



Newsletter 7

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

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

18th October 2018

Dear Parents,

We've made it! The holiday is finally upon us.

Thank you so much for all your support that you have given us all during this rather challenging term. It has been a roller coaster, we've had our ups and we've had our downs however, we must remember that ultimately the only way now is up!

I absolutely appreciate that the Ofsted report has been a shock and raised lots of questions. These questions are all incredibly important to us and will help us to move the school forward. I appreciate that for some people asking the more challenging questions can be very difficult. Please do appreciate that I do value these questions and although they may be difficult to hear, they are better out in the open and then can be addressed with action, information or reassurance.

After half term we have our first Key Stage Parent Champion meeting. This meeting is open to all parents in the Reception class, Year 1 and Year 2. If you can't make the meeting and have a question please do contact the Parent Champion for your class. The meeting will start 7:30. The minutes will be published the following Friday.

In the meantime, have a wonderful half! Good luck to all those parents, relatives and staff running the Stroud Half Marathon. Mrs Young and I will be there and will be needing lots of encouragement and jelly babies!

We look forward to seeing you all after half term. Congratulations to all our new Reception children and parents, you've done it! It has been an absolute pleasure to watch the children settle so quickly into their new routines.

Best wishes, Gina Thomson

School Trips—Voluntary Contribution

For clarification, the purpose of school trips is always to support class teaching and learning. There is no central funding for educational trips. This is why we ask parents for a 'voluntary contribution' to cover the cost of their child attending. The amount asked for is a direct reflection of the actual cost of the trip for your child. We are not cannot insist on each parent 'contributing' but if the cost of a is not covered then it could be cancelled.

Please do contact the school office if a trip 'contribution' is a problem for you, before the due date.

Weekly Whole School Attendance

97%



Games Club

There are just a couple of places left in Games Club which will begin on Wednesday 31st October. If your child is interested please pop to the office and fill in a permission slip.

Forest Schools

After half term Year 6 and Year 4 will be alternating Forest Schools. Please see below dates for each year group:

Tuesday 30th October Year 6
Tuesday 6th November Year 4
Tuesday 13th November Year 6
Tuesday 20th November Year 4
Tuesday 27th November Year 6
Tuesday 4th December Year 4
Tuesday 11th December Year 6
Tuesday 18th December Year 4



'Thankfulness'

"There is always, always, always something to be thankful for!"



Please remember to bring in waterproof clothing in a named bag with wellington boots - they will be going outside whatever the weather.

St Matthew's Playgroup Table Top Sale

On Friday 26th October St Matthew's Playgroup will be holding a table top sale in the Church hall. There will be tea and cake, children's clothes on sale, maybe pick up a present or two for Christmas. It will be open from 9am until 1pm. Pop along and take a look!



Year 1 Coffee Mornings

As promised after Half Term Mrs Bateman will be running weekly Coffee Mornings for parents every Wednesday from 8.45am—10am in The Den.

The dates are as follows:

Wednesday 14th November	Reception Class
Wednesday 21st November	Year 2
Wednesday 28th November	Year 3
Wednesday 5th December	Year 4
Wednesday 12th December	Year 5 and 6

Please note as Year 1 parents have already been to their Coffee Morning they are not on this list. However, please remember that you can email Mrs Bateman on:
j.bateman@st-matthews.gloucs.sch.uk if you have any worries or concerns, or just pop in.

PTA Change of Event

The PTA Disco that was arranged for Friday 16th November has been cancelled and re-arranged for the new year. However, in its place the PTA have arranged for Film Night instead. Details are as follows:

Thursday 15th November: Infant Classes 3.30pm—4.30pm
Friday 16th November: Junior Classes 3.30pm—5pm

The films will be confirmed after half term and the tickets will be £3 each. More information will follow shortly including how to purchase your tickets.

Just to clarify that the children will go out to play at the end of the school day and then come in for 3.30pm to watch the film. Parents **do not** need to collect their children between 3.15pm and 3.30pm.

99 Club Badges Awarded for this week

Well done to the children listed below who have worked hard on their timetables and have achieved the following '99' Club badges this week:

Y3: Oscar Mooney (11)
Y5: Kayla Ahmad (55), Archie Wilkinson (55)

Please return any badges that are out of date to the office so that we can give them to other children. Thank you.



School Photographs

The photograph orders will now be collected by Tempest on Monday 29th October so there is still time for you to bring in your orders if you haven't already done so this afternoon!



Foodbank Donations from Harvest Festival

The Stroud District Foodbank have sent through a huge thank you for the very generous donation of products. They were absolutely delighted with how much was sent in.

Vision, Weight and Measurements Screening

On Monday 29th October the Health & Wellbeing team will be in school to check children's vision screening in Reception Year and measuring height and weight for children in Reception class and Year 6.

A letter was sent home at the end of September however, if you would like a copy please come to the office.



Dates for your Diary:

Friday 19th October Inset Day

Advent Term

Monday 29th October

Thursday 8th November
Friday 9th November
Wednesday 14th November
Friday 16th November

Friday 23rd November
Saturday 24th November
Thursday 29th November
Friday 30th November

Tuesday 11th December
Wednesday 12th December
Thursday 13th December
Friday 14th December
Wednesday 19th December

Thursday 20th December
Friday 21st December

Inset Day

Advent Term begins
YR & Y6 Weights & Measurements—Health & Wellbeing Team
Start of 'Kindness' Enrichment Week
Flu Immunisation Programme (YR—Y5)
Y1 visit Copesgrove Farm
Y3 visit Vue Cinema
Y5 Class Assembly
Children in Need
PTA Event (see details above)
Sportshall Athletics
Rowing Competition—Cardiff
Y5 Maths Workshop (invited children only)
Advent Service—Church
Handball Festival
Whole School Open Afternoon
Infant Nativity—Dress Rehearsal
Infant Nativity
Infant Nativity
PTA Christmas Fayre
Christmas Lunch
Junior Carol Service—Church
Advent Term ends (2.30pm) The Den (5pm)
Inset Day



Your Child's Annual Flu Vaccination—8th November 2018

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against Flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. A leaflet explaining the programme was sent home in September.

Where possible the Gloucestershire Care Services team have asked that parents/carers use their preferred online option. In order for your child to receive their vaccination please complete the online consent form (one per child) so that your child can be given the vaccine in school by visiting their website on:

<https://www.glos-care.nhs.uk/consentforms>

On successfully completing your online consent form, you will receive an email confirmation.

If you did not get the original letter and leaflet from Gloucestershire Care Services please come to the office for a copy.

Just to confirm the vaccination is a quick and simple spray up the nose.

St Matthew's vaccination date is 8th November 2018. If you wish to vaccinate your child earlier, please contact the team to book your child into one of the other community clinics.