

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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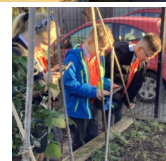
Friday 21st January 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It is always exciting to be invited to a class to share in their learning. Year 6 tracked me down at the end of last week to show me their electric 'wire loop games.' You will have seen these types of games before where you have to follow the wire with a loop and try not to touch the wire, if you do it makes a loud buzz or lights a bulb. The Year 6 worked in teams, applied their knowledge of electrical circuits, currents and conductors to make their own 'wire loop game' in order to challenge a person to not set the buzzer/light off! Each game was very different in style and I managed to complete a few with great concentration! Well done Year 6, a good end to your Science unit on Electricity!



Staying with the Science theme, Year 5 went on a 'life cycle hunt' in the school grounds this week to see if they could find evidence of living things at different stages of their life cycles.



Year 4 have also started learning about electricity; they investigated complete and incomplete circuits, made predictions and then tested them. They found that the bulb lit up when the circuit was complete as the electric current could flow. This is important knowledge which will be needed when you get to Year 6 and start applying it to different projects!



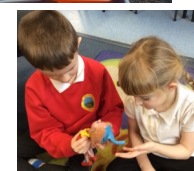
Year 3 enjoyed keeping active with our new coach Jordan, playing attack/defence games. Their aim was to get to the other side of the playground without getting tagged!



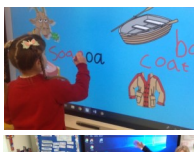
Year 2 have begun their Science topic on 'Plants,' they have started by planting some salad vegetables to grow and look after. I am very pleased that you have labelled your seeds clearly so you know which ones are which as you see them evolve! I wonder if we will get to taste them too!



Year 1 had a wonderful start to their History topic exploring the question - 'Is an iPad more fun than the toys your grandparents played with?' They were very lucky to be able to explore old style dolls houses, string puppets, old dolls and old baby activity centres. They showed these old items great respect and carefully investigated how they were played with. I wonder how they will answer their big question?



Reception have been learning lots of new sounds again this week, they investigated 'oa' by designing their own coats and exploring what floats using lots of boats. Then they read lots of 'oa' words and matched them with pictures and wrote them on the board.



Nursery work on lots of concepts and every day they play 'Concept Cat'. One concept they explored this week was the word 'large.' They made a large circle together by holding hands and created large piles of bricks to understand what the word large meant.



Following the Parent Questionnaire in November last year, we noted that parents wanted more information about what the children were learning. In response to this, teachers are sharing learning over the week on the ClassDojo, Class Story Page, but we are also sharing 'Knowledge Organisers' for subjects such as Science, Geography, History and RE with parents. These are being uploaded to our School Website, under 'Our Learning' in the 'Class Page' area as a resource to give you information about learning and the key vocabulary being introduced. We hope you will find this useful and another way to find out about what your child is learning. The Knowledge Organisers are also being shared over the next few weeks by the teachers on ClassDojo, so please look out for them. Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Beale

ASPIRE, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE

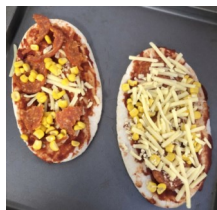
'Our school family, values us all as unique individuals and children of God.

We **aspire** to be the best version of ourselves; **believing** that through the gifts God has given us, we can make a positive contribution, flourish and **achieve** together to make a difference in our ever-changing world.'



Whizz Kids Fun!

Our Whizz Kids wraparound care is becoming very popular. Whizz Kids children really enjoy the activities which are organised by the staff who run the wraparound care such as cooking, craft and construction. As we have increasing numbers we want to make sure that there are enough staff to entertain your children, so pre-booking is essential to avoid disappointment. Thank you.



