

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 1 2026

stmatthews.kingston.sch.uk

The Friends of St Matthew's Primary School www.fosmps.com



Please find attached St George's Church family fun day flyer. This family event happens this Saturday 12 September from 12-4 and is sure to be packed full of fun!

Congratulations!

Over the summer holidays, Mrs Chamberlain had a baby girl. We say huge congratulations to her and her husband and wish them all much happiness! I am sure she will visit and show off her new bundle soon!

Welcome back to a new school year!

We hope that you have had a restful break this summer and look forward to catching up on the children's news. We wish to say a special 'Welcome' to our Reception classes who joined us full-time today! We are very excited that you have joined us and we look forward to getting to know you!

Welcome too, to any new children that have joined us at St. Matthew's this new academic year and also welcome to our new members of staff. We are sure that you will all settle easily and quickly.

We hope that you have all the information that you need but do let us know in the School Office if there is anything else with which we can help you.

This is our first newsletter of the term and all parents should receive email alerts. Do let the admin team know if you change your email address or your mobile number.

Every minute counts!

We would like to stress the importance of consistent attendance at the beginnings and ends of half-terms and terms especially. During the last academic year, we observed that pupils who were absent during the initial week faced certain challenges.

One possible explanation is that missing school during the first week can set pupils on an unfavourable path, potentially leading to difficulties later in the academic year. This conclusion aligns with the findings of the Children's Commissioner's report.

However, another perspective to consider is that pupils who miss school in the first week may have underlying circumstances that predispose them to persistent absenteeism. It's likely that these pupils have faced ongoing attendance issues in the past. Therefore, starting the term with strong attendance is essential to set a positive trajectory for the entire academic year.

We would love our school community to support this environmentally friendly event at St Matthew's Church. We shall be holding our usual eco-refill stall too.

ST. MATTHEW'S SURBITON

Eco Church

Eco-Festival

26th September 2026 2:30pm-4:30pm

Swap, Fix, Learn, Make.

NO CHARGE

COMMUNITY SWAP:
Clothes
Shoes and Accessories
Books
Jigsaws
Board Games
Bring up to 5 items from any category (or more than one) and swap them for up to five items from a similar category. Good condition and good quality please with all the pieces working. No intimate apparel please...

FIX:
Learn basic bike repairs or have someone look at your bike and assess the repair.*
Learn to sew a button or simple clothing repair.

LEARN:
Knitting
Weaving
All about Flax and see our progress
Recipes cards for seasonal projects

REFILL
St. Matthew's School will be on hand to sell liquid shampoo and soap into your own container. This is the only thing you pay for. Electronic payments preferred.

MAKE:
A button bookmark or project
Recycled Windowsill Gardens and soil free Lettuce
A household Earth pledge

FREE REFRESHMENTS

*we hope to offer bike marking TBC

Curriculum Year Group Meetings: are a great opportunity to meet and hear from your child's class teacher and be able to ask any queries that you may have. Even if you have had an older child in the year group before, things do change so please make the time to go along.

Y1 Wednesday 9th September 6.30pm **TODAY**

Y3 Thursday 10th September 6.30 pm

Y2 Monday 14th September 6.30pm

Y4 Tuesday 15th September 6.30pm

Reception Classes Wednesday 16 September 6.30pm

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We encourage everyone to have a healthy morning snack such as a piece of fruit. For Reception and Key Stage 1, a piece of fruit is provided. If pupils in Key Stage 2 would like fruit too, please pay via School Gateway.

Jeans for Genes Day- Friday 25 September.

On this day, your child will be invited to wear their home clothes in exchange for a donation of £1 via **School Gateway** to be donated to this crucial charity that investigates and supports families who are affected by genetic disorders.



Made with AI

Friends of St Matthew's Primary School (FoSMPS)

Registered Charity – Building community, supporting our children, making a difference together

We Welcome Parents from the Lower Years!

FoSMPS is a registered charity seeking **new committee members** to help shape our fundraising and community events.

★ Committee Roles (up to 8)

- **Treasurer** (priority role this year)
- **Secretary**
- **Co-Chair**
- **Plus other trustee roles**

All committee members are **charity trustees**, serving for **one year**, confirmed at our AGM in early October.

Apply by 25 September 2026

✉ fosmps@gmail.com

- Please include:
- Name
- Child's class
- Your motivation
- Any specific role you'd like

FoSMPS – Friends of St Matthew's Primary School
Together we make a difference.

Emergency Telephone Numbers

Please ensure that your child's emergency contact numbers are kept up-to-date with the school office. We do require at least two numbers. If you need to update us with new contact details, please email the school office on admin@stmatthews.rbksch.org

The Parenting Puzzle

The 'Nurturing' programme helps deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer happier family life. Suitable for parents and carers of children up to 11 years of age.

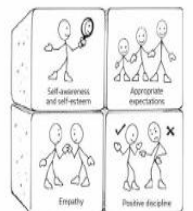


The course will help provide adults and children with the understanding, skills and ability to lead emotionally healthy lives, build resilience, empathy, self-esteem and support positive relationships.



Over 10 weeks you will look at different topics including:

- understanding why children behave as they do
- recognising the feelings behind behaviour (ours and theirs)
- exploring different approaches to discipline



Where: **Tolworth Children's Centre, School Lane, Surbiton, KT6 7SA**

The group starts on **Wednesday 30th September 2026** and runs from **10.00am to 12.00pm**

Kingston courses: Contact Karen Williams
E: karen.williams@achievingforchildren.org.uk
T: 07771 974388

Richmond courses: Contact Tom Maybey
E: tom.maybey@achievingforchildren.org.uk
T: 07864 609913



Thank you FOSMPS

It was so lovely to meet lots of new parents at drop off earlier today as they brought in their Reception -aged children. A big thank you to Michelle and to Lee for setting up the coffee morning and reassuring our newcomers. Do let the FOSMPS WhatsApp members or the school office know if you are unsure about anything.