

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 21st April 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome to the Summer Term! I hope you all had a lovely Easter. The children have come back ready to learn and with amazingly positive attitudes. This half term is especially important with our KS1 and KS2 Statutory tests for Year 2 and Year 6. Therefore attendance is particularly important for all the children so that the preparation and support given in readiness for their tests has the best impact ; absence must be kept to a minimum.

We also have a number of exciting events coming up this term and would like you all to keep reading the weekly newsletters and diary dates on the 'noticeboard' at the end of the newsletter so that you are all aware.

Well Dressing 2023

On the first bank holiday weekend in May which starts next Friday 28th April we will dress 'Lord Sandy's Well' in Spring Lane, Malvern. The theme is 'Kings and Queens' which fits beautifully with the King's Coronation. Each class has been working on their own part of the theme linked to 'Kings and Queens' this week and have started producing writing, art work and sculptures; we have also included 'Kings and Queens' in a variety of ways linked to stories and culture.

On Friday 28th April we will take all the items to the well and make it look very special, ready for the 'Judging Day' on Saturday 29th April.

The Well Dressing Prize giving event will take place on **Bank Holiday Monday on 1st May at 2pm** but from 10-5pm there will be family fun activities, music and entertainment in Malvern Priory Park as part of the Water Festival celebrations. We will be there to take part in the Prize giving and if there are any St Matthias pupils at the prize giving event they can help collect any prizes we might achieve,

If you and your family would like to contribute to our well dressing and you would like to create something linked to the theme 'Kings and Queens' then you are more than welcome. Please bring in your creations next week so we can keep them safe ready for the event. Anything goes, you cannot go wrong with this project especially if you are feeling creative!

The Malvern Well Dressing Festival runs from Friday 29th April to Sunday 7th May and there are 56 Wells to visit across Malvern and the surrounding hills. If you would like to find out more click on this link [Malvern Well Dressing information](#).



UK Government NEW Emergency Alert System

Reminder that advertised recently is the UK Government Emergency Alert System has now gone live. The system will enable people to be contacted via their mobile phones when lives are in danger. eg severe flooding.

On **Sunday 23rd April** the Government will be testing their new Emergency Alert System which will affect everyone's mobile phones, even if they are turned off. If you get an emergency alert on your mobile phone, you'll hear a loud, siren-like sound. A message will appear on your screen telling you about the emergency and how best to respond. More information about receiving and opting out of the alerts can be found at this website <https://www.gov.uk/alerts>

There have been concerns for anyone who may have a second mobile phone (perhaps if that person is experiencing Domestic Violence). Here is a video made by 'Refuge' telling you how to manage the alerts if this affects you. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2MBcHwmiy8>



Have a lovely weekend. Mrs Beale.

ASPIRE, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE

'Our school family, values us all as unique individuals and children of God.

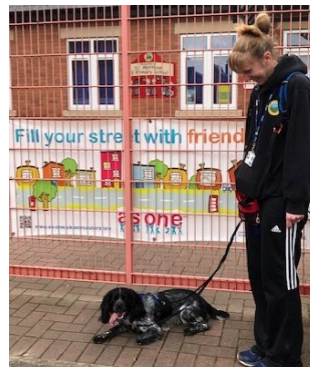
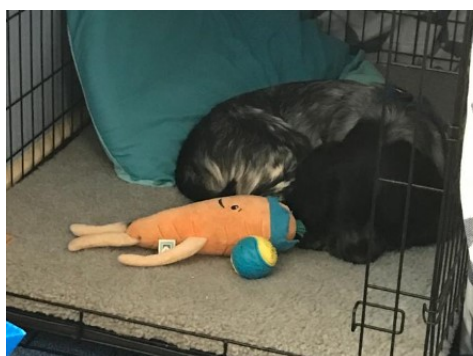
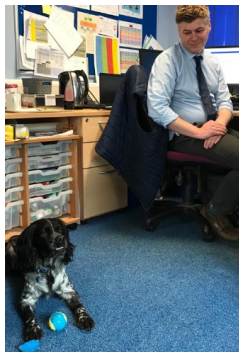
We **aspire** to be the best version of ourselves; **believing** that through the gifts God has given us, we can make a positive contribution, flourish and **achieve** together to make a difference in our ever-changing world.'



