

# St. Matthew's

## Church of England Infant School

Weekly Newsletter

18<sup>th</sup> September 2020



Dear Parents

This week we have been talking about our responsibilities in helping to care for our world. We read the story of Creation and thought of the many blessings our world offers us – the most wonderful things that make us say ‘wow!’ I know that for me, the scenery when walking in the Lake District is a definite ‘Wow!’ moment, and the children had many of their own amazing things about nature to share. Classes have been discussing what they can do to show that they are helping to take care of God’s world – for example recycling, using less plastic, not wasting water or energy, and walking instead of using the car.

Reverend Elisabeth did her first zoom collective worship of the year for the classes on Tuesday, sharing Julia Donaldson’s story ‘Monkey Puzzle’ and talking with the children about how we are all special to God, and how he holds everyone’s name in the palm of his hand.

Well done to the children who have been awarded a ‘Being Responsible’ certificate from home this week – we enjoyed celebrating with you in our assembly today. Well done to: Madeleine for helping her sister settle into school; Sara for making good choices; Sienna for helping her sister settle into school; Jack for getting himself ready and trying out a new sport; Izzy for getting herself ready and dressed for school each morning; Alexander for helping at his sister’s birthday party; Charlie for reminding mummy and daddy about his reading; Jude for reading every day and putting his uniform on quickly; Michelle for learning to ride her bike without stabilisers; Grace Mo. for being so helpful after school while mummy and daddy are still working; Florence for looking after her sister; Mae for laying the table without being asked; Wilfred D for being so helpful this week for mummy; Gracie for super listening and making good choices; Casper for helping to paint the bike shed; Joshua B for carrying his own things to the car and going into school with a smile; Harrison for getting himself dressed every morning; Libby for tidying up the role play without being asked; and Imogen for making her bed and putting her pyjamas under her pillow without being asked. What an amazing bunch!!

Well done to Gathia for earning the very first St Matthew’s ‘trowel award’ for looking after the school allotment with his mum over the summer :) We are looking forward to giving out many more trowel awards to children who help on the school allotment – more to follow on this.

Due to covid-19 and class bubbles, we are not yet able to invite parent volunteers into school. However, learning outdoors is a key part of our learning and something that we can invite parents to help with, and this help would be gratefully received. Each class has an outdoor learning afternoon and we also have an allotment that parents can help the classes with. All volunteers are required to take part in the Confidentiality and Safeguarding training, and this will need to be done online. Instead of the morning and afternoon dates advertised for this on 23<sup>rd</sup> / 24<sup>th</sup> September, I am going to do an **evening Safeguarding online training for parents on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 7:15pm** as hopefully this will be at a time that is easier for parents to attend. If you would like to volunteer at school, please email me on [ht@stmatthewsschool.co.uk](mailto:ht@stmatthewsschool.co.uk) and I will send you documents to read and a link for the session.

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October I will be doing a talk for Year One parents on the school admissions process for Year 3. This talk will take place at 7:45pm and I will send Year One parents the zoom link nearer the time.

Our own admissions policy for 2021 has been amended to take into account any possible church closure due to covid, while there is a requirement of attendance at church for a church letter to support the supplementary admissions form. The requirement will only apply when church has been available for worship.

As part of lessons and to support learning, pictures are often taken of the children in class e.g. in role play, showing something achieved in maths. Sometimes this means the picture being stuck in the child's book, either as evidence or to support a piece of work to be done. Occasionally, it will mean that another child in the class may be in that picture. Please let us know if you do not want your child to be included in a picture in another child's book.

Pick-up times at the end of the day are working well and there is good social distancing being maintained, but I have noted that, in the mornings, social distancing is not being so well adhered to. Please can all parents ensure that children stay with them in line and try to arrive at the correct time for their class. We need to request that children are not running up the bank and around the trees etc and are waiting next to their parents to go through the gate.

I would like to say a very big thank you to the Blogg and Mills families for their very generous gift of a buddy bench to the school – it is a super, colourful playground addition.

Have a good weekend

Mrs Hutt

## AWARDS OF THE WEEK



<b>Rabbits:</b>	Gabriele and Imogen for remembering the instructions and reminding the others in their team.
<b>Otters:</b>	Grace Mo for approaching all her work with such a responsible and mature attitude.
<b>Badgers:</b>	Emily for great listening and always making the right choice.

	<b>Wisdom Award:</b>	R – Libby for always doing the right thing and remembering all of the class rules already. Wow!
		O – Bella for being such a responsible friend and always thinking about the feelings of others.
		B – Summer for being so responsible helping to keep the classroom tidy.

<b>Golden Tickets</b>	
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## DIARY DATES

Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	7.15pm Safeguarding online training via zoom
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Open Morning Zoom meeting for prospective parents 10.30am



## FUNDRAISING

Two great ways to help fund raise for St Matthew's that are easy to set up and cost free to you.....



St Matthew's is registered with Easyfundraising which you can use whilst online shopping. It is very easy to set up on your browser and raises additional funds for the school, that is cost free to you!

Information about how it works can be found with this link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how-it-works>

There is a mobile app you can shop through and/or you can download a helpful donation reminder onto laptops/desktops so that anytime you shop that could trigger a donation it will remind you to apply it with just one click. This is really worthwhile doing for big spend items - weekly food shops, holidays, insurance, new mobile, etc.

Please register your email on the easyfundraising site using St Matthew's School Fund - Cobham as your good cause. Setting this as your home page is another good way to remember!



Amazon Smile

St Matthew's is now registered with Amazonsmile. This means every time you shop on Amazon, a donation will be made to St Matthews school!

Please follow this link to set it up on your Amazon:

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/117492-0>

Do spread the word amongst family too.

Thank you.