

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 17th February 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

We have had a very exciting and eventful week to end our half term! Next week is half term and the children and staff return on Monday 27th February at 8.45am. Just a reminder that after half term our Parents' Evening will be held on Wednesday 1st March and Thursday 2nd March. Thank you to everyone who has booked in to see our teachers, SENCO and Speech and Language Therapist. It will also be World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March please read on in this newsletter to find out about the exciting events that are happening for World Book Day!

Air Ambulance 'Wear it Red' Day 14th February

We will not know the total raised for this event until our friend Charley Burke, Charity Events Organiser, reveals the amount after she has collected the 'bucket' and counted the money! However, I know it was a really successful day and we had an amazing response from you all in the mission to wear red! We even managed to create a heart on the playground and the photograph was sent to Charley to share with her team! A BIG thank you to you all!



Valentine Disco

We ended our week with a wonderful Valentine Disco! Another BIG thank you to the 'Friends of St Matthias' for organising and preparing this event! The children loved dancing to the music and eating lots of sweets!! The adults and children enjoyed the classic kids party songs- The Macarena, YMCA, Superman and so many more! The money raised at this event will go into the funds which will be spent on the next project for the children.



Mothering Sunday – 19th March

This week we had a lovely assembly delivered by Father James from St Matthias Church, all about building our life on strong foundations with all the learning and life skills we develop as we grow. After this worship he spoke to me about Mothering Sunday at St Matthias Church which is on Sunday 19th March. He and the St Matthias Church Team have invited all of St Matthias school to attend a very special Mothering Sunday service, which starts at 10.30am. During the service there will be small bunches of flowers shared out and given to anyone who 'mothers or looks after us.' This means that the children can collect a bunch of flowers and give it to their mum, or a person who cares and looks after them, or whoever they wish to give it to. We would love to fill the church full of St Matthias families from our school. We will send out more information nearer the time. We will also be looking for any child who feels that they would like to read a prayer or reading during the service. I have also heard that this service comes with a bit of a difference as there will also be lovely activities to do with the family during the service. It sounds very special and I hope some of you will be able to come along!



Safety before and after school

Please could I ask parents to make sure their children are being safe and respectful on the playground when they are either waiting for the gates to open in the morning or when parents are chatting on the playground after school. We have had a few near misses on the playground and front of school when children are not being supervised and they are rushing round. We would like to avoid any accidents. Thank you.

Have a wonderful 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,



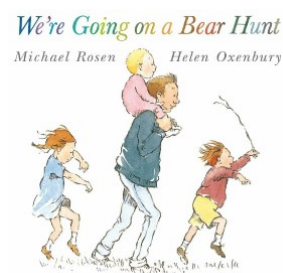
Year 5 Trip to Upton Upon Severn

Our Year 5 class visited Upton Upon Severn this week as part of their Geography and History learning. They walked through Upton following maps and looking for landmarks. They visited the Tourist Information Office where they heard a talk about the history of the town. They even managed a trip to Clive's Fruit Farm where they heard all about the seasonal foods which are grown there and got to taste some of their delicious juices! What an interesting and informative day researching a local town and fact finding!



Reception Class Trip to Worcester Woods.

Our Reception Class have been immersing themselves into a favourite book called 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. They decided to go on a bear hunt in Worcester Woods! They kitted themselves out with backpacks, wellies and waterproofs and off they went through the long, wavy grass, the oozy mud, the deep, cold river—I wonder if they found the bear? I know they found the play park!! During the trip the children developed their language and vocabulary, their exploring skills and they let their imagination run wild in the awe and wonder! What a wonderful day out!



Worcester Woods is a lovely area to visit should you have any time in half term!





World Book Day 2023

World Book Day is one of our favourite days of the year and the theme this year is, '**You Are a Reader**'.

Dress as a word!

Before World Book Day – Extreme Reading

We invite all children to send in pictures via ClassDojo to their teachers of them reading in **unusual places**. There will be prizes for the best entries!

Thursday 2nd March: **Dress as a Word!**

We are inviting all pupils to **dress as a word** on World Book Day. We will show off our new words and definitions in a **vocabulary parade** in school.

