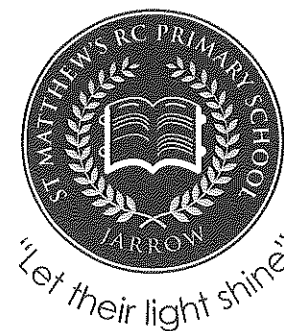


ST MATTHEW'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher **Martin G Humble** B Ed (Hons)

18 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you so much for the support you have given to us in school this year, it is greatly appreciated by us all. The children are very resilient and have come back to school with great enthusiasm and a zest for life. We are under no illusion that the challenges this virus brings are real and a threat to our health – so we remain vigilant as we adhere to newly established routines around school.

Many thanks for the support through the FOSM raising £2,000.00 towards the completed playground project. The children love the new installations! We also raised the grand total of £801.50 from the Christmas Raffle, Mrs Curran's Knitted Toys and the children's Christmas Craft – many thanks for your generous support, as always. The sum of £157.00 will also be sent to the Customs House Appeal and all the children have had great fun watching this year's Christmas Pantomime 'Arbutnot and Dame Bella's Christmas Adventure.

Fr Saji came into school yesterday and gave each year group a Christmas Blessing and he sends his best wishes to all our school community.

I would like to thank all of the members of staff at St Matthew's for their dedication in ensuring this building is clean, safe, bright and welcoming for your children. The school is a wonderful learning environment and we continue to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all of our children. The Teaching Team is tremendous and works tirelessly to provide learning opportunities to excite and inspire our children. The Administration Team provides wonderful support for us all and has excelled during these challenging times to keep on top of the many demands that have arisen. Our Catering and Lunchtime Team at St Matthew's has adapted tremendously this year in the most professional manner and continues to provide "first class" food with a smile!

The governance of the school has adapted well to the challenges of 2020. We thank Governors who are no longer in post – Mr Simon Blackburn, Mrs Angela Davies and Mrs Liz Boylan - for their sterling work as part of the Governing Body. We welcome two new Foundation Governors (Mrs Helen Hall and Mrs Anne-Marie McQuillin) and Parent Governor (Mrs Kath Coulter) to the Governing Body.

The recruitment process is underway to appoint a new Headteacher from September 2021. The advertisement for the post will be published early in the New Year.

We have been determined to ensure the Christmas Spirit is alive at St Matthew's and, as you will have seen on our Facebook page, the children have been enjoying all on offer to them. We hope you have enjoyed the recorded Christmas Plays and viewing all other activities.

On behalf of the whole school community I would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and Peace, Health and Happiness for the New Year.

God's Blessings on you all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin G Humble'.

Martin G Humble, Headteacher

