

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 7th July 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Open Day

It was lovely to see a few new parents and also current parents at our Open Day on Tuesday this week. Our wonderful Year 6 children completed guided tours of the whole school, sharing their personal experiences of what St Matthias is truly like for children! Through the tour our visitors saw; The Early Years getting messy with clay and shaving foam, Reception showing off some of their phonics knowledge, Years One and Two were writing, Years Three and Four were demonstrating Maths, Year Five showed off some drama and the Year Six children who were in class were completing sewing projects and computer technology work! In the hall Mr McEvilly and Mrs Joyce were on hand to talk about SEND. Mrs James was available with second hand uniform. We had two governors greeting our visitors and the hall was an amazing array of children's work and displayed events which had happened through the year.

May I take this opportunity to thank all my staff for always putting the children first and providing such wonderful experiences at St Matthias. Our visitors loved their guided tour, listening to the Year 6 children and also seeing our school in action! If you didn't make it to our Open Day, maybe you will be able to next year! Here are a few of the highlights...



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.'



Class Teachers: Autumn Term 2023

During the rest of this term current class teachers will be assessing the children, completing the teaching and learning sequences and preparing their class for their next transition. The current class teachers will also be liaising with the next class teachers and making time for them to meet and build relationships so that your children know who their teacher will be in September. On Tuesday 18th July each class will move up to meet their new class teachers so they can experience their new classrooms, build relationships and have a day of wellbeing and team building.

During the summer holidays, you can talk to your children about their new teachers.

On Monday, your child's end of year report will come home for you to read. In the school reports we have also included a transition leaflet so your children can see their new class teachers and classrooms and become familiar with their new environments. I am sure you will help your children feel positive about the moves and encourage them to talk about their feelings and any worries so they are prepared for September.

We fully understand and appreciate that this is always an anxious time for children as they leave the security of the adults in their class that they are familiar with and build new relationships with the staff they are going to. We will make the transition as smooth as we can, however you are welcome to let us know if you feel that we can do extra to support your child if they are feeling more anxious than normal.

I am thrilled to let you know that your child's class teacher for next year is listed below.

Nursery: Mrs Cale & Mrs Cook
(Mon-Fri) & (Tues-Thurs)



Reception: Mr Salmon
(Mon - Fri)



Year 1: Mrs O'Connor & Mrs Page
(Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri) (Weds)



Year 2: Mrs Page & Mrs Philgence
(Mon - Tues) & (Weds - Fri)



Year 3 & Year 4 Miss Houlston & Mr Thompson
(Mon - Fri) (Thurs, Fri plus extra)



Year 5: Mrs Maidens.
(Mon - Fri)



Year 6: Mrs West
(Mon - Fri)

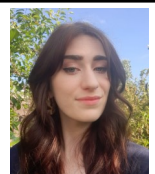


SENCO and part of the Y5/6 team— Mrs Joyce



Goodbye and Good Luck!

We will be saying goodbye and good luck to Miss Hughes at the end of this term. She has gained a teaching post at a higher education college and we wish her all the best with her new venture! We thank her for her dedication to St Matthias this year and wish her all the best for the future.



We also say goodbye and good luck to Mr Goodger (AKA Mr G!). He is starting his teaching career at a school in Worcester and we wish him all the best for his future. We thank Mr G for his commitment to St Matthias and also all the sporting events he has been involved with!

We will miss you both!



Year 3 Seeds For Life Trip

On Wednesday 5th July, Year 3 visited The Church of the Ascension in Somers Park Avenue to take part in 'Seeds for Life.' Seeds for Life supports the delivery of Religious Education in KS2 focusing on Christianity. The children took part in workshops inside and outside the church which included craft, drama, storytelling and quiet reflection. The children decorated values boxes which they took home to keep in a special place and in the box there were value stones with the value words written on them eg love and give. They also coloured transparent plastic crosses so they could stand them in their window at home and let the sun shine through. They had a wonderful time and were a credit to the school.



Year 6 Maths Challenge Day

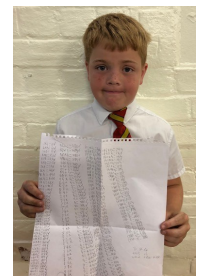
On Thursday 6th July, four Year 6 children represented our school in a Maths Challenge held at Bromsgrove High School with our Trust schools. Mr G went to support them as they completed Maths challenge after Maths challenge. They had to work together as a team to complete them and they scored points as they went along. Our team came 5th overall which was very commendable as they were only 3 points off being third, so it was a very close competition. The children represented our school fantastically remembering their manners and our school values. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and were especially thrilled at the buffet lunch which was a bonus for all their hard work! Thank you to Mr G, Elizabeth, Jessica, Leo and Justin for being such a super Maths Challenge team!



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!

Logan, Y3 for completing Maths Times Table work independently at home; Miss Houlston is very proud of you!



Stanley, Y3 for gaining a 'Drown Prevention' certificate as part of your swimming lesson. We are proud of your achievement and knowledge of being safe near and in water.

Well done, we are very proud of you both!

