

St Matthias Newsletter



Friday 14th October 2022

St Matthias Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Virginia Beale

Cromwell Road, Malvern Link, Worcestershire, WR14 1NA.

Telephone or Facsimile 01684 574984

Email: admin@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

Website: www.stmatthiasceprimary.co.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

Circus Skills Week

The staff and children have had the most wonderful week learning new skills, developing their resilience, persisting with an activity and having lots of fun! I want to thank Jebb, our circus skills instructor, who has been with us all week, entertaining everyone and teaching our children some amazing circus skills! He has such energy and patience! We also want to thank Steve, who has run our circus skills weeks in the past and has now officially retired but came back to put the Big Top up in the hall and helped organise the show! Thank you to our Nursery parents for attending the Stay and Play session on Thursday; it was lovely to see so many of you, especially enjoying playing with the circus equipment! The Friday shows were very exciting and also loud! It was super to see the children concentrating on their performances, having fun, even when things went wrong and the equipment fell on the floor! I hope you enjoyed seeing some of the staff have a go too! These types of events make our feel good hormones race in our bodies and having a laugh is so important when we all work so hard!



This is the last newsletter before half term, please remember we have a TED day on Friday 21st October. Children return after half term on Monday 31st October at 8.45am.

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.'



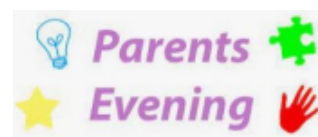
Food Bank Donations

On Thursday 13th October two Yr6 School Council Representatives, Tiffany and Fraser, delivered our Harvest donations to Malvern Food Bank. First they put all the food into trolleys and wheeled it into the warehouse. Then they weighed the donations and calculated the total weight in kg. Peter Buchanan, an ex Headteacher, who now volunteers at Malvern Food Bank, then gave us a tour and our certificate of donation. It was just amazing to see the work that goes on behind the scenes from the many volunteers who give up their time to serve our community. They check all the produce for 'best before dates', then they sort the items into groups of food items, toiletries, dried and tinned and put it into boxes and on shelves to back to the public. They have recently extended their premises and now have a waiting room with tea and coffee facilities and an area where items can be picked by clients. The Food Bank relies on the generosity of people to keep this charity going and they were very grateful for the 165.90kg of food that we weighed in and thanked us very much!



Parents' Evening information.

As shared in Newsletter 2, a few weeks ago, we have our Parent consultation meetings coming up after half term. They will be face to face meetings and held in the school hall. **Next week, we will send a text message and email for you to be able to book your appointments online.** For our newer parents, you follow the link, type the first name of your child in and then available appointments will show for you to book. If you have more than one child you need to book each child a slot with their teacher. We cannot guarantee that all siblings will get an appointment on the same night as the bookings are open to everyone at the same time and parents choose their own slots. If you are unable to make the dates on offer, you will receive a short written report and if you wish to discuss it then please contact your class teacher via ClassDojo after you have read the report.



Nursery Parent Consultations—Wednesday 2nd November between 1pm and 4pm and Wednesday 9th November between 1pm and 4pm.

Reception to Year 6 consultations— Thursday 3rd November between 3.30pm and 6.20pm and Monday 7th November between 3.30pm and 6.20pm. Please note that Year 2 parent consultations are only on Thursday 3rd November.

Teaching staff who run clubs will not run on Thursday 3rd November or Monday 7th November.

SEND Parent meetings: If your child is on the SEND register and you would like to book an appointment to see our SENCO, Mrs Joyce, please book via Mrs Kazerooni in the office. There are a number of slots available on Monday 7th November between 3.30pm –5.30pm. You cannot book an appointment online, it must be done through the office either by telephone or face to face. Thank you.

Speech and Language Therapist

We are lucky to have a Speech and Language Therapist called Jasmine Jacks, working in school every Thursday. She works with lots of children across the school. She is available for a drop in conversation during both Thursday 3rd November or Monday 7th November between 3.30pm—5.30pm. If you either know that your child is under the speech and language team or if you are worried then please catch her at parents evening and she would be happy to talk to you.

Cross Country

Year 6 and some of Year 5 took part in a Cross Country event today on Peachfield Common. It was an exciting event where lots of children from Malvern Schools run, jog or walk around Peachfield Common to complete the course. Some children are even brave enough to have two goes at the course! Well done everyone for taking part and giving your all!



School Photographs

You will have received your child's school photograph proof today! The closing date for purchasing the photographs is FRIDAY 21st OCTOBER and they must be ordered ONLINE! If you order after this date you will have to pay postage to your home address. Orders placed online prior to 31st October will be delivered to school in a few weeks time.

Year 6 parents LAST REMINDER FOR HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Worcestershire County Council have advised us that not many of our parents have applied for High school places. **Year 6 parents must apply for your child's High School place, online, by Monday 31st October** which is the day after the half term break. You must apply by creating a log in and then clicking 'Apply for a school place.' The portal is now open so you can make your application from now, however you can make any amendments up until the closing date if you wish but remember to press the submit button again if you do make an amendment!

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20099/school_admissions

If you have already applied you do not need to do this again!



School Admissions 2024-2025 Consultation process.

