

# St Matthias Newsletter



## St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 25th March 2022

### *Dear Parents, Carers and Children,*

What a beautifully warm and Spring-like week we have had! I never mind playground duty when the sun is shining and we can enjoy getting the skipping ropes out!



### **COVID-19**

Thank you for your continued support with testing your child for COVID-19 when they feel ill.

We have had a large rise in cases across the school with both staff and children so we are continuing to be vigilant and following the government guidance. Closing a class due to lack of staffing will be a last resort and we will do our very best to avoid this. We are continuing to advise Lateral Flow testing to identify positive cases, following good hygiene procedures and ventilating classrooms. Accessing home test kits is proving more difficult at the moment so please keep trying, as at times more tests are released for home delivery and persisting is the key. [Click here to order home testing kits.](#)

### **Rugby Day**

Last Friday, 18th March, we welcomed Caity Mattinson to St Matthias who is a Worcester Warrior player. When she was 17, she captained the under 20's England team at the World Cup and this weekend she will be playing for Scotland in the Six Nations! We will be watching to see if we can spot her on the television! She told us about her journey to become a first class women's rugby player which started as a dream when she was at Primary School where she played Tag Rugby. She told us that she was not always the best player but her determination to follow her dream and to be the very best that she could be drove her ambition and to ensure that she kept trying her best to improve. She loves Rugby, so she now promotes Tag Rugby in Schools and was very happy to come to give the pupils at St Matthias a taster session. She was amazing, positive, encouraging and driven. She was an excellent role model to promote our vision of Aspire, Believe and Achieve as those three words got her to where she is today, through aspiring to be the very best she can be, believing that she could and therefore achieving her dream! We were truly grateful to her for spending the day with us and teaching us lots of key skills, teamwork, changing direction and funny games!



Have a lovely weekend and Happy Mothering Sunday to all those who 'mother' and care for their loved ones.  
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.'



### **Easter Experience at St Matthias Church 2022**

This week every class visited St Matthias Church for the most wonderful Easter Experience. There were six interactive stations placed around the church, each covering key moments of the Easter Story and exploring Holy Week. The children were fully engaged with the whole experience and learned about the events of Holy Week and it's importance in the run up to Easter. Thank you to everyone involved at St Matthias Church for creating this experience and for the warm welcome.



The journey began with Palm Sunday, children were asked to write a 'hope' on a stone which symbolises the hope that Jesus gave as he rode into Jerusalem on the back of the donkey, as many people cheered and waved palm leaves.

At the second station, children learnt about Jesus - the Servant King. They heard how Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, which was a job of servants not kings. Jesus wanted to show that he was not too important to wash their feet and to do as he had done. Instead of washing feet, children were invited to use the water to make the symbol of the cross and their hand.



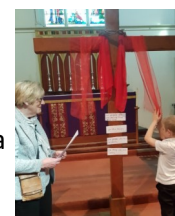
Next, children experienced the Last Supper and were asked to share a special object which helps them to remember someone who is important to them. The children were then told that Jesus asked his disciples to eat bread and remember his body. He also asked them to remember his blood as they drank wine. Children had some bread to eat to remember Jesus.



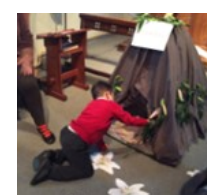
After The Last Supper, we learnt that Jesus and his friends went to the garden to pray but his friends fell asleep and Jesus was alone. The children were asked to think about how they feel when they are alone and to make something that scares them using Play doh. The children then placed these in the garden to help them not be afraid of it anymore.



After visiting the garden, the children went to see the cross which had a red scarf wrapped around it and a crown of thorns. The children heard how some of the soldiers made bets using dice to win Jesus' clothes. They also heard how Jesus was teased because he was not wearing a royal robe or a nice crown; some didn't believe that he was the Son of God.



Finally, the children arrived at the empty tomb and discovered that Jesus had risen. This proved that Jesus was the Son of God. To celebrate new life, the church gave every child an Easter egg to remember the celebratory end to Holy Week.



### **Easter Bonnet Parade– Thursday 7th April 2022 9.00am**

It is a bit of a tradition to hold an Easter Bonnet Parade on the last day of the Spring Term. This year we will be helping the children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to make or create an Easter Bonnet in school on Wednesday 6th April so they can parade them for all parents and KS2 children to see. We are providing lots of the items needed to make their bonnet but if you would like to provide the actual bonnet and any decorations for them to decorate please send them in a named bag on Tuesday 5th April ready for decorating on Wednesday 6th April. Parents are welcome to stay in the playground on Thursday 7th April, to clap and cheer your child as they parade their bonnets. We aim to parade through the bottom KS1 gate, past St Matthias Church, turn left along Church Road, then into Cromwell Road and back into school at the front entrance. KS2 will line the playground ready to clap and parents can stand along the roads and in the playground. It is always a lovely occasion and the children are always proud of their decorated hats.