Online Safety

Going online, talking to friends and playing online games is a huge part of young people's lives. Therefore, it is really important to talk to your children about online safety. In school we talk about eSafety through our computing lessons and PSHE lessons and whenever a child experiences a problem. We can educate and inform children on how to deal with situations where they might feel uncomfortable. If something upsets them or if they don't know what to do, we ALWAYS tell them to speak to an adult; this could be in school or at home. It is also important for adults at home to have regular conversations about being safe online and have parental controls and privacy settings on your child's devices. It is also advisable to check the age guidance on apps and games to ensure that the content is appropriate for your child. Children can find themselves in situations which are out of their control and being able to talk about it to an adult is essential. They can also fall out with their friends which can cause great upset. Monitoring usage, time online, messages and content and talking to your child will encourage them to come to you if they ever need support or advice. Sometimes as a parent we do not know everything about the new apps and games children play online. With this newsletter is an Online Safety: top tips sheet which can point you in the right direction for advice and what to talk about with your children.

The NSPCC website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> also has a wealth of information to support you at home to keep your child safe online. We hope this information helps should you need it.

Parent Consultations

We are sending out the booking text for our virtual parents evening today. This is an opportunity for there to be an online conversation between parent and teacher about your child's progress. Teachers will be able to discuss your child's successes and the next steps in learning to keep everyone informed.



If you are unable to make the allocated time, please send a message to your class teacher, via ClassDojo, and they may be able to offer an alternative time for you. From Years 2 - 6 we will use Teams to deliver the virtual parents evening, using your child's log in details. In Nursery, Reception and Year 1 we will use Zoom, and you will be sent a link to the code you need.

If you are worried or unable to use Zoom or Teams, then please put a message on the booking text or contact your class teacher with a contact number and they will be happy to give you a telephone call as an alternative. Following the parent consultations, everyone will receive a short report of the discussion. If you are unable to make the appointment you will receive the report, however you will not have had the opportunity to discuss it.

If you are unable to book an appointment using the booking system please ring the school office and ask Mrs Kazerooni to manually book one for you. If you miss your appointment or do not receive the information you have requested please contact the class teacher in the first instance and then leave a message with the school office.

Monday 14th February: Nursery (via Zoom).

Tuesday 15th February:

Reception and Year 1 (via Zoom)

Years 2 - 6 (via Teams using your child's log in details).

Wednesday 16th February:

Reception and Year 1 (Via Zoom)

Years 2 - 6 (via Teams using your child's log in details).

Celebration Worship Awards

Every Friday we hold a 'Celebration Worship' to give out awards to our children to celebrate their achievements. Currently these are held virtually from the classroom using either Teams or Zoom.

Certificates (Effort in their work): R. Levi, 1. Isabella, 2. Tommy, 3. Brooke, 4. Owen, 5. Iustin, 6. Evelyn.

Value Leaf for showing Dignity: R. Eva, 1. Jake, 2. Sienna, 3. Evie-May, 4. Molly, 5. Mayzee, 6. Niamh.

Spotted (Improved Spelling & Editing): R. Albie, 1. Isla, 2. Ellis, 3. Camden, 4. Max, 5. Leighton, 6. Tristan.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times this week): Ledjana Yr 3 and Evie-May Yr 3

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside) Poppy M Yr 3

Outside Achievements

We have more outside achievements to celebrate this week. They were shared in our Worship this morning and we hope to inspire lots of you to share your outside achievements with us in school! Well done, we are very proud of you !

Rosie, Y4 has been awarded 3 badges from her Cubs group; one for hobbies, one for hiking across the Malvern Hills and one for being a member for 2 years! Amazing achievement!

Oliver, Y3 has been awarded 'Man of the Match' for being a superb goalie and won a medal! Congratulations!



Attendance The table below shows class attendance statistics for **this week**.

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	85.1%	19	Year 3	94.6%	16
Reception	83.9%	37	Year 4	85.0%	33
Year 1	98.4%	2	Year 5	93.4%	17
Year 2	94.5%	11	Year 6	96.6%	10
There are two sessions in every day, am and pm. All children from Yrs R - 6 attend 10 sessions per week.					

Well done to **Year 1** for the best attendance this week 98.4% & for least missing sessions.

Well done to Years **1 and 6** for above 96% attendance this week.

Dignity



As a church school, every half term we concentrate on an important value for life.

Each half term we choose a special Value which we think about very carefully in our worship, our classrooms, in our playground and everywhere in school. We will focus on what they mean in our lives and in our relationships with each other.

Our Value this half term is DIGNITY "Dignity — to behave in a composed or serious manner."

