

# St Matthias Newsletter



## St Matthias Church of England Primary School

**Headteacher: Mrs Virginia Beale**

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Website: [www.stmatthiasceprimary.co.uk](http://www.stmatthiasceprimary.co.uk)

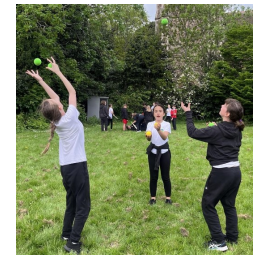


Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

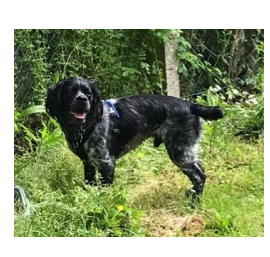
## We are proud of you Year 6!

Firstly, I would like to say how proud we are of our Year 6 pupils for focusing and doing their best in their Year 6 Statutory tests this week. They have all been supportive of each other, followed all our instructions and absolutely strived to be the very best version of themselves when faced with this challenge! Well done, now you can enjoy the rest of your time at primary school completing your Year 6. I'd also like to thank all the staff who were involved with the implementation and monitoring of the SATs tests and our Governor, Jenny, who also visited to verify our processes and encourage the children! Mrs James provided an amazing breakfast for the children too, which helped relax, calm and support an important social time prior to the tests; thank you Mrs James. The rest of the school were also amazing as they had to be extremely quiet during the tests and make sure they didn't disturb those Concentrating – so a big thank you to the rest of the staff and children too! Year 2 are continuing to complete their tests over the next two weeks so by May half term the key assessments will have been completed for the two year group.



### Barney's Busy Wednesday!

Barney had another busy Wednesday this week! He first gave our Year 6 pupils lots of luck just after their breakfast and entertained them with his 'wait' and 'take it' tricks! He greeted some children on their way into school and visited all the classes again. He listened to some children read and supported some children through their intervention work. He also explored our school field at lunchtime! We love Barney!



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.'





**Saturday 24th June 11am**

# St Matthias CE Primary School

## Summer Fayre



Once again, 'The Friends of St Matthias' are planning an eventful Summer Fayre to help raise funds for the children of St Matthias. It will be open to everyone including members of the public.

There will be craft stalls, a bouncy castle, book stalls, toy stalls, lucky dips, cake stalls, raffles, drinks, BBQ and so much more!



**BUT we need your help,**  
**Now!**

The Friends are holding a meeting at St Matthias School on **Monday 15th May at 3.30pm** and **everyone is welcome to attend**. At this meeting they are discussing the preparations for the fayre, organising a working party to help set up, run stalls and clear away.

The Summer Fayre cannot run without willing volunteers who can spare some time before, during and after the event! Please remember that all funds raised go back to the school for the benefit of your children. So please come along and bring a friend, we appreciate any help that is offered! If you are unable to attend but are happy to help, then please speak to Mrs James who can add your name to the list of willing volunteers.

*Thank you in advance, your support is always appreciated!*

### **Half term holiday food vouchers**

If you are eligible for Free School Meals (not universal free school meals) we are able to provide children with their half term holiday food vouchers. These will come to families via the email which you have provided us with, from Edenred. The vouchers will arrive by **Wednesday 24th May**. If you do not received them please contact us before Friday 26th May however, check your junk mail first as sometimes they land in that email box!

If you feel that you might be entitled to Free School Meals, because you are on a low income and claim benefits and have not registered before then please see the information below.

### **Who can get Free School Meals?**

If your child attends a state school, and you get one or more of the following you can get free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act, 1999
- Child Tax Credit, and your annual income is less than £16,190
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Working Tax Credit run-on

Universal Credit, and your annual household income is £7,400 per annum (£616 per month) or less after tax, and not including any benefits.

Apply by clicking this link <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schools-education-and-learning/free-school-meals>



### **HAF it! 2023**

Free School Meal eligible children and families are also entitled to sign up for the Worcestershire Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme now.

Activities and events will be released in the weeks before the Summer school holidays, places are limited so sign up and verify your account now to be ready.

