

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Virginia Beale

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

Telephone or Facsimile 01684 574984

Email: head@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

Website: www.stmatthiasceprimary.co.uk



Friday 3rd March 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back after the February half term, we hope you had a lovely break! We have had an incredibly busy week which has involved many different events and outings.

Parents' Evening

Thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening this week, we hope you enjoyed looking at your children's books and hearing about their progress in class. Out of 190 children in our school, we had 163 booked parent consultations over the last two evenings and 156 of you attended and met with your children's class teacher which was just lovely to see. Our staff work incredibly hard to write the interim reports and they love sharing the successes your children have achieved so they are pleased when they can share this with you in person. I know lots of children have also appreciated their parents looking at books and congratulating them on their progress. If you were unable to make the parent consultations we will be sending home the written interim report to you over the next week.

Speech and Language – a message from our Therapist, Jasmin - World Book Day

It was World Book Day this week and everyone looked fantastic! Good language skills support Literacy and reading helps language to develop.

When we are reading or telling a story it important to think about 'who' is in the story. Here are 5 ways to talk about story characters:

5 ways to talk about story characters 😊



© Worcestershire Speech and Language Therapy 2017

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.

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, we can make a positive contribution, flourish and **achieve** together to make a difference in our ever-changing world.'





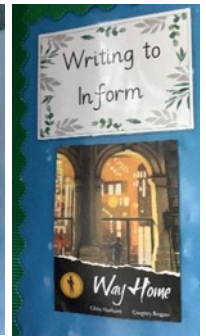
Reading for Pleasure at St Matthias

World Book Day 2023



We aim to inspire our children to develop a love for reading. Developing a habit of reading for pleasure is crucial and we do this in school in a variety of ways:

Being Read to Regularly: Each class has a 'special box' with high-quality books inside it. Every day, the class teacher will read one of these books to the children in Class Novel time. We also use texts recommended by the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education in our English lessons, so our children experience a wide range of rich language and the best quality books.



Having a choice in what to read: Our reading areas in each classroom are very well stocked. Each reading area also has 'interest boxes' so children can choose from a range of genres, not just fiction: from newspapers and magazines to non-fiction books and poetry.



Having books at home: Children take a book home every week from our bookshelves (linked to their reading ability). We also run a 'Book Swap Library', which is located in the reception area, where children can borrow a book and then swap it for another when they've finished it...so your child should never be short of a new book to enjoy! **Just drop in and take a book!**

We promote reading every week in our celebration assembly. Children are selected each week if they have read at home or gained 100% in their comprehension quiz and they receive a new book as a prize.

We ensure that all our children receive a book on World Book Day (thanks to the support of the Malvern Book Cooperative, St Ann's Road, Malvern). This year, children have also received a book token to choose an additional book for just £1!



Finding time to read: Research shows that reading for pleasure is a vital indicator of a child's success and **this is where you can help!** Share stories with your children by reading to them and also making time to hear them read to you. It is important to make reading part of their daily routine and make reading fun!

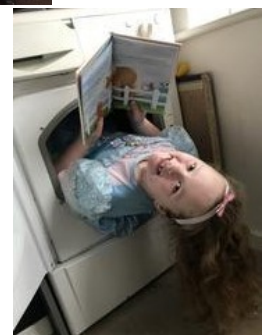
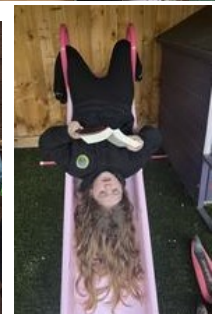
World Book Day 2023



Our World Book Day event started on Thursday with a whole school assembly delivered by our English Lead, Mrs Maidens, who was dressed as the word 'incognito.' We talked about World Book Day, its origins and where we like to read and the types of books we like to read! We also shared some of the 'Extreme Reading' photographs which have been sent to the teachers during the half term break and this week! (No child was hurt in the process of these reads!)

