



St. Matthew's Elementary School

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

NEWSLETTER

August 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you are all enjoying the summer with your family. I am once again experiencing the “joys” of our beautiful province with a, “Staycation”! I have watched a *Bard on the Beach* production of *Macbeth*, went camping near Cultus Lake and I am looking forward to going to, two *Theater Under the Stars* productions and perhaps experience the *Peak to Peak* gondola ride in Whistler.

Below is some information that will help you and your children get prepared for (dare I say it) September!

SCHOOL REOPENS!

School will resume for students in Kindergarten through Grade 7 on **Tuesday, September 4 at 8:40 am.** Please note that school **ends at 12:15 pm on September 4, 2018.** Regular school hours will commence on Wednesday, September 5 (8:40 am - 2:50 pm).

Parents with students entering Kindergarten please refer to the *Gradual Entry* schedule that was given to you in late May during our *Welcome to Kindergarten Meeting* (your child was assigned a specific time to come in on September 4); if you have any questions please contact the school office at: 604-589-7545 or office@stmatthewselementary.ca beginning Monday, August 20, 2018.

All parents/relatives are welcome to join us for our first school Mass on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 11:15 am in the church.

St. Matthew's School Staff for 2018-2019

Principal:	Miss Deborah Welsh
Office Administrator:	Ms. Patrizia Rossi
Grade 7:	Mrs. Casey Sisk
Grade 6:	Mrs. Stephanie Smith
Grade 5:	Mr. Jesse Kuester
Grade 4:	Mrs. Rosana Do Carmo
Grade 3:	Ms. Arlene Casenas
Grade 2:	Ms. Michelle Haughian
Grade 1:	Ms. Stephanie Sarangelo
Kindergarten:	Ms. Francesca Baldissera
Learning Support Teachers:	Mrs. Sharri Testani Mrs. Paula Bourassa
Athletic Director/Physical Education:	Mr. Damian Durante
Music:	Mrs. Denise Fawcett
Educational Assistants:	Mrs. Linda Potter Ms. Rachel Potter Mrs. Sherry Chem Mrs. Marilu Dias Mrs. Vivian Chow Mrs. Roshelle Mehra Mrs. Dorothy Roy



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SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS:

The school office will be open on the following days:

- Monday, August 20 to Friday, August 24, 2018 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
- August 27, 28, 31 from 9:00 am -3:00 pm
- **On Wednesday, August 29, Thursday, August 30 and Monday, September 3 the office will be closed**

SUPERVISORS' MEETING – THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018 at 6:30 PM:

Please note that on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 6:30 pm there will be a **mandatory** meeting for **all NEW** St. Matthew's families regarding supervision (and for anyone wishing a refresher!). All families are expected to do 4 supervisory shifts this year. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm and will last approximately 45 minutes. Important supervising guidelines will be reviewed and a supervisor's manual will be given out to all attendees.

MEET THE TEACHER: SEPTEMBER 5, 2018 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM:

Mark your calendars: On Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 6:00 pm we will have our annual, Meet The Teacher Night. This is one of the most important nights of the school year for all our parents and guardians. In addition to meeting your child's teacher a special guest will be present, too! We will first meet in the school gym for prayer and opening words. Then we will have sessions in the classroom, immediately following the session in the gym. See you then!

HEALTHY FOOD GUIDELINES

At St. Matthew's School staff members continually strive to work with parents and guardians to ensure that students are learning about and participating in healthy activities and healthy eating habits. We also want to make sure that we are following the guidelines set by the Ministry regarding food and beverage items in schools.

In addition to encouraging healthy eating options we also have several students in our school with serious allergic reactions to certain foods. Therefore, **we are asking that for special days such as birthdays and other events like Christmas, Halloween, Valentine's Day, Easter, Year-End, etc. that no food treats are brought to class.** If you wish, instead of food items you are welcomed and encouraged to:

- (1) Purchase a book or a game for your child's classroom or,
- (2) Bring a special pencil or pen for each child in the classroom

Please note this is ENTIRELY OPTIONAL

There may be times that the classrooms have prearranged celebrations and when this occurs, teachers will oversee the types of food items brought in. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter. If food items are brought in, teachers will be sending them back home with the child or parent who brought them in.



