

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 18th February 2022

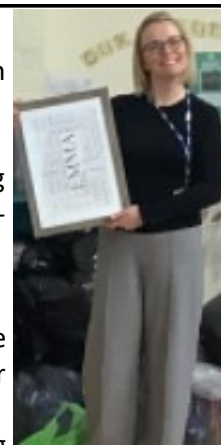
Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

What a busy half term it has been and I am sure everyone is ready for a rest next week as we finish for half term. We look forward to welcoming you back on **Monday 28th February at 8.45am**.

We said our final farewell to Mrs Lodge yesterday. The school came together, gave her gifts and sang a song in true St Matthias style. She was overwhelmed with the thoughtful cards and gifts from everyone. Staff and children will miss her but we wish her well on her exciting new journey.

Parents' Evening

Thank you to staff and parents for taking part in another virtual parents' evening this term. There were as usual a few technical issues to start with, but most parents managed to speak with their child's teacher. If you did not manage to have an appointment and wish to speak to your child's class teacher, please contact them directly after half term for a telephone appointment. Parents' evening mini reports will be sent home either today or after half term.



COVID 19 update

We have appreciated your support and cooperation with home lateral flow testing over the past few weeks. We have had a number of cases of COVID19 across the school and some classes might feel that they have been completing daily LFT forever! We have managed to keep the school going with as little impact as possible, so thank you for your cooperation. When schools receive any new information regarding isolation guidance we will share this with you. Until then, please continue to inform school if your child tests positive and follow the government guidance for isolating.

Rags 2 Riches

As a school we raised a brilliant **£87.44** for the 218.6kg of clothing that was generously donated this week, thank you! This will go into our school fund and our School Council will decide what the money will go towards with the help of their class friends. Thank you to Mrs James who organised this excellent fundraiser. I am sure we will do this again!



Worcestershire Libraries Reading Challenge for Half Term

Worcestershire libraries recognise the importance of children reading and sharing books, especially during the holidays, so this half term they are issuing children with a brand-new reading challenge!

Malvern Library would like you to visit them and join if you are not members. They would like your child to borrow 3 books, one of which should be a non-fiction and take part in a treasure hunt on the free activities they offer.

Every child who takes part will be entered into a prize draw, with one treasure hunt for KS1 pupils called 'Bears on the Loose!', and a separate treasure hunt for KS2 pupils based on Harry Potter's 'Magical Journeys', plus there are lots of Harry Potter activities to get involved with either in the library or to take home.



Please read the poster which is attached with this newsletter for more information. You can also find out more about Malvern Library and their reading challenges by going to their FaceBook page, Twitter feed or website https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/directory_record/25/malvern_library **This reading challenge goes very nicely with our half term sponsored read.**

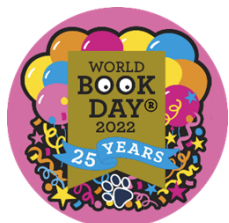
Have a lovely half term, Mrs Beale



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.'





World Book Day 3rd March 2022

On Thursday 3rd March it is one of our favourite days of the year – World Book Day! This year is extra special as it is the 25th anniversary of this event. To celebrate, we are planning lots of fun activities to celebrate authors, illustrators, books and reading for pleasure!

World Book Day Events in School – Thursday March 3rd

On the big day, we will be celebrating reading in many different ways:

We invite all children (and staff) to dress as a word with prizes for the most creative costumes! (See examples below)

Plan your costumes during the half term holiday.

A vocabulary parade to present our outfits and words to other classes.

Classes will buddy up and share their favourite stories.

Each class will be creating classroom door art-work of their favourite book cover.

Every pupil will receive a free World Book Day book voucher or a free book!



Ready, Steady, Read! In partnership with Usborne books, we are launching a **sponsored read** over half term. Children are sponsored to read as much as they can over the holiday, from books, comics, magazines, websites, recipes or TV guides – basically anything with words! All sponsorship money will be used to buy new books for our class libraries and the top fundraisers will win books for themselves too!

Books for school!

Unusual Readers

Where do you like to read...in the bath, under the covers or on the trampoline? We are launching our search to find the most unusual St Matthias reader. Send your teacher a photo on ClassDojo of yourself reading in your unusual place by Thursday 4th March and you could win a fantastic new book!



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. Leo, 1. Isla, 2. Loki, 3. Brae, 4. Bonnie, 5. Macie-Leigh & Chase, 6. Lexi.

Value Leaf for showing Dignity: R. Hope, 1. All Yr1, 2. Charlie, 3. Coby, 4. Rosie, 5. Jamie, 6. Oliver.

Spotted (Improved Spelling & Editing): R. Kyle, 1. Edward-Noah, 2. Jacob, 3. Izabela, 4. Lily P, 5. Layla, 6. Oliver.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times this week): Lily-May Yr 5

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside) Charlie Yr 1

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 !

Evie D achieved Grade 6 in Gymnastics, fantastic!

Alyshia L started Ballet classes we are proud of you.

Niamh achieved Stage 4 at Swimming, keep up the good work.



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

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	89.0%	14	Year 3	88.3%	35
Reception	89.5%	24	Year 4	87.2%	28
Year 1	75.3%	32	Year 5	84.2%	41
Year 2	94.5%	11	Year 6	79.0%	63
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 2** for the best attendance this week & to Year 2 for the least missing sessions.

Due to our highest Covid levels so far during the pandemic, NO class had 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

World Book Day

Thursday 3rd March

You can plan + prepare for your child's World Book Day outfit during the half term holiday. See page 2 for details.

Ready Steady Read

This event ends on 4th March
See page 2 for details

Easter Service

Wednesday 6th April (school only)

Young Voices

17th May 2022

Class Events

Reception Vision Tests

Tuesday 8th March.

Year 5 English Workshop at Dyson Perrins

Wednesday 23rd 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 & HOLIDAYS

SPRING TERM 2022

HALF TERM BREAK

SCHOOL CLOSSES for EASTER

Staff ONLY—Training Day

Saturday 19th to Sunday 27th February at 3.15pm on Thursday 7th April 2022

Friday 8th April 2022.

SUMMER TERM 2022

TERM STARTS

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY

HALF TERM BREAK

SCHOOL CLOSSES for SUMMER

Monday 25th April at 8.45am

Monday 2nd May

Saturday 28th May to Sunday 5th June

Friday 22nd July at 3.15pm