Assembly was followed by a vocabulary parade on the top playground! It is hard to believe that we had over 200 people dressed up as so many different words! Quite incredible! I know each class celebrated the event in their own way in the classrooms, discussing vocabulary, definitions, synonyms and writing about their words. Mrs Maidens organised for each child to receive a World Book Day book, free of charge donated by the 'Malvern Book Cooperative' Shop; she also gave every child a £1 World Book Day token. On Friday the classes were entertained online by Authors - Yasmeen Ismail and Frank Cottrell-Boyce. As part of our World Book Day event there was a 'Big Book Giveaway' where children could choose any book they want to take home. This may also continue into next week.

Our World Book Day event was really successful so thank you to all the parents who supported and became very creative at home with their children to help in the dressing up decisions and also the extreme reading event. We received 38 extreme reading photographs which was wonderful! We took many photographs of the event and here is a very small snapshot!



Reading Café World Book Day Event

Another thank you to the parents who joined us at our Reading Café on Friday. It was lovely to see families get together and share stories with each other. Having moments together without pressures are few and far between so we hope you got a lot out of the short time you had together and enjoyed some refreshments!

Thank you to Mrs Smith for not only donating a number of Usborne Books and jigsaws for our competitions but also bringing along her 'Usborne Book' stall for parents to order beautiful books to share at home.



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!

Tyler Y4, His parents and school continue to be proud of the achievements that Tyler is making in his football team and this week he has been picked to be team captain!

Mason Y1, for gaining his International badge, First Aid badge and Paper Aeroplane badge at Beavers. We are very proud of you!

Lily P Y4, For taking part in her Brownie promise and badge ceremony at Priory Church and being sworn in as an official Brownie, she received 3 badges too! Well done, we are very proud of you Lily!

Jamie B Y4, For playing football with his team and being a brilliant team player which earned him 'Player of the Match' and a trophy! Well done we are proud of you!

Well done, we are very proud of you all !



Sporting event at the Downs School in Colwall.

On Tuesday, nine Year 4 children braved the cold to compete in The Downs U9 football festival. They were placed in a group of 7 schools and performed brilliantly, winning 2 games, drawing 3 and losing the final game against a local school. Some great goalkeeping and defending ensured 5 clean sheets in a row!! This placed us third in our group and gave us a play off match against the team who were third in the other group. We put up a great battle but finished with a defeat that left us in 6th place out of 14 schools. A brilliant achievement, well done to all!



Drama Workshop

Year 5, as part of their preparation and transition to High School, visited Dyson Perrins this week for a Drama workshop. This is super experience of High School even if your child isn't considering Dyson Perrins as their choice. Year 5 were welcomed by the Dyson Perrins staff and had a wonderful time. They recreated a scene which included Frankenstein from the film 'The Monster of Doctor Frankenstein, some children imagined they were the monster, Dr Frankenstein or other characters such as Igor. They played warm up games and they got to perform their creations with sound effects and special lighting techniques! They had a wonderful time!



Packed Lunch - REMINDERS

As a healthy school, part of our brief is to promote and monitor healthier food at lunch and break times. We actively encourage children to bring a healthy lunch to school. (for example a sandwich, wrap or similar with crisps or similar, a piece of fruit and a cake). **Children should not have chocolate or sweets at school.** Children can bring a cake, Penguin or Kit Kat, but NOT a chocolate bar such as Dairy milk, Mars bar etc.

We ask that children do not bring in peanuts or have peanut butter in sandwiches, as some children do have serious allergies to them. Thank you.

We encourage the children to drink regularly throughout the day. A bottle of water or weak squash should be brought in every day. No fizzy or energy drinks are permitted.

Our involvement in the National **Free Fruit Scheme** means that all children in Nursery, Reception, Yrs 1 & 2 are given a piece of fruit every day. We encourage Key Stage 2 children (ie. Yrs 3, 4, 5 & 6) to bring in their own fruit or a piece of cheese to eat at break-time.

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. Cassius, 1. Kyle, 2. Ralphee, 3. Adam, 4. Zach, 5. Poppy, 6. Valters.

Value Leaf for showing Dignity: R. Lyla, 1. Harry, 2. Ella, 3. Jacob M, 4. Esmae, 5. Bonnie & Lexie, 6. Jess.

Spotted (Improved Spelling & Editing): R. Albie, 1. Isaac, 2. Pippa, 3. Addison, 4. Ellie, 5. Freya, 6. Lily-May.