Friday 3rd March: **The Children's Book show**

The children in Years 1 – 6 will be joining, live online performances from authors Yasmeen Ismail and Frank Cottrell-Boyce.

Friday 3rd March: **St Matthias Reading Café**

We are opening the school hall for a reading café. We will provide the books, refreshments and space, you just need to book in for **one** of our three sessions and enjoy sharing a story with your child/ren, looking at the illustrations, asking questions and enjoying your time together.

The sessions are half an hour long and run from:

9.30am – 10.00am 2.30pm – 3.00pm 3.30pm – 4.00pm

Please click on this link to book your family into a session

<https://forms.office.com/e/dhP4WWNn99>

Please only book **one session per family**. If you are unable to attend, you do not need to complete the online booking form.

There will also be an opportunity to buy Usborne Books!



The Big Book Giveaway!

We have some books in school that are not part of our new reading schemes, so we will be giving these away after school on Friday 3rd March.

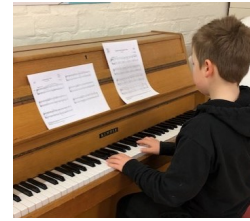
Book Swap!

Please feel free to take advantage of our Book Swap Library in the main front entrance to school – just borrow a book and when you've finished reading it, swap it for another!

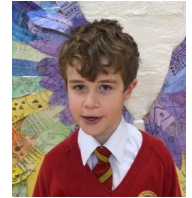
Outside Achievements

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!

James Y4, for achieving his 'emerald' level in floor acrobatics! This sounds very technical! We are very proud of your achievements! Thank you for sharing this with us! We were also very impressed with your piano playing this morning. We wish you all the best for your exam!



Adam, Y3 attended his first football training session this week for a Malvern club. He was incredibly brave as he didn't know anyone to start with, but left with lots of new friends and positive feedback from the coach for his listening and football skills! Well done Adam, we are very proud of you!

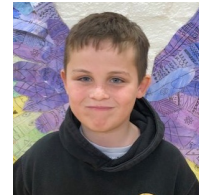


Kayleigh Y5, for taking part in a gymnastic competition and doing her very best. She gained a medal during the competition. Well done we are proud of you!



Dexter Y1, shared his very important news of the arrival of his baby sister, yesterday. He is a very proud brother!

Coby Y4, For attending a Worcester City Match and then meeting the players afterwards and getting the programme signed! Very exciting!



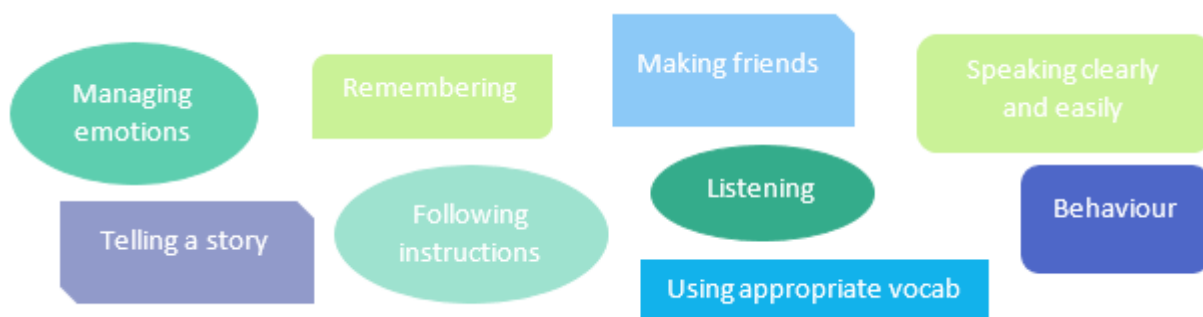
Oliver Y4, who is looking forward to his match tomorrow at football and the 'friendly' match between parents and children afterwards! Enjoy!

Well done, we are very proud of you all !

Speech and Language – Parents' Evening

I will be attending both Parents' Evenings on the 1st and 2nd March. I can provide advice and support for speech, language, and communication skills.

This does not always mean a child having unclear speech! Speech and language therapy supports a range of areas such as:



If you have any concerns about your child's communication skills please phone or email the school office (admin@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk), and I will call you back on my next visit into school. You can also contact me directly on **01562 714700**.