Barney's first visit to St Matthias

With my last newsletter we shared some exciting news about our new school dog, Barney. This week Barney had his first visit to St Matthias with the children present. Mrs O'Connor brought her dog in at lunchtime on Wednesday. First he went for a walk around the local area and then he walked around the perimeter of the school listening to the children shouting, laughing and playing in the playground. He was spotted very quickly by the children in the playground, who couldn't wait to see him. They were very good as they gave him space, they didn't squeal and made him feel very comfortable. He wagged his tail lots and lay down at the front of school very content!

Then he spent some time in my office, getting used to his new surroundings whilst Mrs O'Connor, Mr Thompson and I got on with some work! He was a little cheeky as he found a sponge ball, which wasn't a ball after he had finished playing with it. He enjoyed sharing a bit of my apple and he played with his squeaky toy whilst I was having an online meeting! He was very entertaining. He loved being stroked and sniffing around the room! After that he visited the classrooms to say hello to the children. He stayed on his lead and sat outside each classroom door waiting patiently to be invited in. The children stayed in their seats and didn't stroke him on his first visit as he took in the new smells, environment and lots of smiling faces! The children were so good and enjoyed seeing Barney in the flesh! Barney was so comfortable in the school environment that he was very happy to lie on the floor in each room or have a good sniff round! He is going to make a wonderful School Therapy Dog as he has already made everyone smile and have those warm fuzzy feelings when animals are around! He even attended our staff meeting! He will visit for another afternoon next week. Each class has been given some information from The Dog's Trust on how to say hello to dogs in a safe way and how to be 'Dog Smart.'



King's Coronation Celebration

The coronation for Charles III and his wife, Camilla, as king and queen of the United Kingdom and the other commonwealth realms is scheduled to take place on Saturday 6th May, at Westminster Abbey. Charles acceded to the throne on 8th September 2022, upon the death of his mother, Elizabeth II. People across the country and the Commonwealth are invited to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort over a weekend of special events on 6-8th May.



As this will be an extra Bank Holiday we have decided to mark the occasion on Friday 5th May in school. We invite the **children to dress in Red, White and Blue** and staff will organise activities within their classrooms linked to learning about our King Charles III and his Coronation. If you would like to find out more about the Coronation please click on this link <https://coronation.gov.uk/>

At lunchtime we have asked BlackPepper to provide a **special Coronation lunch** for children who normally order a hot dinner. The children will receive a special packed lunch of delicious food in a Union Jack Box.

If your child does NOT normally have a BlackPepper lunch and they would like to have one on that day, then you are welcome to order a special lunch by going onto their website. <https://www.blackpepperlunches.com/BP-default.php>

From Friday 21st April, today, everyone will be able to choose a ham (meat option), cheese (vegetarian option) or jam (third option) to go in their afternoon tea boxes. If you are entitled to Free School Meals then the packed lunch will be free, if you normally pay the lunch will be £2.53.

If your child does not want a BlackPepper afternoon tea lunch, then parents can provide their child with their own 'special' lunch with some extra treats on that day.

With the money raised through the Friends organised fundraising events we have also bought a gift to commemorate the event as a keepsake for each child which they will bring home on Friday 5th May.

Reception Sports Trip

On Tuesday 18th April Reception Class travelled to Bromsgrove School for the Worcestershire School Games Festival where they were representing Worcestershire West. There were schools from all over Worcestershire with ages ranging from 4 to 16.

Our Reception Class took part in the Infant Agility competition and were amazing at their six events; The Launcher, Thrower, Jumper, Stepper, Basketball and Circus Skills. Well done Reception, you represented St Matthias brilliantly.




Speech and Language Article

Speech and Language – Conversations

This is one for older children! Some children need help to learn how to have to-and-fro conversations. Here are the rules for conversations that you can share and practise

5 Key skills for Conversation Keepie Uppie!

Listen to what the other person is saying





Stay on topic – talk about the SAME thing as the other person


Take turns to talk – but make sure your turn isn't TOO long!

Look at the other person so you know when it is your turn

Respond to what the other person says – this might mean changing what you were going to say!

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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)

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 all!

Abbie B Y6, for walking from the Clock Tower to The Beacon on the Malvern Hills and back again which was an amazing achievement! It was a good job it was a lovely sunny day! Well done Abbie and family.