Matthew 19:14 "Let the children come to me for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Peter 2:17 "Treat everyone you meet with dignity."

Dalai Lama "Love for others and respect for their rights and **dignity**, no matter who or what they are: ultimately these are all we need. "

Gandhi "The truest test of civilization, culture and **dignity** is character and not clothing."

Teachers will be on the look out this half term for children who are really trying hard to show dignity in lessons and around school.

Let's all be dignified in our lives especially in these unprecedented times.

Dignity





NOTICEBOARD



Reminders

Whole School Events

Young Voices – Awaiting new date

Nasal Flu Vaccine

28th January 2022 (for 8 children who missed it but gave consent before Christmas)

Children's Mental Health Week

7th - 11th February

Internet Safety Day

Tuesday 8th February

2nd Hand Uniform Sale

Wednesday 9th Feb 3pm

Virtual Parents Evenings

Monday 14th February (Nursery)

Tuesday 15th February

Wednesday 16th February

Signing up text today.

World Book Day

Thursday 3rd March

Easter Service

Wednesday 6th April

Class Events

Strange Futures for Yrs 4, 5 & 6

Friday 28th January.

Reception Hearing Tests

Wednesday 2nd February.

Parents must log onto the portal.

Rags to Riches

Bring your unwanted **good** clothes to school Monday 14th February.

Reception Vision Tests

Tuesday 8th March.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Severn Trent Water - Big Difference

Help that is available from **Severn Trent Water** for reducing water bills for families with low household incomes. If eligible for the scheme, you could receive a discount of up to 90% off your water bill and potentially suspend any arrears. Please click here for more information.

<https://bigdiff.co.uk/login.php>

Platform Housing customers only

Platform Housing have launched a 'Wellbeing Fund' for all customers to access in order to help cover the cost of food, essential items such as school uniforms, energy and utility costs as well as helping to bridge the gap between a benefit application and first payment. You can apply following this link.

<https://www.platformhg.com/wellbeing-fund>

Covid 19

COVID-19 symptom check ([click here](#))

Book an NHS COVID test ([click here](#)) or ring **119**

Book a COVID-19 Vaccine ([click here](#))

Support and Advice

Adult Mental health support ([click here](#))

Starting Well- for parenting, health and wellbeing support ([click here](#))

Here2Help- ([click here](#))

Bereavement support ([click here](#))

Citizens Advice Bureau ([click here](#))

Child Line - 0800 1111

Domestic Abuse 24 hour Helpline for Women and Men - 0800 980 333

School Nurse – 01684 612668

Family Front Door - 01905 822666 to report a concern about a child or request help.

The Family Hub for parenting support and advice ([click here](#))

Parent Online Safety Information ([click here](#))

Malvern Hills Housing support ([click here](#))

Who to contact in school and how

MRS KAZEROONI for:- Attendance issues, reasons for absences, request any forms, change of address or phone numbers, general enquires, urgent contact, inform her of medical appointments, (inform her of other persons collecting from school preferably before 1pm). email admin@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk or Telephone **01684 574984**

MRS JAMES (Works Mon - Thu) for:- Whizz Kids booking, paying any bills or invoices for nursery, trips, music lessons, PE kit etc please email finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk or Phone **01684 574984** and ask to speak to Mrs James.

CLASS TEACHER for:- classroom issues, learning or behaviour related, use ClassDojo or Tapestry. To request a telephone call from a teacher call 01684 574984 or email admin@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk to ask for an appointment.

MRS BEALE Headteacher for:- urgent personal/private matters on head@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

Black Pepper Lunches for:- booking your child's meals **every half term**, visit their website <https://www.blackpepperlunches.com/BP-default.php>

TERM DATES

SPRING TERM 2022

HALF TERM BREAK

SCHOOL CLOSES

Staff ONLY Training Day

Saturday 19th to Sunday 27th February

Thursday 7th April 2022

Friday 8th April 2022.

SUMMER TERM 2022

TERM STARTS

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY

HALF TERM BREAK

SCHOOL CLOSES

Monday 25th April at 8.45am

Monday 2nd May

Saturday 28th May to Sunday 5th June

Friday 22nd July at 3.15pm