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| St Matthew’s Primary School 296 Drumsurn Limavadyhttp://www.stmatthewsprimaryschool.com/assets/images/header.jpgBT49 0PX Telephone 028777 63887Email: akealey695@stmatthewsps.drumsurn.ni.sch.ukPrincipal : Mrs AM Kealey BA Hons (ED) PQH NI |

Dear Parents

Thank you once again for the great home/school support we have together here in St. Matthew’s. Many thanks for continuing to follow our new guidelines especially collecting children at the bottom of the school lane. We ask that all adults abide by 2m social distancing rules when collecting children also at home times. We are also so thankful for your generosity in sending in lots of extra school supplies for your children too. Thank you – that really helps.

Staff are continuing to go above and beyond every day to make sure the

school is extra safe and clean and that lessons are helping all our children to

get ‘back on track’. For this – and on behalf of you and your child - I am

truly grateful.

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| **HOLIDAYS** All pupils received a holiday list for 2020/2021 in their homework packs today. Please note that school will be closed to all pupils on Friday 25th September in order to facilitate staff training. |
| **BREAKFAST CLUB**We will review this at the end of the month and we are hoping (depending on numbers) that we will be able to offer this club very soon. |
| **NUT FREE ZONE**St. Matthew’s P.S is a nut free school. Do not send any products in with any nut ingredients. Breaks and lunches are to be healthy too! |
| **HOME/SCHOOL EXCHANGE OF MATERIALS**Current guidelines expect that we find ways to REDUCE and LIMIT the exchange of materials between home and school. We know this exchange of materials however can never be totally eliminated. Schools are doing their best to find different ways to reduce this. It only takes one pupil, parent, family member or carer to test positive to make us think about what is essential and help make sensible choices. We appreciate your understanding during current times. It is everyone’s responsibility and thanks for supporting us since the start of term. |

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| **COVID UPDATES** Please read recent updates posted on social media and school website.Parents should not enter the school building unless by prior appointment. Staff can take telephone appointments after 3pm.  |
| **HOMEWORK IS BACK AGAIN!!*****Homework begins today. It will be reviewed again at the end of this week.**** MONDAY -All classes P2-7 will receive keywords/spelling/phonics activities in their homework pack. Included in the pack there will also be Numeracy and Mental Maths activities.
* Children should only complete one page in workbooks or one section as directed by teacher.
* All activities should be completed over 3 nights (Mon – Weds). Children do not return work pack activities until Thursday.
* Parents can review homework activities – just like so many of you would have done regularly in the past.
* Class tests on Friday will review learning of spellings/sounds/tables/numeracy facts linked to the homework tasks.
* Additional numeracy/literacy activities will be introduced for older pupils in Key Stage Two.
* P1 children will not receive homework yet until Monday 21st September.
* PE gear can be worn to school on a Thursday for all children from P1-P7.

*Teachers will begin to use SEESAW again to share school work and set homework from week beginning Mon 21st September. It is important to keep this form of communication active.*

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| **READING MATERIAL** *We are also working on 72 hour guidelines:* Reading materials will now be sent home on Mondays. They will also be returned on Thursdays. Depending on year group some children will get new material every Monday and others will continue to read chosen novels.Please wipe all reading material (and reading records if applicable) down every evening. We will do the same in school. *Children will be given a new book only when they return the one they have read.*  |

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Thank you for your continued support

Mrs AM Kealey

Principal