Every year there is a consultation on the Admission Arrangements for some schools. This year, parents and the public are consulting on the proposed admission arrangements for the 2024/2025 academic year for Worcestershire schools and St Matthias CE Primary School is on the list. The consultation is open online. If you wish to find out more, please click on this link [Admissions Policies 2024 to 2025 Consultation | Admissions Policies 2024 to 2025 Consultation | Worcester-shire County Council](#)

Household Support Fund to fund Free School Meal Vouchers for October Half term.

I am very pleased to confirm that children eligible for Free School Meals (not universal free school meals) will receive a food voucher for half term. This will arrive to the email address you have given us and will be worth £15 per child for the week. The vouchers will arrive to your email address on **Wednesday 19th October via Edenred**; please check your **JUNK/SPAM** box as sometimes they end up in there! You will need to download the voucher and select one of the supermarkets on the list. School does not have any control over lost vouchers, supermarket choice or anyone who has NOT applied for Free School Meals.



If you feel that you are eligible for Free School Meals and have not applied via the Local Authority you will not receive the vouchers this half term. If you would like to apply and feel you are eligible due to low income then please click on this link https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/684/applying_for_free_school_meals and apply online as you might be entitled to the food vouchers next holiday. The application is made using the same log in as applying for a school place, therefore you might need to create a log in if you do not have one. Once you have completed the information, if you are eligible then the Local Authority will inform our school.

There is additional support available via [Ready Steady Worcestershire](#) including support for food, financial support, activities and community assistance. The Holiday and Food Activity scheme will be available for children and families to access during the October Half term, providing free access to food and activities for those eligible for FSM.

[Here2Help](#) at the County Council is available to signpost families to other local sources of support.

A Special Guest in Art Club!

This week our Art Club, run by Mrs Lester, had a visit from a lady called Deb Stanley who is a local Malvern Artist. She taught the children how to draw fruit and vegetables in 3D! The children were very welcoming, listened intently to her top tips and produced some super work! We are very proud of you all! If you would like to know a little more about Deb and her artwork please go to her website– www.debstanleyart.co.uk



Monthly Attendance Award for September

An amazing 103 children had 100% attendance in September; Certificates will be given out on Tuesday 18th October. The draw for the September prize winner will take place in our Award Worship on 4th November.

Attendance

The table below shows class attendance statistics for this week. Our target is 96% or more.

	Percentage	MISSED Sessions		Percentage	MISSED Sessions
Nursery	85.8%	20	Year 3	91.2%	18
Recep-	83.3%	36	Year 4	93.9%	19
Year 1	85.8%	37	Year 5	93.3%	16
Year 2	95.3%	6	Year 6	87.7%	37
There are two sessions in every day, am and pm. <u>All children</u> from Yrs R - 6 attend 10 sessions per week.					

Well done to Year 2 for 95.3% attendance this week! Congratulations to Year 2 for only 6 missing sessions. No classes reached our target of above 96% attendance this week.



As a church school, 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 focus on what they mean in our lives and in our relationships with each other.



Our Value this half term is "Thankfulness"

Colossians 2:7 Let your roots grow down into him and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught and you will overflow with thankfulness."

Psalms 118:2 "This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Dalai Lama "When you practise gratefulness, there is a sense of respect towards others"

Charles Shwab "The way to develop the best that is in a person is by appreciation and thanks. Be **thankful** for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough. He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has."

Adults in school will be on the look out this half term for children who are really trying hard to be thankful and grateful for the good things in their lives.

We are thankful for the gifts God has given each & every one of us to enable us to be unique individuals & make a difference in our own ways.

NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Nasal Flu Vaccine
Monday 31st October

Parents' Evenings
3rd and 7th November

Nursery Parent Afternoons
2nd and 9th November

CLASS EVENTS

Yr 4 Dance Festival
Wednesday 19th October

Years 2 and 4 Story Festival
Thursday 20th October
Be here by 8.30am.

Year 6 Deadline for High School
All Applications must be made
Online by Sunday 30th October

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Who to contact in school

MRS KAZEROONI for:- Attendance issues, (reasons for absences if possible contact us before 9.15am), to request forms, changes 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 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, purchasing PE kit etc . please email finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk or Phone 01684 574984 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.

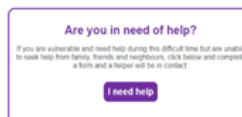
MRS BEALE Headteacher for:- urgent personal/private matters on head@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

Black Pepper Lunches for:- booking your child's meals **every half term (so 6 times per year)**, visit their website <https://www.blackpepperlunches.com/BP-default.php>

Support for Food and resources during half term/ Summer

Here2Help

Click here for the [Here2Help website](#) On this web-site scroll down to the 'I need help' purple button and click on it. Complete a referral form and at the bottom there is a selection for 'Food and Supplies'; they will then be able to get in contact with you.



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

Autumn 2022

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

Staff Professional Development

HALF TERM BREAK

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

Spring 2023

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

Thursday 20th October at 3.15pm

Friday 21st October

Friday 21st to Sunday 30th October

Monday 31st October at 8.45am

Friday 16th December at 3.15pm

Tuesday 3rd January 2023 at 8.45am

Dates for the whole year are on Newsletter 2 - September 16th 2022.