Jasmin Jacks (Speech and Language Therapist)

This is a great opportunity for any parent or carer to discuss any concerns regarding any of the above topics with our allocated Speech and Language Therapist. She will be able to support and give advice on something you might have been worrying about for a while!

Celebration Worship Awards

Every Friday we hold a 'Celebration Worship' to give out awards to our children to celebrate their achievements.

Certificates (Effort in their work): R. Ella D, 1. Rihanna, 2. Edward-Noah, 3. Sienna, 4. Jamie, 5. Lily-Ann, 6. Caitlin.

Value Leaf for showing Dignity: R. Mia, 1. Leo, 2. Charlie, 3. Harlem, 4. Poppy M, 5. Alumie, 6. Scarlett.

Spotted (Improved Spelling & Editing): R. Heidi, 1. Albie, 2. Ella, 3. Jacob B, 4. Olly, 5. Kaede, 6. Leighton.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times this week): Orkida Yr 6

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside) Jayla Yr 5

Thank you to the parents who were able to join us this morning !

Attendance

As a school, we have a legal duty to keep you informed of your child's attendance. We are now half way through this academic year, so today, every child will bring home a slip with their attendance percentage on. These slips are not intended to cause offence, they are merely there to keep you up to date with your child's progress so far this school year. We understand that in most cases we have had valid reasons for these absences.

At St Matthias we believe that good attendance and punctuality are vital for a child to progress to the best of their ability. Even in the Nursery and Reception classes, regular absence causes a rift in the child's education and can also disrupt their friendship groups.

Our expectation is for every child to have an attendance of 96% or above even in our Nursery class, where good punctuality and regular attendance get a child into good habits for their future school and work life.

Please only keep your child at home if they are genuinely ill. If a dose of Calpol or similar will keep them ticking through the day, then please send them to school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Attendance The table below shows class attendance statistics for this year so far ie September to today.

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	78.89%		Year 3	89.41%	
Reception	89.92%		Year 4	93.93%	
Year 1	90.58%		Year 5	90.72%	
Year 2	88.76%		Year 6	93.52%	
There are two sessions in every day, am and pm. All children from Yrs R - 6 attend 10 sessions per week.					

We are delighted that Year 4 has had the best attendance so far this academic year.

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 challenging times.

Dignity





NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

The parents' "Understanding Your Child" group 9.15am on Tuesday 28th February in school.

Parents' Evenings
Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd
March 2023

Parents' Evenings Speech & language
Therapist Drop-In chats.
Wednesday 1st & Thursday 2nd March

Parents' Evening SEND appointments
on Wednesday 1st March only

World Book Day
Thursday 2nd March 2023

The Children's Book Show
Friday 3rd March

St Matthias Reading Café for Parents
Friday 3rd March

Mothering Sunday
Sunday 19th March

Easter Service
Wednesday 29th March 9am in
church.

CLASS EVENTS

Year 4 (Small Football Team)
at The Downs Tournament
Tuesday 28th February

Year 6 Black Country Museum Trip
Letter out today
Thursday 9th March (8.45am start)

Year 1 Teaching Trees Trip
Wednesday 15th March

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>

Worcestershire Virtual Family Hub

Scan this QR code to access support for you and your family. There are a range of resources that are available online, on the phone or face to face that you can access directly yourself.



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

Male Domestic Abuse 24 hour Helpline 0800 014 9082

Women's Aid 24hr Helpline 0800 980 3331

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 2023

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE for Half term on Friday 17th February at 3.15pm

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN Monday 27th February at 8.45am

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE for Easter on Friday 31st March at 3.15pm

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN Monday 17th April at 8.45am

Refreshed dates for the rest of this year are on [Page 3 of Newsletter 15](#)

SCHOOL UNIFORM REPAIR SHOP

Monday 20th February

12 noon - 3pm

The Church of the Ascension Hall

Somers Park Ave, Malvern

WR14 1XA

**Bring your children's damaged school uniform along and we will try to repair it.
(Unfortunately we can not repair zips)**



**malvern link
with cowleigh**

**Buttons, hems, tears,
small holes etc**

