

4<sup>th</sup> October 2018



### Scooters

Parents, please ensure your child(ren)'s scooter or bicycle is easily recognisable. We suggest adding a decoration/ribbon along with a name – that way if there is a scooter mix-up, it can be easily resolved. Please also check your son/daughter's scooters to ensure that he/she actually owns it, as a few have been taken in error.



### GOAL Jersey Day

On 12<sup>th</sup> October, we are hosting 'Jersey Day', a fundraising event for GOAL. Children are invited to wear a jersey of their choice. Children are asked to bring a small donation of €2 towards the charity and their current work. Thank you in advance for your co-operation and generosity.



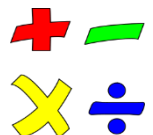
### Gardening

We are looking for volunteers for a St. Matthew's Gardening Committee. We are looking for a group of parents to come in once a term and help with maintenance of our school garden. If you have a few hours to spare once a term and/or if you are interested in co-ordinating, please email [secretary@stmatts.ie](mailto:secretary@stmatts.ie)



### Maths Week

Maths Week Ireland is being held from the 13<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup> October. There will be lots of fun Maths activities being held in school. Check out <http://www.mathsweek.ie/2018/> for more events around Ireland!



### Dress Up Parade

**Our 'Dress Up Parade' will be on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 9am.**

Children are invited to dress up should they wish to do so. There is no theme this year. Parents are welcome to attend the parade. We hope to hold it in the school yard (weather permitting), otherwise it will be in the school hall.

Please note the following:

- Young children can be easily frightened by some costumes, no outfit or mask should be so scary that it causes this reaction.
- The use/inclusion of fake blood and weapons is not permitted
- Costumes must allow the children to be/move as normal during the school day and should be suitably warm for an October morning.

P.T.O. →



### Mid-Term Break Closure

**Reminder: The school will be closed for the October Mid-Term Break from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November inclusive.**

(Usual home-times apply and Afterschool Club, Drama and Spanish take place as usual on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October). The school will re-open on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 8.30am.

### Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal



This year St. Matthew's will be taking part in the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Many of you will be familiar with this project from previous years. Shoeboxes are filled with school items, hygiene items, small clothing items, toys etc. and sent to needy children across the world.

We will be asking that shoeboxes be prepared at home and dropped to school for collection. Leaflets will be distributed on the 15<sup>th</sup> October.

We are asking that **completed shoeboxes be returned to school by 7<sup>th</sup> November** and they will be collected from school by Team Hope.



### Upcoming Events at St. Matthew's Church

- \* The Harvest Thanksgiving service will take place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October at 11.30am. All welcome.
- \* The beautifully refurbished St. Matthew's Church will be rededicated on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm by the Archbishop of Dublin. All welcome.

### 2019 School Calendar

The PTA are currently creating the 2019 School Calendar. If you/your company wish to sponsor the Calendar, please speak to your class PTA Rep or email [secretary@stmatts.ie](mailto:secretary@stmatts.ie)

Many thanks

### CyberSafe Ireland workshops for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Class

Following last week's CyberSafe Ireland workshops for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils and parents, I attach a poster that will help parents speak to their children about online safety. You can check out their website, [www.cybersafeireland.org](http://www.cybersafeireland.org) for further information. Great tips on online safety and explaining apps/games to parents is available on

[www.webwise.ie](http://www.webwise.ie)



# **Annual Parent Evening Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**

A black silhouette of a person is shown on the left, holding a large, irregularly shaped banner that extends to the right. The banner contains the agenda text.

## **Agenda**

- **Report from outgoing PTA**
- **Introduction of 2018/2019 PTA Committee**
- **Board of Management Report**

**All parents are welcome to find out more about St. Matthew's.  
Children's classrooms will be open for parents to visit.**

**Tea & Coffee will be served from 7.15pm**

#Stronger  
SmarterSafer

# 5 THINGS WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT AT HOME...

because being part of our children's online lives helps to keep them safe and happy.

## KEEP IT PRIVATE

- Don't share personal information like your email address or date of birth.
- Turn ON privacy settings to protect your stuff.
- Don't add people you don't know.
- Turn OFF location sharing.
- If you wouldn't share with a stranger on the street, don't share it publicly online.

## KEEP IT POSITIVE

- Think about how much information you are sharing online.
- A comment that you leave on someone's page or what you post when out with friends, may not give the best impression of you.

## KEEP IT REAL

- If you wouldn't say it to someone's face, don't say it online.
- Be the same person online as you would be in real life.
- Beware fake profiles. Other people may not be who they say they are.

## KEEP IT HEALTHY

- Find a healthy balance with screen time. The Internet is designed to be addictive.
- Avoid gaming or any screen time for at least an hour before bedtime.
- The number of 'likes' you get does not define you as a person.

## KEEP TALKING TO ME

- You can always talk to me if you are worried or uncomfortable about anything online.
- Tell me about what you like online, and what you don't like.
- Sometimes you won't know the best thing to do. Don't simply react – talk it over first with an adult you trust.

35% of children have never or rarely spoken to a parent about online safety.

[www.cybersafeireland.org](http://www.cybersafeireland.org)

@CyberSafeIE

/cybersafeireland

**CyberSafeIreland**  
Empowering kids to be Stronger  
Smarter & Safer online

**TÚSLA**  
An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency

**CYPSC**  
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES  
Wicklow

