

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 11th March 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Children, Careers Week

This week started with us meeting some lovely people who came to share their own careers and how they were inspired to do what they are doing now. The children could see how talents and interests they have now, right from an early age could lead them into using those gifts in the future. They met a wonderful lady who designs and makes jewellery; she was very creative as a child and channelled those talents by going to design college and is now making and selling her own jewellery. They also met a Fundraiser for the Air Ambulance who talked about all the roles needed when deploying an Air Ambulance to save someone's life, from the person who checks the Air Ambulance for safety, the pilot and those who are medically trained. There are also those behind the scenes taking the emergency calls, designing the next Air Ambulance and it's equipment and those who constantly volunteer and help raise money for the charity so the Air Ambulance can keep saving lives. There was even a message given to us from a medic who said he knew right from the age of 6 that that was what he wanted to do and to keep dreaming, aspiring to be what you want to be and believe that you can do it! Today we also met a Lecturer in construction from Solihull who inspired our older children to use their gifts and develop their ambitions. We will meet a Mental Health Nurse in the future who was unable to attend this week. I hope the children will use this week as an opportunity to reflect on their talents and possibly have some new ideas of careers they had not thought of before. We also hope to enlist other people to talk about their careers in the future as this becomes a regular yearly event!



A Day for Ukraine—Dress in Yellow & Blue on Thursday 17th March



Since the start of the war in Ukraine it has been unsettling and worrying for many of us. Russia's invasion of Ukraine is deeply distressing and heart breaking. Children have asked questions and often wondered how they can help. A couple of Year 5 children, Jessica and Scarlett, spoke to me this week about the school helping and making a contribution to the Ukraine Appeal following a self-less sponsored event they had organised to raise money for the Ukraine Appeal themselves. Mrs Taylor brought to my attention that the Malvern

Rugby Club is an official Donation Centre and how her running club is collecting donations to take there. Bringing the two ideas together and listening to the children, I have decided that it would be a lovely idea to extend this donation collection to the whole school rather than just the staff.

On **Thursday 17th March**, I am proposing that we wear the colours blue and yellow, representing the Ukraine in support for and in exchange for bringing in an item for the Ukraine Appeal. Those children who have PE on Thursday must wear sensible shoes so they can continue with their PE lesson during the afternoon.

If you wish to take part please bring in whatever donation you can make from the list below, every small donation matters. Our school family will be making such a positive contribution and making a difference to those who are very much in need in these troubling times.

Blankets, sleeping bags, thermos flasks, raincoats, NEW underwear (men, women and children) , toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gel, shampoo, hairbrushes, instant food, instant baby milk, baby wipes, nappies, sanitary products, bed linen, canned food, packet food, energy bars, torches and batteries.

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.'



Ukraine information.

Children need to see the world as safe and predictable. Experiences of trauma or even images of trauma can make the world feel an uncontrollable and unpredictable place. Look out for signs of fear or worry that your child might not be willing or able to express.

We can't (and shouldn't) hide what is happening in the world but we can limit the exposure by monitoring internet usage (depending on age) and not having constant news in the background on the TV and radio. Showing a map of the world to demonstrate how far away the fighting is might help.



[BBC Newsround have produced a short programme](#) explaining to children what is happening in the Ukraine. This resource provides factual information if they are confused or asking questions.

If children feel they have an understanding of what is happening, and confusing is reduced, they are less likely to feel anxious. Ensure that the information you give them is simple, factual and at an age appropriate level. Be guided by the questions your children are asking; if they ask, they need information. Here are some useful websites and information to support you at home.

[Help for families to talk to children about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation– The Education Hub](#)

[Advice if you are upset by the news– CBBC Newsround](#)

[Childline– Worries about the World](#)

[Downloadable Resource: Worrying about War and Conflict](#)

Century Cup Spring Challenge

The children in Years 3-6 have been working hard on their Century Cup Spring Challenge. They have been completing assignments and 'nuggets' their teachers have been setting. They have added to their personal scores as well as extending their learning and knowledge. Don't forget to keep making a huge effort at home too, to complete homework on Century as this will help your child learn more and retain more!



