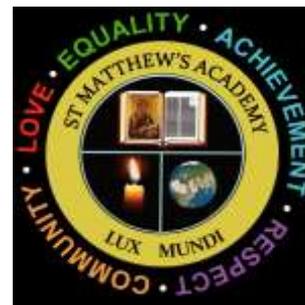


# St. Matthew's Academy Parent Council Newsletter

AUTUMN 2020



## The Chair's Annual Report

Welcome to this year's AGM of St Matthew's Academy Parent Council. (Conducting our AGM via Zoom, is a whole new experience for all of us.)

Firstly, on behalf of the Parent Council and the Parent Forum, I would like to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of Mr Colligan, the Senior Leadership Team and all staff of St Matthew's, in what can only be described as a year like no other. Covid19 has introduced us all to new experiences, both difficult and not so difficult, and we have all faced problems and situations totally unknown to us, our staff in St Matthew's were no different. In this time of worry, uncertainty and unprecedented situations, Mr Colligan led his team of proficient, professional and committed staff, who, as always, were dedicated to ensuring our children continued to receive the best possible education that Covid19 permitted. I hope you will agree the staff, our children and indeed ourselves, rose to these challenges, faced them head on and gave our best when it came to dealing with lockdown, home schooling and all the issues that entailed. 2020 will be a year, I'm sure none of us will forget, and sadly it is not over yet. With all of this in mind I thank Mr Colligan and the whole of St Matthew's community for their support and commitment to our children. The commitment from our staff, in particular our guidance teachers, was demonstrated again, when those children expecting exam results were involved in the SQA exam results process. We all look forward now, and pray, that this year's study and exam diet goes according to plan. Head teachers are currently waiting for guidance from the SQA and Mr Colligan will release this when available. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Parent Council who give generously of their time to support the Parent Council of St Matthew's.

**For the full report, please visit the Parent Council Page on the St. Matthew's Academy Website.**



Mr Colligan would like to thank everyone for adhering to the Scottish Government guidance on mask wearing and would like to take this opportunity to remind every pupil to bring and wear a mask to school every day and to remind pupils that used masks should be placed into the bins provided around the school. Also hand-sanitiser is available throughout the school and should be used regularly.

The Parental Involvement Act 2006 gives parents the right to receive information about their children's education and to be represented and have their views expressed through the Parent Council. All parents/carers/guardians are members of the Parent Forum; the Parent Council are the representatives, elected on behalf of the Parent Forum.

Please ctrl click the link below to access a guidance letter from the Public Health Department in the event of a positive case:

<http://saintmatthewsacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2020-10-29-School-Generic-Parent-Letter-St-Matthews-Academy.pdf>

Please ctrl click on the link below to access Mr Colligan's end of month update:

<http://saintmatthewsacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Oct-Covid-Update-021120.pdf>

For more information go to;

[www.saintmatthewsacademy.com](http://www.saintmatthewsacademy.com)

or download the School App for Parents



Here is the list of current members elected at our AGM in September 2020:

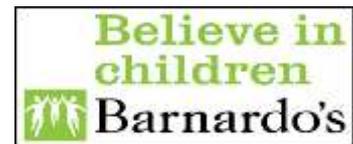
Andrena Hughes – Chairperson  
Paul Meechan – Vice Chairperson  
Suzanne Gillion – Secretary  
Teresa Goggans – Treasurer  
Mr S. Colligan – Head Teacher  
Fr Mark Kelly – Church Representative  
Kathleen Rennie  
Alison Tarbet  
John Hume  
Lisa Vint  
Donna Hunt  
Joanne Shaw  
Jan McGarry  
Aileen McDermott  
Eileen Murney  
Michael Lafferty  
Shelley Stewart  
Frances Gemmell  
Vicky Corbett  
Tracey Murphy  
Francesca McLaughlan  
Susan Crancher

## Bernardo's Support Service

If you are experiencing difficulties during this unprecedented time, then you may wish to seek help from Barnardo's See, Hear, Respond service that is there to offer support to children/families affected by the COVID crisis. Please contact our School Nurse, Eileen Murney for more details.

Office - 01294 468615

Mobile - 07825 227973



## 2020 Calendar

As you will appreciate, events that had been scheduled this year will no longer be able to take place within the school building. Mr Colligan is endeavouring to move events online; however, some things may need to be cancelled. This is unavoidable and your continued support in the matter is greatly appreciated.

## Cashless Purchases

Just a reminder that we are a cashless school and every pupil should have their own Parent Pay account. Please ask the dining staff for more information if you have not already signed up.



## Fundraising

DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS, WE ARE UNABLE TO CONTINUE WITH OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS BUT WILL RESUME THESE AS SOON AS IT IS PERMITTED.

Parent Council Meetings are now on Zoom. The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

*If you would like to attend a Parent Council meeting or let us know the kind of things you would like to see in our next newsletter please email us at the following address;*  
[stmatthewsparentcouncilsc@gmail.com](mailto:stmatthewsparentcouncilsc@gmail.com)