



Friday 24th July, 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Today marks the last day of the most bizarre school year that any of us have ever known. While we know that there will be challenges to come in the autumn, we are ever hopeful that we will be able to continue to make changes that improve the daily life and educational offer that we have at St. Matthew's.

We had to say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils today. They have been a super group of children over the years and it was great that the Year 6 team were able to give them a proper send off today. We all wish them well at their chosen high schools. We know that they will continue to be fantastic representatives of St. Matthew's in the years to come.

Regarding September, we are looking forward to welcoming our whole school back starting on **Thursday 3rd September, 2020**. Things will be different, but we have been planning, risk assessing and organising timetables to make sure that we can operate as safely as possible come the autumn.

I will send out the finer details in the week before we return so it is fresh in your mind, but the key points are as follows:

- School will open close to the usual time of 8.50 am in the morning. You may be asked to come slightly earlier or later depending on how we group your child(ren). All children will be able to be dropped off by 9 o'clock.
- School will finish at the usual time of 3.15 pm. Again, you may be asked to come slightly earlier or later. All children will be on site until at least 3.10 pm
- The main principle of September re-opening is that we will be limiting the number of different contacts that children have in a day as best we can. In other words, we will be keeping each class as an exclusive group as much as possible: breaks and lunches will be on a rota and there will be no whole school assemblies.
- Breakfast Club will start up again on Monday 7th September. We will be writing to you the week before to ask you to book places a week in advance, so that we can plan for that effectively.

We will need up-to-date contact details and any information about your child's health and medical needs. Please use SIMS Lite to update your details or contact the school office at emily.comyn@cdatstmatthewsprimary.co.uk

Over the last few months, we have transformed our lines of communication. We are mostly using email and Class Dojo to get things out to parents and we will continue to be paperless

as much as possible in the autumn. Again, please make sure that we have an up-to-date email address and that you sign up for Class Dojo if you haven't already.

Finally, thank you for all of the support and understanding over the past months. I have really felt the staff team pulling together during this period and have also felt the community of St. Matthew's grow too. We cannot wait to build on this in the autumn. We know there will be challenges, but with your support and a talented team we will be able to make a significant difference for all of our children.

Onwards and upwards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Murphy'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'S' being large and prominent, followed by 'M' and 'U' in a similar style, and 'RPHY' in smaller letters.

Mr S Murphy
Headteacher