

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 22nd September 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It was lovely to see lots of families at St Matthias Church last weekend for their Harvest celebration. There were lots of activities to do prior to the service which involved making 3D birds and weaving baskets, followed by readings and prayers read by children from St Matthias and Northleigh Primary Schools. Thank you to Kayleigh, Lily and Sam for reading our prayers and for all the other St Matthias children for taking part in the service especially the story! It was also a sad occasion as we said a fond farewell to Sarah from St Matthias Church. She is leaving to study to become a member of the clergy and has been visiting St Matthias for the past two years delivering assemblies and Godly Play. We wish her well in her new adventure!



Parent Governor Nomination.

Emailed with this newsletter is a School Governing Body Parent Governor Election letter. We have one vacancy and if you would like to consider being a parent governor please read the letter and complete the form attached by Friday 29th September. There is a paper copy available in the school office.

School Photographer

Our photographer will be in school on **Monday 25th September**. He will take individual photos of every child and siblings who attend our school. This year he will also include older and younger siblings of our pupils, who do not attend this school. **If you wish for your babies, toddlers and High School children to be in a photo with our pupils please come along to the main entrance at 8.20am. All siblings who come to our school will automatically be photographed together during the school day.**

Parents of Reception Class Phonics Meeting

Mr Salmon would like to invite all Reception Parents to a Phonics and Early Reading meeting on **Thursday 28th September at 2.30pm**. Come and find out about how we help your child learn to read, teach phonics and our Essential Letters and Sounds programme.

Parents of Year 3/4 Century Master Class

Years 3 and 4 would like to invite all parents to join us for a master class in using "Century" on **Friday 29th September at 2.50pm**. The children use Century to enhance their learning at school and for homework in Mathematics and Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. This will be a fantastic opportunity for you to see the magic in action. Please let Mrs Kazerooni know if you are coming along, so that we can reserve your seat.

Polite parking reminder for our neighbours in Hampden Road, Redland Road and Cromwell Road

Please make sure when you are dropping or collecting your child that you park respectfully. Do not park on **double yellow lines**; they mean no waiting at any time. A **dropped curb** means access is needed, therefore if you are parked across a driveway or on a dropped curb you could incur a Penalty Charge. Our neighbours need access to their property at all times of the day so please be respectful and park in a safe and non obstructive way. Also, please do not park on corners as it blocks driver's views and could cause an accident. It is for the safety of your children too. 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, we can make a positive contribution, flourish and **achieve** together to make a difference in our ever-changing world.'



Harvest Experience at St Matthias Church

This week each class visited St Matthias Church for a Harvest Experience. They took part in 6 stations of Harvest and each time reflected on the message and how it might impact on their lives.

Station One

'Harvest of the Garden' to explore 'patience.'

Autumn is a favourite time for gardeners because they are able to Harvest the fruit and vegetables that they have been patiently tending for many months. They have to wait for the exact right time to dig up or cut down their crops. The children reflected on times when they had to be patient and wait for the right time for things to happen, for example Christmas or a birthday. Being patient is a challenge. Each child took a seed and planted it in a pot of soil whilst thinking of things for which they needed to be patient.



Station Two

'Harvest of the Ocean' to explore 'Peace.'

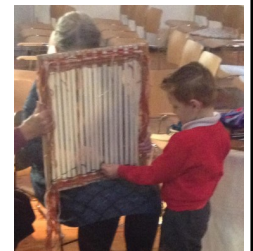
For thousands of years Fishermen have harvested fish and shellfish from the seas around our shores. The children thought about the names and varieties of fish they knew. They also thought about how Fishermen risk their lives when they bravely face great waves and howling winds to bring us the harvest of the oceans. Although Christians may still have to face difficulties in their lives, knowing that Jesus is there beside them brings peace that comes from knowing they are never alone. The children reflected on 'peace' as they rested a boat they had made on the 'sea.'



Station Three

'Harvest of the Flock' to explore 'Humility.'

The children were shown some pictures of sheep and they discussed why sheep were important in the farming industry in our country for example for their wool. They discussed what wool was used for and then each child chose a piece of coloured wool to weave onto a frame. The reflected on how one thread on its own could not have made the weaving frame pattern, just as one person on their own cannot make a family or class or church. Recognising that everyone is special and important, not just you, is called humility. As they weaved their thread they thought about being thankful for the gifts of someone in their family, class or church.



Station Four

'Harvest of Grain' to explore 'Generosity.'

The children were invited around a Harvest loaf and discussed the term harvest and how the seed became a loaf and the processes in between. The children shared a part of the bread and shared the prayer 'Father God, Thank you for the gift of bread, may we never waste what we are given. Help us to do all that we can to help those in the world who don't have enough to eat.' Amen.



Station Five

'Harvest of the Earth' to explore 'Joy.'

The children were able to look at different shaped, sized and coloured ceramic items on display handmade by a potter. They discussed the raw material clay and how people have been harvesting clay for thousands of years to make beautiful items out of raw materials like clay. The children thought about a time where they might have made a gift for someone they loved and the joy that it can give to the person and themselves. Jesus said 'There is more happiness in giving than receiving.' The children made a clay thumb pot during this session.



Station Six

'Harvest Thanksgiving' to explore 'Faithfulness.'

This was the final station on the journey where the groups gathered for a joint act of Thanksgiving. They shared how Christians celebrate Harvest, that Jewish people celebrate Sukkot. They talked about how Jewish families build shelters where they eat and sleep which is called a Sukkah. Christians believe being faithful to God means living lives that bear the 'Fruit of the Spirit', so that they become more joyful and generous and grow in humility and patience.



