



## St Matthew's School Newsletter

### 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016

#### Maths Week

This week has been Maths Week here at St Matthew's. Children have been taking part in all kinds of investigations and activities in class. We have had parent volunteers coming into school to offer talks and activities to the children. The older children have also been running a "Maths maze" of games for the younger children.

Displays or mathematics based art work is appearing all over the school. We also launched our Mathematics Photograph Competition in assemblies on Monday. Information was sent out earlier, but a quick reminder for those who missed it. The children have been asked to take a photograph and to write a maths question to go with it. The idea is to encourage them to see the mathematics in the everyday things which surround us. Children need to bring their entries to school by **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2106** to be handed in to the class teacher. Please make sure all entries are labelled with your child's **name, class and year group**.

There will be a prize for the best entry in each year group.

Here is an example:

- How many penguins can you see?
- If I added another row, how many would there be altogether?
- How many more penguins would I need to make a square number?



And here are some images from Maths Week itself:



Well done to Ms Bailey for organising a fantastic week and thank you to all the parents, volunteers and children who have done such a great job making Maths Week a great success.

### Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers 2016

St. Matthew's will, once again, be collecting the Sainsbury's Active kids Vouchers, which help the School get sports and cooking equipment. This year we intend to use the vouchers collected to get additional resources for promoting healthy eating and to support gardening projects in the school grounds.

We would like you all to collect as many vouchers as possible between **January 27<sup>th</sup> 2016** and **May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016**.

We must have all vouchers collected in school by the end of June please.



Sainsbury's  
**Active Kids**  
Eat well • Move well • Live well

In Sainsbury's Locals, vouchers are collected in exactly the same way as last year- so you will get one voucher for every £5 you spend. In Sainsbury's supermarkets you will now receive all of the vouchers on one piece of paper and get one voucher per £10 spent in store. So, if you spend £40 you'll get four vouchers, but they will be printed on one white piece of paper.

Our collection box is already outside the main school office, so please put all vouchers in there. The children will be helping with counting our vouchers and choosing the equipment to order.

Thank you for helping us to collect as many vouchers as possible.

## Our School Development Plan and Meet the Head

Thank you to all of the parents who came to "Meet the Head" last Friday. We talked about the six key targets in our new School Development Plan and some of the key actions we have to achieve them. The group had lots of positive ideas and suggestions too.

The School Development Plan is the document that drives the strategic work to develop and improve the school. The plan gives everyone in the school community a clear vision and sense of purpose for improving the school. It has been informed by all of the work we do to evaluate the school and by the [questionnaires for parents, carers and children](#) at the end of the last academic year.

The School Development Plan was agreed by the Full Governing Body in our meeting last night. A summary of the plan can be found on our website at [www.stmatthews.cambs.sch.uk/website/school\\_development\\_plan/](http://www.stmatthews.cambs.sch.uk/website/school_development_plan/).

## Online Payments

Look out during the course of next week for emails to set up your accounts for online payments for dinner money with our new system, SIMS Agora. When you get your email, please try to activate your account using the username and password as soon as possible, and certainly within twenty working days. If you do not do this the account will automatically close itself for security reasons.



SIMS Agora replaces the eSchools system that we trialled with Year Three last term but which did not quite work for us. If all is going well, we will extend the system to cover school trips and other payments as soon as possible.