For more information about the HAF Programme and to book your child's place click here

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/virtual-family-hub/ready-steady-worcestershire-holiday-activities-and-food-haf-programme/school>

You must also register and create an account and you can do that by clicking here: <https://www.haf-it.co.uk/>



### **Police information– Operation Sceptre 15th –21st May 23**

Our Local Policing team have been sharing leaflets regarding 'knife crime' and the opportunity for people to hand in dangerous weapons as part of Operation Sceptre. Knife crime is on the increase and the only way we can stop knife crime is by handing in weapons or reporting people who have weapons. We support this operation as it keeps our communities and families safe, so please share this information. All year round knives can be surrendered, no questions asked, at participating police stations. #TACKLINGVIOLENCETOGETHER

Anyone who is concerned a young person is involved in or on the periphery of becoming involved in knife crime and carrying a knife can report this anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. More information for young people about the stark consequences of knife crime can be found at [www.fearless.org](http://www.fearless.org) where concerns can also be reported anonymously.

**Calling time on knife crime**

We can only tackle knife crime if we work together

In an emergency call 999  
for non emergencies call 101.

**GET CAUGHT CARRYING A KNIFE AND YOU FACE...**

- ✓ Arrest
- ✓ Prosecution
- ✓ A criminal record
- ✓ Ruined job prospects
- ✓ Not being able to go to university
- ✓ Not being able to travel to America
- ✓ Four years in prison

**MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE.**

West Mercia POLICE

www.westmercia.police.uk

West Mercia POLICE

www.westmercia.police.uk



## **The Offensive Weapons Act 2019**

- It is now illegal to possess certain weapons in private places, including your home. This includes items such as knuckledusters, flick knives and telescopic truncheons.
- There will also be changes to the process of buying knives online with enhanced age verification checks at point of sale and collection/delivery.
- Please store and dispose of knives safely to reduce the risk of them being used as weapons.
- Help prevent knife crime by reporting any concerns, including about how they are sold, to the Police or anonymously to Crimestoppers.



To find out more visit the National Business Crime Centre  
[www.nbcc.police.uk/knifeguidance](http://www.nbcc.police.uk/knifeguidance)



## Speech and Language – Starting Conversations

This is one for older children.

Some children need help to learn how to have to-and-fro conversations.

Here are some ways children can learn to start a conversation – by asking questions, giving compliments, and commenting.

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)

Conversation starters

Questions	How are you..?	Did you see..?
	How did you..?	Did you like...?
	What did you think about..?	
Compliments	Brilliant!	That's good!
	You know loads about...	
	I like your..	You're good at...
Comments	I noticed that you...	I liked...
	I was interested that you said..	
	You seemed to like...	Tell me...

## Celebration Assembly Postponed.

Due to Year 6 Statutory tests finishing today, Friday, there was no celebration assembly.

We will be celebrating next week so please watch this space and if your child has an award, you will receive a text next Thursday and are welcome to attend if you are able.

We will also look forward to our 'Outside Achievements' too and already have some ready to celebrate next Friday!

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

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	91.1%	12	Year 3	90.4%	16
Reception	93.7%	10	Year 4	96.7%	8
Year 1	95.6%	9	Year 5	95.1%	10
Year 2	95.1%	5	Year 6	99.1%	2

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 6 for the best attendance this week with 99.1% !**

**Well done to Yr 2 and Yr 6 for the least amount of absent sessions this week.**

**Congratulations to Yrs 4 and 6 for having over 96% attendance this week.**

**Monthly Attendance Award for April 2023 Congratulations to the amazing 131 children who had 100% attendance in April 2023. The April prize winner is ????????**

***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."**



# NOTICEBOARD



## REMINDERS

### WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 3.30pm**  
Meeting for ALL Parents to plan Summer Fayre.

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

Summer Fayre 11am to 2pm  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023

St Matthias Open Morning  
4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 9.30am-11.30am.

Whole School Transition Day  
All children move into their new class  
to spend day with their future teacher  
on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

### CLASS EVENTS

Year 2 SATs held over the  
whole month of May.

Reception Library Trip  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

Year 5 Oakerwood Residential Trip  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May.

Year 3 History Man Day  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Letter soon.

Yr 6 Swimming Gala  
(ONLY those with letters)  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023.

Year 6 Bell Boating  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June. Letter soon.

Year 6 Induction Day The Chase  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

Year 6 Transition Day Dyson Perrins  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

## 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](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, purchasing 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. 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 (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

#### HALF TERM

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June**

**SCHOOL & NURSERY** close for summer at 3.15pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

**Staff Professional Development** Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023 + Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023

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

**ALL our newsletters can be found on our website.**