Thank you to the St Matthias Church volunteers for preparing and sharing this wonderful Harvest Experience.

World Mental Health Day– 10th October

Every year World Mental Health Day is celebrated on **10th October**. The theme for 2023 has been set by the World Foundation of Mental Health, which is '**Mental health is a universal human right**'.

World Mental Health Day is about raising awareness of mental health and driving positive change for everyone's mental health.

It's also a chance to talk about mental health, how we need to look after it, and how important it is to get help if you are struggling.

In class, children will be exploring ideas about how to look after their mental health through games and creative activities. Circle times will provide important information to help children understand that everyone has mental health and how some people do not have as much support as others. Throughout the day, children will take part in well-being activities to promote positive mental health.



Parent Invitation

At St Matthias, we value the importance of working together as a school family and would like to invite parents and carers to join us for a 'Let's Connect session' where we can continue to build positive, healthy relationships through play and well-being activities with you and your child.

Tuesday 10th October— Years 1,3/4, 5 and 6 will hold their 'Let's Connect' afternoon where parents can come along at 2.30pm and join in the activities. If you have more than one child you can move between the classrooms.

Thursday 12th October—Years R and 2 will hold their 'Let's Connect' afternoon and parents of Reception and Year 2 children can come along at 2.30pm and join in the activities.

Thursday 26th October at 2.30pm Nursery will hold their 'Let's Connect' afternoon and parents of Nursery children can come along at 2.30pm and join in the activities.

Outside Achievements

We have already started to celebrate our outside achievements 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!

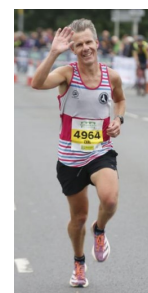
Ella Y1, for being 'Woman/Player of the week' at her football club. Well done Ella we are very proud of you!

Harry Y2, for raising £150 for Birmingham Children's Hospital by reading 61 books over the 6 week summer holiday. We are very proud of you!

James Y5, for mastering body boarding and paddle boarding this summer. We love the way you persisted and didn't give up with these very tricky sports!

Jayla, Y6 for giving up her time over the summer holidays to volunteer at a riding school where they needed extra help to muck out, groom and look after the horses. What a lovely generous thing to do.

Mr Salmon, for completing another half marathon and smashing his personal best time by another 2 minutes to complete the race in 1hour 18 minutes. Congratulations!



Church Choir

We also had another member of St Matthias Church visit us on Monday called Es. She runs the St Matthias Church Choir and is hoping to recruit some more members for a singing club. We had a fun assembly with her followed by a taster workshop at lunchtime. If your child was interested they took part in the club and then took a letter home. If you would like more information please let me know.



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. Elsie-Ann, 1. Heidi, 2. Dexter, 3/4. Ralpheer, 5. Poppee, 6. Archie.

Value Leaf for showing Thankfulness: R. Olivia, 1. Zoya, 2. Mia-Rose, 3/4. Logan M, 5. Elise, 6. Sophie.

Spotted (Improve Spelling & Editing): R. Gracie, 1. Millicent, 2. Leonardo, 3/4. Jacob M, 5. Lilly, 6. Rosie.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times): Sienna Yr 4

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside): Sophie 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**. The certificate will be given next Friday.

	Percentage	Days missed		Percentage	Days Missed
Nursery	90.0%	5	Year 3/4	94.1%	10
Reception	92.5%	9	Year 5	82.5%	28
Year 1	93.0%	7	Year 6	91.9%	9.5
Year 2	95.8%	5.5	Whole School	91.2%	74
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 95.8% this week.

No classes were at or above our target of 96%.



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 Thankfulness

Colossians 2:7 Let your roots grow down into him and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught and you will overflow with thankfulness."

Psalms 118:2 "This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Dalai Lama "When you practise gratefulness, there is a sense of respect towards others"

Charles Shwab "The way to develop the best that is in a person is by appreciation and thanks. Be **thankful** for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough. He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has."

Adults in school will be on the look out this half term for children who are really trying hard to be thankful and grateful for the good things in their lives.

We are thankful for the gifts God has given each and every one of us to enable us to be unique individuals and make a difference in our own ways.



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

School Photographer

Monday 25th September to take every individual child plus sibling groups from within school only.

Nasal Flu Vaccine (Yrs R - 6) Monday 9th October.

School Harvest Service Wednesday 11th October 9.15am Parents invited.

SEND Parents' Evenings (For invited parents only)

Monday 23rd Year 6
Wednesday 25th October Yrs R - 5

Parents' Evenings

Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th November. Details to follow.

CLASS EVENTS

Reception Parents

Phonic & Reading Meeting
Thursday 28th September.

Year 3/4 Parents Century Master Class
Friday 29th September 2.50pm

Years 5 & 6 Cross Country Run
Friday 6th October

Year 5 Saxon and Viking Trip.
Monday October 16th

Storytelling Festival KS1 (Yrs 1 & 2)
Wednesday 25th October.

Storytelling Festival KS2 (Yrs 3/4)
Thursday 26th October.

Storytelling Festival KS2 Yrs (5 & 6)
Friday 27th October.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Who to contact in school

MRS KAZEROONI (Mon, Tue, Thu + Fri) 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 (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](#))

TERM DATES & HOLIDAYS

Autumn 2023

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 8.40am

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE Thursday 21st December 2023 at 3.15pm

Staff Professional Development Friday 22nd December 2023 – School Closed

Spring 2024

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN Monday 8th January 2024 at 8.40am.