



# St. Matthew's Elementary School

16065 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue Surrey, BC V4N 1G3  
Telephone: 604-589-7545 Fax: 604-589-7113

## NEWSLETTER

January 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back! I hope that you and your family all enjoyed the beautiful Christmas season. Christmas is definitely a season filled with fun and festivity! January, of course, signals a “fresh start” for all of us and I pray that we use the new year to recommit ourselves and our family to keeping Christ at the center of our lives in 2017.

***Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31***

### UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE

<b>Wednesday, January 4, 2017</b>	<b>School Re-Opens at 8:40 am FULL DAY of SCHOOL</b>	
<b>Wednesday, January 4, 2017</b>	<b>2017-2018 Application Forms (for new families) available for pick up</b>	<i>School Office</i>
<b>Wednesday, January 4, 2017</b>	<b>Grade 2 Parent and Child Meeting 6:30 pm</b>	<i>Jubilee Hall</i>
<b>Friday, January 6, 2017</b>	<b>School Assembly - Grade 7 9:00 am</b>	<i>School Gym</i>
<b>Saturday, January 7, 2017 Sunday, January 8, 2017</b>	<b>Bottle Drive Fundraiser 8:00 am - 4:00 pm</b>	<i>St. Matthew's Parking Lot</i>
<b>Tuesday, January 10, 2017</b>	<b>PEC Meeting 5:00 pm</b>	<i>School library</i>
<b>Wednesday, January 11, 2017</b>	<b>Grade 7 Parent Meeting 6:30 pm</b>	<i>Jubilee Hall</i>
<b>Friday, January 13, 2017</b>	<b>School Mass 9:00 am</b>	<i>St. Matthew's Church</i>
<b>Saturday, January 14, 2017</b>	<b>Grade 2 Theme Mass 5:30 pm</b>	<i>St. Matthew's Church</i>
<b>Monday, January 16, 2017</b>	<b>2017-2018 Application Forms (for new families) due by 3:00 pm</b>	<i>School Office</i>
<b>Wednesday, January 18, 2017</b>	<b>CISVA Sexuality and Your Child Meeting for Grade 4, 5, 6 and 7 Parents - 6:30 pm</b>	<i>St. Matthew's Elementary School</i>



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<b>Sunday, January 22, 2017</b>	<b>Pancake Breakfast after the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Masses</b>	<i>St. Matthew's Gym</i>
<b>Friday, January 27, 2017</b>	<b>School Mass - led by Grade 7 9:00 am</b>	<i>St. Matthew's Church</i>
<b>Saturday, January 28, 2017</b>	<b>Grade 7 Theme Mass 5:30 pm</b>	<i>St. Matthew's Church</i>

## **REMINDERS**

As we begin 2017 a gentle reminder: it is important that your child(ren) arrive on time for school each morning. School starts at 8:40 am each day and teachers have particular routines and activities planned for students and it is important that every effort is made to have your child(ren) arrive before the bell rings. Moreover, time management is an important life skill that all children need to learn - we definitely understand that sometimes life gets hectic and from time to time students will be late but, the majority of the time students should be at school on time. Thank you.

We also ask that if you are sending containers with your child(ren)'s snack or lunch to please label the container(s) with your child's name. Each day the office receives many unclaimed containers that eventually have to be recycled. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## **SAVE THE DATE! - JANUARY 7 & 8, 2017 - GRADE 7 FUNDRAISER - BOTTLE DRIVE**

Save your bottles (glass and plastic), juice boxes, and cans! Our current Grade 6 class will be holding a Bottle Drive in the Holy Cross parking lot on January 7 and 8, 2017 between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. All proceeds will go towards fundraising for their Grade 7 Camp experience in September 2017. Thank you in advance for your support!

## **LEGO DONATIONS REQUESTED**

If you have any Lego that your child no longer uses we would gratefully accept any donations that you are able to give. We will be using it in our primary classes to aid in fine motor skill development. Thank You!

## **FATHER TRAN'S MEDICAL MISSION TO VIETNAM - HELP NEEDED**

Each year Father Tran and a team of volunteers go on a medical mission to Vietnam and help the less fortunate with much needed supplies. At St. Matthew's Elementary we are encouraging families to help out by donating any of the following items:

- Basic vitamins (Multivitamins, Vitamin C, etc.)
- Medication (painkillers such as Advil, Tylenol)
- Small toys
- Monetary donations

These items can be given to your child's teacher who will then pass them onto Father Tan and his team. Deadline for donations: Thursday, January 12, 2017.



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## **NEW APPLICANT INFORMATION - 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR**

All families who are interested in applying to St. Matthew's Elementary School for the 2017-2018 school year are asked to pick up an Application Package from the school office. Application packages will be made available starting on Wednesday, January 4, 2017. **Application forms must be filled in completely and returned to the school office no later than, Monday, January 16, 2017 at 3:00 pm.** All applications will be reviewed and interviews will be scheduled for mid-January 2017. If you have any questions, please contact the school office at 604-589-7545 or [office@stmatthewselementary.ca](mailto:office@stmatthewselementary.ca)

## **KINDERGARTEN 2017/2018**

We ask that any school family who has a son or daughter that was born in 2012 and will be starting Kindergarten in September 2017 inform Ms. Rossi at the school office. Please phone Ms. Rossi (604-589-7545) or e-mail her at: [office@stmatthewselementary.ca](mailto:office@stmatthewselementary.ca) and provide her with your child's name and date of birth.

## **REMINDER! GRADE 4, 5, 6, 7 PARENT IN-SERVICE - CISVA SEXUALITY AND YOUR CHILD EVENING - JANUARY 18 2016 at 6:30 pm**

Parents of children in Grades 4, 5, 6 and 7 - please mark your calendars: On Wednesday, January 18, 2016 we will have workshop tailored specifically for you! Topics that will be covered include: *Puberty* - Grade 4; *Social Media* - Grade 5; *How to Engage with Your Child* - Grade 6 *Love and Life* - Grade 7. **It is important that at least one parent attends this evening as it covers learning outcomes prescribed by the Ministry of Education.** Archbishop Michael Miller has requested that all parents of students in Grades 4-7 attend this evening; it will be one focused on teaching your children the beauty of human life and God's purpose for our life, through a Catholic worldview. A letter from Archbishop Miller was sent home in mid-November that explained the rationale behind this important evening in detail. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Miss Welsh at: [welsh@stmatthewselementary.ca](mailto:welsh@stmatthewselementary.ca) or 604-589-7545.

## **DATE CHANGE - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - MARCH 2, 2016**

Due to a scheduling conflict we have had to change the St. Matthew's School's Annual General Meeting (AGM) to **Thursday, March 2, 2016 at 6:00 pm.** This is a mandatory meeting where all school families are expected to have at least one parent represented at the meeting - important information about the 2017-2018 school year will be presented as well as re-registration forms will be given out. Please mark your calendars accordingly. Thank you.

Sincerely in Christ,

***Deborah Welsh***

Principal