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

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside) Orkida Yr 6

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

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

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	84.3%	26	Year 3	93.3%	14
Reception	94.0%	12	Year 4	93.5%	19
Year 1	84.6%	40	Year 5	92.7%	19
Year 2	95.4%	6	Year 6	96.0%	11

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 6** had the best attendance this week at **96.0%**. Well done to **Year 2** for only having **6** absences this week. Congratulations to **Year 6** for 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 challenging times.

Dignity





NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

The parents' "Understanding Your Child" group 9.15am on Tuesday 7th March in school.

Mothering Sunday Service
Sunday 19th March at 10.30am

Easter Service
Wednesday 29th March 9am in church.

Easter Bonnet Parade

Easter Bonnet making

CLASS EVENTS

Year 6 History Trip Black Country Museum
Thursday 9th 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 Easter on Friday 31st March at 3.15pm

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN Monday 17th April at 8.45am

Dates for the rest of this year AND next year are on Page 8 .



Don't let bugs play on your mind.

If your child is unwell, use the HANDi App to check their symptoms and get instant, NHS-approved medical advice.

The conditions covered include:

- Chesty child/baby illnesses:
- Bronchiolitis
 - Asthma
 - Croup
 - Wheezing
 - Asthma
 - Strep A
 - Diarrhoea and vomiting
 - Newborn Problems
 - High Temperature
 - Abdominal Pain

Scan this QR code for more information!



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play



Search 'Handi' on the Apple App Store and Google Play.

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

Easter Holiday

Saturday 1st April to Sunday 16th April 2023

SUMMER TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY BEGIN

Monday 17th April 2023

MAY DAY

Monday 1st May 2023 School Closed

King Charles Coronation Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May 2023 School Closed

HALF TERM

Saturday 27th May to Sunday 4th June 2023

SCHOOL & NURSERY END

Friday 21st July 2023

Staff Professional Development

Monday 24th July 2023 & Tuesday 25th July 2023

ACADEMIC TERM DATES for St Matthias of The Spire Learning Trust 2023 - 2024

AUTUMN TERM

Staff Professional Development

Monday 4th September 2023 – School Closed

Staff Professional Development

Tuesday 5th September 2023 – School Closed

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 8.45am

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

Friday 27th October 2023 at 3.15pm

HALF TERM BREAK

Saturday 28th October to Sunday 5th November 2023

SCHOOL OPEN

Monday 6th November 2023 at 8.45am

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

Thursday 21st December 2023 at 3.15pm

Staff Professional Development

Friday 22nd December 2023 – School Closed

SPRING TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

Monday 8th January 2024 at 8.45am

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

Friday 9th February 2024 at 3.15pm

HALF TERM BREAK

Saturday 10th to Sunday 18th February 2024

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

Monday 19th February 2024 at 8.45am

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

Friday 22nd March 2024 at 3.15pm

SUMMER TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

Monday 8th April 2024 at 8.45am

MAY DAY (School Closed)

Monday 6th May 2024 - School Closed

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

Friday 24th May at 3.15pm

HALF TERM BREAK

Saturday 25th May to Sunday 2nd June 2024

Staff Professional Development

Monday 3rd June 2024 – School Closed

SCHOOL & NURSERY END

Friday 19th July 2024

Staff Professional Development

Monday 22nd July 2024 – School Closed



Herefordshire and
Worcestershire

Children's Asthma Nurse At Home Service for 6-16 year olds in Worcestershire (pilot scheme)



Would you like your child to receive a review of their asthma at home?

Is your child aged between 6 and 16 years old and using regular inhalers for their asthma but having difficulty keeping their asthma under control?

If so, then we would like to arrange a visit to see you and your child at home. We will spend up to an hour talking about the child's asthma and how to manage it to gain better control. We can also talk to your GP about making changes to medication to support better asthma control.

How do I find out more?

Please contact our asthma nurses, Mandy and Katie, to find out more about the service and see if your child is eligible. Young people are welcome to refer themselves too. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A PILOT SCHEME AND TIME LIMITED.

Either phone **0330 053 4356** (Option 2) and leave a message with your name, your child's name, date of birth and a contact telephone number

Or email the same details to hw.childre asthma team@nhs.net

