

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE-



THIS HALF TERM WE ARE FOCUSING ON THE CHRISTIAN VALUE OF TRUST

NOVEMBER 2023 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Introduction

I trust you all enjoyed a safe and relaxing half term break with your families and hope you find this newsletter helpful in keeping you up to date.

We are trying to keep parents/carers as informed and involved as possible and are continually updating our school **Twitter** account. This can be found at **Twitter@StMethodist**. Your child's class will add any exciting learning to these sites, so you can log on to see what they have been up to- you may be surprised!

Remote Learning

As you will be aware, we use Seesaw to support children's learning at home. Seesaw is used to set and mark homework and to communicate with parents/carers. Please ensure you check seesaw each day so you don't miss any important letters and information.

You will continue to receive half termly Home/School knowledge planners from your child's teacher, outlining knowledge to be taught this half-term. I hope you find these to be interesting and useful, when supporting your child with homework. These can also be found on the school website.

Uniform

Thank you for supporting us with our uniform policy. As the weather becomes colder please remember that trainers and boots e.g.; Ugg Boots are NOT allowed in school, the correct footwear is black shoes. Children wearing incorrect footwear will be **required to wear PE pumps** in school.



Punctuality and Attendance

It is vitally important that your child arrives for school at the 8.50am and **attends regularly**. Staff are working very hard to ensure all children progress and achieve their best and good attendance is key to this. If your child is going

to be absent for any reason, please remember to telephone the school office before 9.30am. Any holidays taken in term time WILL receive a fine.

Medical Appointments

Can you please try, whenever possible, to request medical appointments after 3.30pm. This avoids children missing learning when attending appointments.

Extra-curricular

After-school activities

Monday: KS1 multi-sports club
Pyramid club
Netball

Wednesday: Football
Choir

Thursday: Cricket
Maths Club

Breaktime clubs

Monday: Premier Sports coach (KS1 & 2)
Tuesday: Pupil rights group
Wednesday: Worship Committee, Coding Club
Thursday: Place2Talk, Sewing Club, DT/Geography club.
Friday: Premier Sports coach (KS1 & 2)
Place2Talk

Working with our Partners

Sale Sharks

Sale Sharks will be leading a series of lessons, over a six-week period (commencing 30th October), with Y5 and Y6 as part of their 'Try to Connect' programme. This is a school-based mental wellbeing programme delivered in partnership with Place2Be. It promotes positive mental health for primary aged children and includes classroom workshops followed by a tag rugby and multi-sport session that incorporates the themes discussed in the class based session.

Salford Road Safety Team

The schools' road safety team will be coming into to speak to KS2 classes about keeping children safe on the roads in winter. Evidence suggests that child pedestrian road accidents are more likely to occur in the mornings and afternoons on week-days during the winter months. The 'Be safe, be seen' class sessions have been developed to help children to keep themselves safe.

United Utilities

United Utilities will be bringing a 'Mad Science' assembly to school on 27th November.



The Royal British Legion

Every year we are proud to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Poppies will be on sale before and after school on the playground.



Children in Need non-uniform Day

Children in Need is on 17th November. This year's theme is 'The Great Spotacular!' If your child would like to bring in a voluntary contribution to the charity, they may come to school dressed in something spotty or red and yellow on this date.



Parents' Evening

Parents' evening will be held in school on 28th November. It will consist of a five minute meeting with your child's teacher. Following the success of the after-school 'book looks' we will not be making books available on this date. This will save time and reduce congestion in school.

Book Fair

During parents' evening, please spend some time browsing the Scholastic Book Fair. The book fair will be open in school each night after school from 27th November to 30th November inclusive.

Families

There will be a reading family learning workshop for Y1 and Y2 children on 14th November at 9am. Staff will send out further details of this.



There will be a Christingle family learning workshop for Y3 and Y4 children on 7th December. This will be led by Rev Sarah from Walkden Methodist Church.

Children in other classes are invited to bring in an orange from home and make their own Christingle on that date.

Christmas Events



We have been making lots of plans to ensure that Christmas in school, will be a magical and exciting time for the children. I have outlined the proposed Christmas celebrations and dates below.

Hamper Raffle

The staff are kindly donating items towards Christmas Hampers, which will be raffled off in December at the disco. The children will also be selling raffle tickets on the yard after school during the first two weeks of December.

Christmas Bauble Competition

The children are invited to make bauble/decoration at home for their class Christmas tree. These should be sent in on 4th December for the class Christmas tree light switch on! The winning bauble in each class will receive a prize.

Choir

The choir will be performing for senior citizens at the church luncheon club on 11th December. They will also be singing carols for residents at Bourke Gardens in Walkden.

Christmas Disco

There will be a Christmas Disco on 11th December from 6-7.30pm. This will be £1 admission for children and adults. Please note that children from Nursery to Y2 are only allowed to attend the disco if accompanied by a responsible adult. The disco will finish promptly at 7.30pm so please ensure you make arrangements for KS2 children to be collected on time.

Nursery Singalong

Families of nursery and Reception children are invited to a Christmas singalong on 12th December at 9.15am in the school hall. Mince pies, tea and coffee will be served from 9am.



Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day

The kitchen staff will be serving Christmas lunch on 12th December. If your child is on packed lunches, they have the option of buying a Christmas lunch. The office will be sending out forms to book and pay for the lunch in advance. Alternatively, you may wish to make your child's packed lunch more festive by adding a cracker or mince pie. Children are allowed to wear a Christmas jumper instead of their school sweatshirt on this day.

Christmas Production

The KS1 children in Year 1 and 2 will be presenting a production of the nativity story, 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel'. There will be two performances of this, at 9.30am on 11th December and at 2pm on the 13th December. Tickets (free of charge) will be available from the school office from 4th December and limited to two per family due to space restrictions. The office staff will send out further details.

Party Day

Party day will be on the 14th December. Class teachers will send out further details nearer the time.



Carol Service

Our traditional carol service in Walkden Methodist Church will be on the last day of term, Friday 15th December at 9.15am. It will be led by our Year 4 children. We really hope lots of families will join us for this.

Church Christingle

You are invited to join the congregation of Walkden Methodist Church for a Christingle service on Christmas Eve. This will be at 3pm.

Finally

School breaks up for the Christmas holiday on 15th December at 3.20pm and starts back on 3rd January 2024.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs. A. Barker
Headteacher