James B, Y4 for achieving a remarkable 'merit' in his first piano exam. Well done we are very proud of your achievements! We also enjoyed listening to you play!

Elise R, Y4 for achieving her 15 metres swimming certificate. Well done . We are proud of you.

Mr Salmon, for taking part in the Manchester Marathon and beating his best time by 6 minutes. We are very proud of you.

Mr McEvilly, our Trust SENCO, for being nominated and being selected as one of three finalists for the Worcestershire Education Awards 2023, under the category 'Special Educational Needs Award.' You might have seen him in last week's Malvern Gazette! We are very proud of you and you certainly deserved to be a finalist with the determination and support you give to pupils with SEND across our Trust!



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. Imogen, 1. Oakley, 2. Isabella, 3. Loki, 4. Megan, 5. Grace, 6. Fraser.

Value Leaf for showing Wisdom: R. Heidi, 1. Isaac, 2. Ralphee, 3. Jacob B, 4. Brooke, 5. Athena, 6. Gino.

Spotted (Improved Spelling & Editing): R. Ella, 1. Theo, 2. Logan, 3. Anna, 4. Oakley, 5. Kayleigh, 6. Ollie.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times): Esmae Yr 1

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside): Sam Y5

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	91.0%	15	Year 3	94.7%	11
Reception	89.0%	22	Year 4	96.7%	10
Year 1	93.0%	18	Year 5	91.5%	22
Year 2	89.2%	14	Year 6	92.9%	19
There are two sessions in every day, am and pm. All children from Yrs R - 6 attend 10 sessions per week.					

Well done to **Yr 4** for the best attendance this week at **96.7%**.

Congratulations to **Yr 4** for only having **10 absence sessions**.

Termly Attendance Award Huge congratulations to the 24 super-fit pupils who had 100% attendance for the Spring term. The Spring term prize for 100% attendance has gone to Loki.

Monthly Attendance Award for March 2023 Congratulations to the amazing 68 children who had 100% attendance in February 2023. The February prize winner is Alumie

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 "Wisdom"

Matthew 7:24-27 Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practise is like the wise man who built his house upon the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practise is like the foolish man who built his house on the sand.

Proverbs 4:6-7, "Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding."

Dalai Lama "A spoon cannot taste of the food it carries. Likewise, a foolish person cannot understand the wise man's wisdom even if he associates with a sage."

Gandhi "Even as wisdom often comes from the mouths of babes, so does it often come from the mouths of old people. The golden rule is to test everything in the light of reason and experience, no matter from where it comes."

THE FRIENDS OF ST MATTHIAS PRESENT

Beach Carnival

SUMMER FAYRE

SATURDAY 24TH JUNE. 11AM - 2PM

CROMWELL ROAD - SCHOOL GROUNDS

BRING A DECK CHAIR OR A PICNIC BLANKET

COME JOIN THE FUN

RAFFLE BBQ Games

REFRESHMENTS

Ice creams Bric a Brac

outside stalls TOMBOLA

& much more



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Clubs start for Years R - 6

Week commencing Monday 24th April

School Photographer taking
Class Group photos & Yr6 Leavers
Packs + New Staff at 9am on
Wednesday 14th June 2023

Summer Fayre

Saturday 24th June 2023

St Matthias Open Day – 4th July 2023
9.30am-11.30am.

Whole School Transition Day – 18th
July 2023

CLASS EVENTS

Year 2 Cricket Trip
Monday 24th April

Reception Morrisons Trip
Thursday 27th April

Year 2 SATs held over the month of
May

Year 6 SAT's
Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May

Year 5 Oakerwood Residential Trip
Wednesday 17th - Friday 19th May

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 and ask to speak to Mrs James.

CLASS TEACHER for:- classroom issues, learning or behaviour related, use ClassDojo. 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.



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

Summer 2023

SCHOOL & NURSERY BEGIN

MAY DAY

King Charles Coronation Holiday

HALF TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY close for summer at 3.15pm on Friday 21st July 2023

Staff Professional Development Monday 24th July 2023 + Tuesday 25th July 2023

Monday 17th April 2023 at 8.45am

Monday 1st May 2023 - School Closed

Monday 8th May 2023 - School Closed

Saturday 27th May to Sunday 4th June

Dates for the Academic Year 2023 to 2024 are on Page 5 of Newsletter 23