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UNIFORM

Please review the uniform expectations for all students; please also note our policy regarding jewelry and hair and hair accessories.

Boys:

Navy dress pants (double knee) – no cords, cotton pants, or jeans
White polo shirt with St. Matthew's name
Navy socks with black dress shoes (not runners)
Pullover sweater or V-neck vest are mandatory. (One or the other)

Summer Uniform (optional): Blue-walking shorts (in effect from September 5 to October 16 and then again from May 15 to the end of June)

Girls:

Tartan tunic - not more than 3" above the knee or 1" below the knee (Primary - Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3)
Tartan kilt - not more than 3" above the knee or 1" below the knee
(Intermediate – Grade 4, Grade 5, Grade 6 and Grade 7)

White polo shirt with St. Matthew's name
Navy knee-high socks or navy tights or leotards
Black dress shoes (heels no higher than 1 1/2 inches and no ankle boots).

School cardigan sweater is mandatory.

Gym Strip:

Crested mesh navy shorts
Grey crested t-shirt and indoor runners (non- scuff).
White athletic socks are optional (for P.E. only)

Accessories:

Only navy, green, white or discreet hair coloured hair bands, barrettes and accessories are acceptable. No jewelry except for simple watches and small earrings (girls only) and small simple chain necklaces are permitted. Nail polish and make-up are not permitted.



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Hair colour must be natural. Girls' and boys' hair must be neat and tidy. Boys' hair must be kept short and neat, above the collar and eyes and ears must be visible. Extreme styles are not acceptable.

LABELLING OF PERSONAL BELONGINGS:

Please ensure that every item your child wears or brings to school is carefully labeled. May we please suggest you stitch your child's name into the sweater label as ink wears off with use and washing. Unlabeled items that remain in the Lost and Found will be donated at the end of each term.

We look for your continued support in doing your utmost to ensure your children are dressed appropriately each day and to communicate to the school if you have any questions or concerns.



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UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

- subject to minor changes

September 2018	
Tuesday, September 4	School Opens 8:40 am - 12:15 pm
Friday, September 21	Feast of St. Matthew
October 2018	
Monday, October 8	No School - Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday, October 19	No School - Professional Development
November 2018	
Thursday, November 1	All Saints Mass - 9:00 am
Thursday, November 8	3 Way Conferences (no regular school)
Friday, November 9	No School - Professional Development
Monday, November 12	No School - Remembrance Day Holiday
December 2018	
Sunday, December 2	Advent Begins
Tuesday, December 4	Communicating Student Learning Progress Reports Term 1 Go Home
Thursday, December 20	Christmas Presentation
Friday, December 21	Last Day of School before Christmas Break <i>School Ends 12:15 pm</i>



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January 2019	
Tuesday, January 8	School Resumes after Christmas Break
February 2019	
Friday, February 8	Student Led Conferences (no regular school)
Thursday, February 14 and Friday, February 15	No School - Catholic Educators' Conference
Monday, February 18	No School - Family Day Holiday
Wednesday, February 20	Annual General Meeting
March 2019	
Wednesday, March 6	Ash Wednesday Mass - 9:00 am
Friday, March 15	Last Day before Spring Break
April 2019	
Monday, April 1	School Reopens after Spring Break
Tuesday, April 9	Communicating Student Learning Progress Reports Term 2 Go Home
Friday, April 19	No School - Good Friday Holiday
Monday, April 22	No School - Easter Monday Holiday
Thursday, April 25	Spring Presentation
May 2019	
Friday, May 3	Walkathon (School ends 12:15 pm)
Sunday, May 15	Mother's Day



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Friday, May 17	No School - Professional Development
Monday, May 20	No School - Victoria Day Holiday
June 2019	
Friday, June 7	No School - Staff Planning Day
Friday, June 14	Fun Day - School Ends at 12:15 pm
Friday, June 21	Talent Show
Tuesday, June 25	Grade 7 Farewell Mass and Celebration (starting at 5:30 pm)
Thursday, June 27	Last Day of School - School Ends at 12:15 pm Communicating Student Learning (CSL) Progress Reports Go Home