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 2 No 1 2026 stmatthews.kingston.sch.uk

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

BIG THANK YOU to the lovely Caterlink staff (Simone and Jan) for laying on mouth watering tasters of the school lunches during our recent Parent Evenings.

Wrap up London! Please bring to school office!
School are collecting coats that you no longer wear- to provide coats that go directly to people across the UK who struggles to keep warm during the winter months!

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

House Captains will be coming around each day to sell poppies for this great cause. Please send your donations via school gateway by 9am on 10 November! Thank you

Eco-Schools

We know it's easy to forget when trip forms are filled in weeks in advance, but after Year 3's recent trip to Butser farm, we unfortunately had to throw away **34** school packed lunches because children had brought their own lunch from home.
As an eco-school, this level of food waste is something we're really keen to avoid.
Thank you so much for your support with this – every lunch we don't waste makes a difference!

Rights Respecting Articles of the Month

NOVEMBER

Each month we will be looking at different articles from UNICEF. This month, is **Remembrance and Anti-Bullying Week.** We will be looking at *Articles 2, 12, 13, 19 & 38.*

Please help your child to understand more about these events and articles.



你好，十一月

Hello November! We are so excited to return to school and we hope everyone had a restful October half term! In November, we are celebrating Mandarin as our language of the month! We will be taking the register in Mandarin and learning some words and phrases! Over the course of the month, we will be celebrating our friends and members of school community who speak Mandarin as well as learning about cultures around the world that speak the language in some of our collective worships!

OPAL Parent Play Champion

As part of our ongoing OPAL development at St. Matthew's, we are inviting a parent volunteer to join our OPAL Working Party and help us explore new ways to make playtimes enjoyable, engaging and rewarding for every child.
We are keen to work alongside a parent who can share fresh ideas, bring a family perspective and help us create a fun, inclusive and inspiring play environment for all our children. This is a wonderful opportunity to make a real difference to our children's enjoyment of school, their friendships and their overall development.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the school office and mark your email for the attention of Mrs Lowe, our OPAL curriculum lead for play. We would ask our parent volunteer to attend two working party meetings each year, with dates shared as soon as they are confirmed.
Thank you for your continued support and for helping us make St. Matthew's a happy, welcoming place where every child can learn, play and thrive.



Living Streets Travel Tracker

Class of the Month: Blue



Well done, you have recorded the most active trips to school for October!

Who will be the winners next month?



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

Community Updates There are places available on a number of parenting groups in Kingston borough.
Triple P Seminars, standalone sessions for parents and carers of children up to 12 years - limited creche places available - Tuesday mornings in Chessington

Playful Parenting for parents and carers of children under 5 years - limited creche places available - Thursday mornings in New Malden & **123 Magic** for parents and carers of children up to 7 years of age who display challenging behaviour/ADHD - limited creche places - Thursday mornings in New Malden



Magnetic Safety (Child Accident Prevention Trust)
The Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) warns that more than 300 children a year are rushed to A&E after swallowing magnets and one in ten needs life-saving surgery.

When strong magnets stick together inside the body, they can rip through a child's gut, cutting off blood supply and causing life-threatening injuries. Even toddlers have needed hours of emergency surgery, and some children are left with lasting internal damage.

Magnets don't just come in toys – they're also found in jewellery kits, fridge magnets, puzzles, dartboards, fidget toys and desk gadgets. Worryingly, some magnets sold online are 17 times stronger than the UK safety limit.
Remind parents to:

Buy only from trusted brands and retailers.
Be cautious with cheap copies and online marketplaces.
Keep magnets and products containing them out of children's reach.

On Wednesday 21st October Years 5 & 6 competed in a football tournament at the other end of Kingston sadly, during torrential rain, lightning and thunder. The exciting tournament that we had waited for weeks for, was cancelled. But at least at the end, we got a well-deserved hot chocolate and showers. We hope it will be rescheduled and it will be a forever memory.





The **recent Phonic workshop** for parents was well attended and focused on helping you understand phonics so that you can support your child.
The slides have all been put on each google classroom for you to access. If you have any questions, please do ask Mrs Gledhill or write a note in your child's blue communication book. Thank you to Miss Gledhill!

PAC A MAC
These kinds of LIGHT pack away jackets are excellent for popping in your child's school bag. Please ensure your child has a coat with them- even if the day starts as sunny- as we go outside in all weathers!
Thank you for your support with this.