Supporting children with anxiety

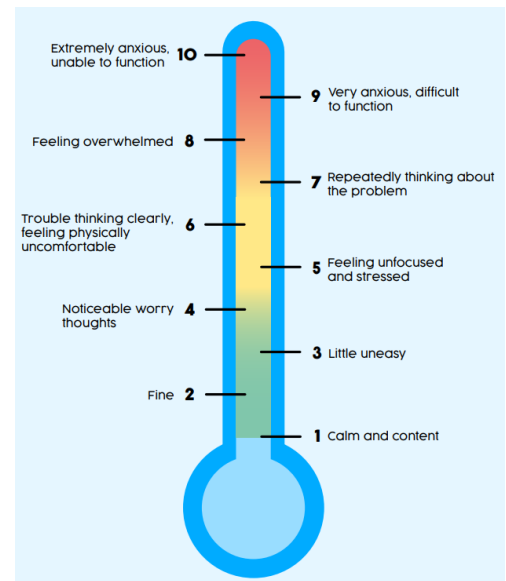
Here is a very useful website for parents who would like to help their child with anxiety. Anxiety can appear at any time and at times can feel overwhelming. It is normal to feel worried or nervous about a new situation or something that is happening, but sometimes we need help to lower the overwhelming feeling. Try this website for ideas on how you can support.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/anxiety/>

This is an anxiety thermometer.

A useful strategy to help children deal with anxiety is for them to become aware of what level their anxiety is. If they can develop an understanding of their anxiety or worries, then this is the first step in learning strategies to manage or cope better.

Anxiety can be triggered by different situations, and so using this tool can also help children recognise what situations make them feel more anxious or worried than others.



Reminder: Sports Day is this Monday 10th July - At our school field

Years 1, 2 & 3 will have their sports events from **9.15am-10.25am** so parents of children in these classes can attend this session.



Years 4, 5 & 6 will have their sports events from **10.45am-12.15pm** so parents of children in these classes can attend this session.

If you have children in both sessions you are welcome to stay for the morning! Bring a blanket/ chair and refreshments!

During each session the children will take part in non-competitive events gaining points, followed by a short break and then competitive races.

PARENT toilets – should any parent or non St Matthias children need the toilet during Sports Day, St Matthias Church have kindly offered their facilities. Any St Matthias child will be escorted to toilets in school by a member of staff if they are on the field.

Holiday Food Vouchers

We will be providing Free School Meal eligible families with food vouchers this summer. The vouchers will be emailed to you using the email address we have on our system. If you have updated your email address please let us know asap as it is difficult to reissue vouchers during the holidays.

Free school meals

Make a free school meal application online.

As there are 6 weeks of the holidays we will send two lots of £40 food vouchers via Edenred so please make sure you download both vouchers.

In order to be eligible for the food vouchers you must apply online and qualify under their rules. Please click on the link below if you have not applied for Free School Meals and think you should be eligible.

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schools-education-and-learning/free-school-meals>

Any current Nursery parents who are eligible for Early Years Pupil premium and your child is moving to Reception class, **you MUST re-apply for Free School Meals before September** to continue to be eligible and benefit from the funding.

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. Zoya, 1. Esmae, 2. Edward-Noah, 3. Jacob M, 4. Megan, 5. Shiv, 6. Ollie.

Value Leaf for showing Community: R. Ella N, 1. Daisy, 2. Kai, 3. Evie, 4. Poppy F, 5. Sophie, 6. Hashim.

Spotted (Improve Spelling & Editing): R. Anastasia, 1. Mila, 2. Pippa, 3. Adam, 4. Peter, 5. Molly, 6. Leighton.

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

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside): Heidi Yr R

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

Monthly 100% Attendance Award for June 2023 Congratulations to the amazing **100** children who had 100% attendance in June 2023. The June prize draw winner will be picked next week.

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

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	97.1%	5	Year 3	83.3%	35
Reception	95.5%	9	Year 4	97.4%	8
Year 1	97.6%	6	Year 5	88.8%	30
Year 2	100%	0	Year 6	92.5%	20
There are two sessions in every day, am and pm. All children from Yrs R - 6 attend 10 sessions per week.					

Congratulations to Year 2 for PERFECT this week with 100%.

Excellent Nursery, Years 1, 2 and 4 for being at or above our target of 96%.

Well done to Yr 2 and Nursery for the low amount of missing sessions 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 "Community"

Romans 12.16 "Live in harmony with one another."

Colossians 3:13-14 "Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity"

Romans 12:4-5 "Community is life-giving and essential to following Christ. Scripture says that's because we're better together than we are alone"

Eisenhower "This world of ours must avoid becoming a community of dreadful fear and hate, and be, instead, a proud confederation of mutual trust and respect."

Gandhi "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others".

Ours is a wonderful school, nurturing and flourishing; showing great depths of community.



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Sports Day for Years 1 to 6
Monday 10th July

Whole School Transition Day
All children move into their new
classes to spend the day with their
future teachers on Tuesday 18th July .

CLASS EVENTS

Year 4 Seeds for Life Trip
Tuesday 11th July

Yr 6 Leaver's Service in Church
Wednesday 19th July 9.15am –
ONLY Year 6 families to attend.

Year 6 Leavers Party
Thursday 20th July

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 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/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](#))

Report Scam Emails - forward them to report@phishing.gov.uk

TERM DATES & HOLIDAYS

Summer 2023

SCHOOL closes for summer at 3.15pm on Friday 21st July 2023

New Academic Year 2023 to 2024 dates are on Page 5 of Newsletter 23

The children start back on Wednesday 6th September at 8.40am.

ALL our newsletters can be found on our website.