Week 1 top scorers

Year 3- Peter- 83 questions

Year 4- Max -78 questions

Year 5- Tiffany- 232 questions

Year 6- Maisie- 109 questions

You have all received a certificate in worship today. Well done! Keep working hard and we will see who completes the most questions next week! We will also be adding to our whole school score against other schools internationally!

Whole class results

Year 3- 551 questions

Year 4- 290 questions

Year 5- 2531 questions WELL DONE Y5!

Year 6- 1208 questions

Well done to all the winners from week 1.

Help with Energy Bills!

We wanted to make you aware that many energy companies are offering individual support for households who may be struggling to pay their energy bills since the prices have been rising. If you go onto your energy supplier website they may have information regarding requesting help if you are struggling to pay your bills.

Here is a link to the Citizens' Advice Bureau with more information, not all energy suppliers are listed so if yours is not there go directly to your energy supplier website for more information.

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your-bills/grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills/>

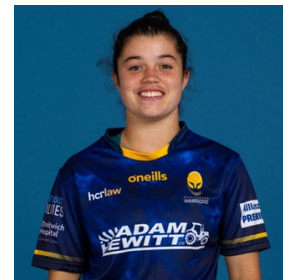


Rugby Taster Day - Friday 18th March 2022

Mr Salmon, our PE Lead, has organised a special day at school next Friday, 18th March to promote Rugby and physical activity at St Matthias.

Caity Mattinson is a Worcester Warriors player who has just been selected for the Scotland squad for the upcoming Woman's World Cup. She will be coming into school for the day to give our children a taster of what rugby could do for them.

She will give a talk during our Celebration Worship and I am sure this will inspire all of our pupils and especially our girls to aim high and believe in themselves for their futures. She will then deliver sessions (approx. 30 mins) per class throughout the day. **ALL** children can wear their St Matthias PE kit next Friday 18th March so they are ready to take part in this amazing event!

**Fire Brigade**

Today we also had an unexpected visit from the Fire Brigade! During our lunchtime the fire alarms went off in school; the children and staff were very sensible and organised as they left the building and gathered in our usual places on the KS1 playground. As this was not a planned practice the Fire Brigade was called so they could check the building.

The children and staff were gathered within minutes and as it was very wet due to the rain, we decided to go to the church to shelter. The fire brigade arrived within 5 minutes and located the problem. They ensured the building was safe and we were all able to return to school within 15 minutes. I reassured and thanked all the children for being so sensible and safe. I was so proud of everyone as it just shows that our fire practices work when there is an unexpected alarm.

Please congratulate your child on being amazing!

ACADEMIC TERM DATES for St Matthias of The Spire Learning Trust 2021 – 2022**SPRING TERM**

SCHOOL & NURSERY END	Thursday 7th April 2022	
Staff Professional Development	Friday 8th April 2022	64 days inc 2 SPD

SUMMER TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY BEGIN	Monday 25th April 2022	
MAY DAY (School Closed)	Monday 2nd May 2022	
HALF TERM	Saturday 28th May to Sunday 5th June 2022	
SCHOOL & NURSERY END	Thursday 21st July 2022	59 days
Extra Day off for Queens Jubilee	Friday 22nd July 2022	

ACADEMIC TERM DATES for St Matthias of The Spire Learning Trust 2022 - 2023**AUTUMN TERM**

Staff Professional Development	Monday 5th September 2022	
Staff Professional Development	Tuesday 6th September 2022	
SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN	Wednesday 7th September 2022	
Staff Professional Development	Friday 21st October 2022	
HALF TERM BREAK	Friday 21st October to Sunday 30th October 2022	
SCHOOL & NURSERY END	Friday 16th December 2022	70 days inc 3 SPD