**Exemplar of great work**

*"Dear St Matthias,*

*If you want to help the world this is what you do. You turn the light off when you are not in the room. You turn the tap off when you are brushing your teeth because if you don't you will waste water. Don't throw litter on the floor because if you do you will hurt the animals. So you should put litter in the bin. You should have a shower because if you do then you will save gallons of water. If you pick flowers then you will make bees mad."* By Jake, Y1

This was a piece of writing written independently by Jake, in Year 1, following the challenge to write a persuasive letter to the families of St Matthias to make change and help look after our world. In Year 1 they have been working on persuasive writing and thinking about our environment so this was a final piece to their sequence of learning.

I wanted to share this with you as I really do think this is a super piece of persuasive writing which really does make the reader think about the world and how we can help the environment.

**Century Cup Spring Challenge**

The children in Years 3-6 have been working hard on their Century Cup Spring Challenge again this week. They have added to their personal scores as well as extending their learning and knowledge. Our school is number 7 in our category which is AMAZING! Let's keep this going next week and see how far we can get!

**Week 3 top scorers**

Year 3– Peter, 304 questions

Year 4– Kaede 408 questions

Year 5– Fraser 768 questions

Year 6– Maisie 2727 questions WOW!!

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– 2211 questions

Year 4– 1550 questions

Year 5– 5936 questions

Year 6– 10562 questions You have smashed it again Y6!

**Well done to all the winners from week 3**

**Easter Fund Raiser**

For our Easter Fund Raiser we are going to be holding an **Easter Egg raffle** where you can buy a 'brick' to be put into a draw to win an Easter Egg. Every brick bought will be put into a box and during our last Worship the named bricks will be pulled out and that person will win an egg. The more bricks you buy the more chance you have of winning Easter Eggs, you could win more than one!

We are also asking parents if they would be kind enough to donate Easter Eggs to school for the competition. The more eggs that are donated the more names we can pull out of the box.

Please be generous! Thank you!



Look out for the bricks to be purchased outside school during the mornings next week.





### 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. Isaac, 1. Edward-Noah, 2. Charlie, 3. Ellie, 4. Molly, 5. Leo GG 6. Harry.

**Value Leaf for showing Hope:** R. Kyle, 1. Marlee-Mae, 2. Lottie, 3. Oliver, 4. Lily-Ann, 5. Caitlin, 6. Lydia.

**Spotted (Improved Spelling & Editing):** R. Eva, 1. Kai, 2. Charlotte, 3. Logan, 4. Darcey, 5. Tiffany, 6. Lacey.

**Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times this week):** Sienna Yr 2

**Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside)** Lottie Yr 2

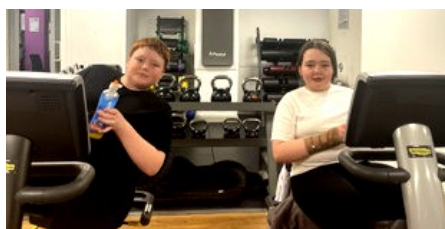
### Outside Achievements

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!

**Daniel and Lily, Y6** for completing over 9K at the gym, keep up the good work on your fitness regime!

**Ethan, Y3** for receiving a trophy and medal for being 'Man of the Match' at his local football team.

**Peter, Y3** for achieving his Level 3 swimming award.



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

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	85.3%	19	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>98.0%</b>	<b>6</b>
Reception	88.2%	27	Year 4	79.1%	46
Year 1	93.3%	8	Year 5	94.8%	14
Year 2	71.3%	60	Year 6	95.8%	12

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 3** for the best attendance this week & to Year 3 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

#### Science Enrichment Day

5<sup>th</sup> April 2022

#### Easter Service

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April (school only)

#### Easter Bonnet Parade

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 9am see page 2

#### Easter Egg Raffle

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April during worship. See page 3

#### School Closes for Easter

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 3.15pm

#### School opens for Summer Term

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 8.45am

### Class Events

#### Years 1 and 2 Multiskills at Dyson Perrins

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March

#### Year 6 Parents & Pupil SATs Meeting

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 2.45pm

#### Young Voices Concert

17<sup>th</sup> May 2022

#### Years 5 & 6 Oakerwood

**Residential Trip** ( For those who have booked and paid)  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

### Who to contact in school

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

**MRS JAMES (Works Mon - Thu) for finance issues ie:-** Whizz Kids or nursery bookings, paying any bills or invoices, trips, music lessons, PE kit etc please email [finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto:admin@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk) to ask for an appointment.

**MRS BEALE Headteacher for:-** urgent personal/private matters on [head@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk](mailto: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 request help or to report a concern about a child.

**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 CLOSSES for EASTER**

**STAFF ONLY - Training Day**

**at 3.15pm on Thursday 7th April 2022**

**Friday 8th April 2022.**

### SUMMER TERM 2022

**SCHOOL OPENS**

**MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY**

**HALF TERM BREAK**

**SCHOOL CLOSSES for SUMMER**

**Extra Day off for Queens Jubilee**

**Monday 25th April at 8.45am**

**Monday 2nd May**

**Saturday 28th May to Sunday 5th June**

**Thursday 21st July at 3.15pm**

**Friday 22nd July**