

St. Matthew's

Church of England Infant School

Weekly Newsletter

20th July 2018



Dear Parents

Our end of year and leavers' assembly on Wednesday said so much about progress made by each class and about each and every child here at St Matthew's. All children have grown in confidence this year and have made great strides as learners, at the same time developing special friendships, which are delightful to see. Rabbits Class practised their end of year songs regularly amongst the busyness of their daily learning activities, and were patient with all the practises required for a smooth performance - they did a fantastic job on the day. Otters Class show increasing confidence and maturity and have watched the Badgers in their leaving preparations, looking up to them as their role models and something to aspire to. Otters performed their poems and songs with their usual flair.

We are proud of all the children in the school and of course we are always especially proud of our leaving Badgers because we know how hard they have worked, how far they have come in developing their confidence as learners, as friends and as unique individuals. It was such a pleasure to award their certificates, drawing out special aspects of each child's personality as we have got to know them so well. It was equally lovely to hear what the children had to say about each other because I know that each and every comment was heart-felt by the whole class and was a super surprise for each child.

It is always hard to say goodbye to Badgers, I prefer to say 'see you soon' because I do want to have past children and families popping in to let us know how things are going (there's always the Christmas fair.... Summer fair...!) All Badgers are ready to take their next steps with complete readiness and with a set of growth mindset skills that will take them far! All Rabbits and Otters are ready for their next class and the teachers are ready and waiting – all deserving their summer break first!

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of the parents at St Matthew's because it is working together that helps to make this school so special and helps to provide the very best learning experiences for our children. The children are at the centre of everything we do – and from every conversation between school and home where we may have an issue to support, every time someone helps in class or on a trip, or offers a hand to water vegetables... to lead a fund-raising event, all together these things add up to an amazing recipe of supportive parents.

On that note, any parents who are helping to weed and water the allotment over the summer, please help yourself to the produce – there will be courgettes, beans, tomatoes and beetroot for the picking! It was great to see so many parents and children at the allotment 'grand opening' on Wednesday – it really is a special space that the children enjoy greatly during their outdoor learning times. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this lovely occasion!

I would like to say thank you to all of the staff at St Matthew's for yet another amazing year. Everybody – whether it be office staff, lunchtime supervisors, teaching assistants, learning support assistants or teachers – is dedicated and passionate about making sure we are the very best that we can be. Thank you for all your hard work, mutual support and adaptability – you are all a pleasure to work with and I consider myself very lucky.

Thank you also to all of our governors who, as volunteers, give a huge amount of time and energy to helping us ensure we remain an outstanding school – our constant ambition.

Thank you this week to Ella and her dad for talking to the whole school about France – we found out about some French food (wine, bread, cheese and croissants), about the flag and the Eiffel tower, and we had a go at saying some French words – *Bonjour!*

Looking ahead to the beginning of the new term, there are some important dates for parents' diaries: **St Matthew's Maypole Dancing for Cobham Heritage Day on Saturday 8th September** – all classes have been practising and children leaving Badgers are invited to join us (so don't throw your uniform away!) I am not sure which time slot we have been given yet but it is usually early lunchtime. We hope lots of children can dance on the day.

Class Welcome Parents Evening on Wednesday 12th September – for parents of all classes at **7:45pm.**

Maths and Literacy Workshops on Wednesday 3rd October – for parents of all classes at **7:30pm.**

Otters and Badgers First day of term is Wednesday 5th September and for new Rabbits is Monday 10th September.

Well done to George, Anthony M, Edith and Isaac for finishing their sticker charts.

I wish you all a very happy summer!

Mrs Hutt



AWARDS OF THE WEEK



SUPERSTARS

Rabbits:	Evie and Zachary for being incredibly kind and caring members of Rabbits class. Emilio for having great ideas of how to build something.
Otters:	Dexter for being such a great all rounder and everyone – you’ve been an amazing class – all superstars!! 😊
Badgers:	EVERYONE! For being such a lovely class. It has been a pleasure to teach you all! 😊

Wisdom Award:	R – Sam for making wise choices and sharing our toys with his friends. O – Phoebe for having a caring nature and for looking after her friends when they need it – great choices! B – Lukas for showing great wisdom when discussing why and how Christians worship God.
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Golden Tickets	Charlotte B, Ant and Leo
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DIARY DATES

Tuesday 4 th September	Inset day
Wednesday 5 th September	Otters and Badgers first day of term
Saturday 8 th September	Cobham Heritage Day