



7th February 2019

Classroom Move

On Friday, Ms. Gallagher's 1st Class will be swapping classroom with 3rd Class. This will mean that our 1st Class classrooms are opposite each other and that 3rd Class will have a slightly bigger classroom.

Dates For Your Diary 2019

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| Friday 15th February | Active Assembly |
| Friday 15th February | 3 rd – 6 th Class will be going to the Aviva Stadium to see the Irish Rugby Squad Open Training Session. <i>We plan to depart the school at 10am approx and return before 1pm. Thank you to those who have volunteered to accompany us on the trip and to Carmel O'Dwyer for organising the tickets. Please make sure your son/daughter is dressed for the weather.</i> |
| Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February Inclusive | School will be closed for Mid-Term Break |
| Tuesday 5th March | Pancake Tuesday ... more delicious details to follow! |
| Monday 4th – Friday 8th March | St. Matthew's Engineering Week |
| Thursday 7th March | St. Matthew's N.S. will be celebrating World Book Day! Details about children inviting a special visitor to follow next week. |
| Friday 8th March | 1 st Class will be hosting Assembly @ 9am in the School Hall. All welcome! |
| Monday 18th March | School Closed - St. Patrick's Day Bank Holiday |
| Tuesday 19th March | History Workshops for children in 4 th , 5 th & 6 th Class from "Heritage in Schools" Programme |
| Monday 25th – Friday 29th March Inclusive | St. Matthew's Seachtain na Gaeilge |
| Thursday 28th March | PTA Table Quiz – 7.30pm – The Merry Cobbler |



PTA Table Quiz

Mark your calendars now for the **St. Matthew's table quiz on Thursday March 28th at 7.30pm in the Merry Cobbler**. Guaranteed to be a great night with quiz, prizes, raffle and spot prizes galore. Tickets (€10 each) go on sale via Aladdin this month. Any class that has attendance of 15 or more will get homework off for the night! The quiz committee are seeking volunteer parents from each class to ask a round of questions, so let your class rep know if you're interested.



Bling Your Bike/Funky Feet Competition Next Week

The Active Committee are running this challenge from the 11th - 15th February. Children from 1st to 6th Class can choose to decorate their bike and bring it to school on Thursday 14th February for teacher's judging. Don't worry if you don't have a bike as 'blinged up' footwear will also be accepted (please bring, rather than wear!). Entries will be showcased at a special active assembly on Friday 15th February! We look forward to seeing lots of creativity in this challenge.



Please read on to next page ↓



Garda Vetting

If you have not been Garda Vetted by our school, but would like the opportunity, **please complete the attached form** and return it to the school (copies of form available from the School Office). This will mean that you will be able to accompany children and teachers on school trips, be involved in coaching, workshops and activities in the school etc. Should you have any queries, please speak to Mrs. Rousseau.

Teaching Practice Placements

Over the next few weeks, there will be two Teaching Practice placements. Christina Monaghan will be doing her placement in Ms. Dunne's 1st Class until 22nd February. Kevin Kavanagh will be in 6th Class until 8th March and Senior Infants until 12th April. The children will remain in the care and supervision of their class teacher at all times. Ana Ayerbe Fernandez from Spain will be in Senior Infants until 1st March. A small number of Transition Year pupils will be doing their work experience in the school over the coming months also.



Huge congratulations to Sarah Louise Connolly and her family on the birth of beautiful Sophia. We look forward to meeting Sophia in the coming few weeks! Welcome to Laura Groake who is teaching in 4th Class.



Aldi are giving schools the opportunity to win €50,000 to develop playing facilities alongside some smaller prizes. If you happen to be shopping in Aldi, please collect the Aldi Play Rugby Stickers with every €30 spent. Add them to the school poster in our lobby – hopefully we can fill it!



Spelling Bee

St. Matthew's will be entering the Eason's Spelling Bee once again this year. We will be holding our internal competitions for 5th & 6th Class, 3rd & 4th Class and 1st & 2nd Class after the Mid-Term Break.

Congratulations!

- * To our two Credit Union Quiz Teams, who have both won their 1st Round of the Credit Union Quiz. Having won their local quiz, they will now proceed onto Chapter Level. Wishing you the very best for Round 2!
- * To our school choir who performed brilliantly at the Peace Proms last Saturday. A wonderful time was had by all!!



No Homework Next Week!

As a little reward for working so hard throughout January, the children won't have any homework next week in the lead up to the Mid-Term Break! (In some classes, particularly where Literacy Lift Off is happening, reading will continue). As children will not need to write down their homework or hand up homework assignments, parents can drop their child(ren) to their classroom until the early bell. However, we would ask you to be mindful of the following:

- At St. Matthew's we endeavour to maximise learning time in our short school day by bringing children into their classroom when the school officially opens at 8.30am.
- Between 8.30am and 8.50am, children have extremely important individual time with their class teacher to read, get extra support in an area of difficulty, to develop independence skills and to have time with their peers.
- Please do not interrupt the class teacher. Should you have a message or query for the class teacher, please write a note to the teacher using your son/daughter's homework journal, send an email to secretary@stmatts.ie or give the message to Mrs. Rousseau or the School Office. The class teacher will then endeavour to get in touch with you a.s.a.p.
- As ever, please allow your son/daughter to carry his/her own schoolbag, hang up his/her own coat and make their way into the classroom alone.
- At St. Matthew's NS, all of our endeavours rotate around our children and this school belongs to them, not us. Please be mindful that some children in our school have special needs or struggle with anxiety. Our corridors need to remain calm and quiet places so that our children feel safe and empowered to make their way to their classroom.
- As always, on a Friday morning, all parents are welcome into their child's classroom.