 3	Luca Verinder-Baker
Year 4	Kelsie Griffin
Year 5	Caitlyn Oates
Year 6	Jack Neate

**Would your child like to learn to play a musical instrument?**

From Y2/3 upwards we currently offer tuition at school for violin, keyboard, flute and clarinet. There are fees payable for these lessons. Pupils currently eligible for Pupil Premium will have financial assistance with tuition fees. If we have enough interest in another instrument such as guitar, we could look into the possibility of asking another tutor to come and give lessons. Please ask at the school office for further information.

**Dogs on school grounds!**

Can we please remind parents that dogs are not permitted on school grounds, unless they are support dogs or therapy dogs. This is mainly due to some children being allergic to pet hair plus we do have children who are really scared of dogs. We appreciate your support with this.