SPRING TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY BEGIN	Tuesday 3rd January 2023	
HALF TERM	Saturday 18th to Sunday 26th February 2023	
SCHOOL & NURSERY END	Friday 31st March 2023	59 days

SUMMER TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY BEGIN	Monday 17th April 2023	
MAY DAY (School Closed)	Monday 1st May 2023	
HALF TERM	Saturday 27th May to Sunday 4th June 2023	
SCHOOL & NURSERY END	Friday 21st July 2023	
Staff Professional Development	Monday 24th July 2023	66 days inc 2 SPD
Staff Professional Development	Tuesday 25th July 2023	

Children attend school each year for 190 days. The staff work for 195 days per year.

The five Staff Training Days dates vary each year and are often held at other venues or online.

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. Kyle, 1. Pippa, 2. William, 3. Tyler, 4. Max, 5. Kendra 6. Seren.

Value Leaf for showing Hope: R. Lexi, 1. Amelia, 2. Sienna, 3. Brae, 4. Grace, 5. Scarlett, 6. Dominic.

Spotted (Improved Spelling & Editing): R. Mia, 1. Logan, 2. Ellis, 3. Logan H, 4. Lexie, 5. Glyn, 6. Finley.

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

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside) Lexi YrR

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!



Mrs Staniforth for completing her STA Level 2 Award in Teaching Swimming qualification.

Eva YR, and Lilly Y3, for donating their hair to the Little Princess Trust to help make wigs of real hair for those who have lost their own hair due to illness.

Oliver Y3, Man of the match x2! For effort and commitment to his football team and being their amazing goalie!

Leo G-G, Y5 for taking part in a football camp and being nominated as Top Camper for his respect and values during the time he was there.

Casey B Y6, who is visiting a dog rescue centre to see if she can help rescue a dog who needs a kind and loving home.

Jessica and Scarlett Y5, raised money for the Ukraine appeal through their own sponsored event. Well done girls!



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

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	86.9%	27	Year 3	90.3%	29
Reception	86.0%	32	Year 4	89.5%	23
Year 1	95.8%	5	Year 5	96.3%	10
Year 2	98.5%	3	Year 6	95.1%	14
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.

Hope



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 "Hope"

Isaiah 40:31 "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint"

Christians see their hope in God's promise, "that love and goodness have and will ultimately overcome all evil"

Dalai Lama "When faced with problems don't lose hope. Keep up your self confidence and don't be too impatient to achieve quick results."

Gandhi "Only he can be a leader who never loses hope"

Teachers will be on the look out this half term for children who are really trying hard to show hope in their learning and around school. We pray and hope for the people in Ukraine and for the war to end.

Hope





NOTICEBOARD



Reminders

Whole School Events

Blue & Yellow day for Ukraine
(See Pages 1 + 2 for details)

Thursday 17th March

Rugby Taster Day

Friday 18th March

Easter Experiences

22nd to 25th March 2022

Science Enrichment Day

5th April 2022

Easter Service

Wednesday 6th April (school only)

School Closes for Easter

Thursday 7th April at 3.15pm

Young Voices Concert

17th May 2022

Class Events

Year 6 Parents SATs Meeting

Monday 21st March at 3.30pm

Year 5 English Workshop at Dyson Perrins

Wednesday 23rd March

Years 1 and 2 Multiskills at Dyson Perrins

Friday 25th March

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Who to contact in school

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>

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](#))

TERM DATES & HOLIDAYS

SPRING TERM 2022

SCHOOL CLOSING for EASTER at 3.15pm on Thursday 7th April 2022

STAFF ONLY - Training Day

Friday 8th April 2022.

SUMMER TERM 2022

SCHOOL OPENS

Monday 25th April at 8.45am

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY

Monday 2nd May

HALF TERM BREAK

Saturday 28th May to Sunday 5th June

SCHOOL CLOSING for SUMMER

Thursday 21st July at 3.15pm

Extra Day off for Queens Jubilee

Friday 22nd July