

# St Matthias Newsletter



## St Matthias Church of England Primary School

**Headteacher: Mrs Virginia Beale**

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**Friday 29th September 2023**

### Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Thank you to all the parents and children who waited patiently for family photographs to be taken on Monday this week. We thank our photographer for working swiftly through the morning to take individual and siblings photographs and making the children laugh with his funny soft toys. We will let you know when they arrive so you can purchase the photographs in time for Christmas!

### Parent Information Sessions

#### Phonics Workshop

Mr Salmon was really pleased to see so many parents attend his Essential Letters and Sounds Phonics workshop. He explained our Early Reading approach to learning letters and sounds and how this feeds into learning to read. He demonstrated a phonics lesson, practise writing sessions and how the books that the children take home build on the learning in the classroom. Every day the children learn new sounds and therefore attendance is key to learning and building on prior knowledge. Each book that they take home to read has the words and sounds they have learned so reading should be successful. The children also take home a 'read with me' book to share to instil a love of reading and enjoyment of stories. We hope you all found the session useful!



#### Year 3/4 Century Workshop

We were thrilled that lots of Year 3/4 parents were able to attend the Century Workshop to find out about this learning app and how it supports homework and your child's development of knowledge in Maths, English and other areas of the curriculum. Mr Thompson explained about the 'nuggets' that are set by the teachers and how there are learning videos and overviews to help answer the questions posed.



### Harvest Service

This year, our Harvest Service will be held at St Matthias Church on **Wednesday 11th October** with the pupils, staff, parents and Rev Phillip. We have been practising our harvest songs during worship and thinking about our theme for this year's celebration. We are linking our Harvest Service to our value (thankfulness) and also celebrating foods from around the world.



Donations for our Harvest Service will be shared between **Malvern Food Bank and the Community Fridges** who have supported so many local families in our Malvern community. We will collect the donations during the week of Monday 9th October. Items which are warmly welcomed are- tinned food, packet food, toiletries, laundry detergent, tea, coffee, squash, baby wipes, nappies, toilet rolls etc.

### High School Applications

Year 6 parents must apply for your child's High School place, online, by **Tuesday 31st October** which is during half term. You must apply by creating a log in and then clicking 'Apply for a school place.' The portal is now open so you can make your application from now, however you can make any amendments up until the closing date if you wish.

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

**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.'



### Gymnastics club news

This week children learnt how to perform two new gymnastic shapes - a straddle and a pike. Children explored the climbing apparatus and thought imaginatively about how they could demonstrate a straddle or pike. To build up core strength, children learnt how to complete a log roll, thinking about body position and they also practised how to bunny hop over a bench, landing with two feet at the same time. They had great fun! Thank you Mrs O'Connor.



### SEND Parent Consultation meetings

This year we are holding individual review meetings for parents of children on the SEND register during the week of 23rd October. **Year 6** will have their meetings on **Monday 23rd October** and **Years Nursery-Year 5** will hold their meetings on **Wednesday 25th October**. This is an opportunity to discuss SEND targets, interventions and provisions for your child. You will book in for these meetings via the office as they are specialist. Please look out for more information.

### Parent Consultation Evening

Parents' evening this year will be held after half term on **TUESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER** and **WEDNESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER from 3.30pm** for Reception to Year 6 parents. Nursery parents will book in with the Nursery staff and dates will be available soon. The Parents' evening will be face to face and will be held in the school hall. This will give parents an opportunity to meet the teacher, find out how your child is getting along and ask any questions you might have. If you have any worries or concerns it is important that you do not leave them until Parents' evening. You can raise any worries you have or questions via ClassDojo or ask for a telephone appointment if you wish.



We will send out a booking text nearer the time so parents can book in with the class teacher at a mutually convenient time.

If any parent is unable to make either of those dates, we will send home a short update report and if you need to discuss any part of it, you may make a separate appointment with the class teacher after the event.

### IMPORTANT—NASAL FLU IMMUNISATIONS— Years Reception to Year 6.

We have booked the Nasal Flu Immunisations on **Monday 9th October**. This is NOT a COVID vaccine, this is for protection against flu.

Children are able to receive a FREE flu immunisation from Reception to Year 6, this is free, painless, quick and side effects are uncommon and generally mild. Now that winter is looming and the children are together in warm classrooms there is always a risk of children catching colds, but we want to prevent them passing on flu. Children who have the Flu vaccine are less likely to pass the virus on to friends and family. You will receive a letter next week with some frequently asked questions about the vaccine which is given in school by trained nurses.

In previous years we have given a pack to parents with a form for consent. Like last year the consent for your child is ONLINE! This means for your child to receive the flu immunisation or for it to be declined **EVERYONE MUST** click on the link and complete the form. You can complete the form now if you wish by [clicking here](#).

More information is available on the email which we sent out on 12th September explaining what to do if you are unsure, if you need a vaccine which does NOT contain porcine gelatine or if you require the information in a different language.

If you do have issues with the E-consent link, please contact Vaccination UK on 01432 663085 or you can request paper consent forms via the below email address. For any other information, please contact them on 01432 663085 or via email on [Herefordshire@vuk.co.uk](mailto:Herefordshire@vuk.co.uk)



### **Free School Meals**

If you think you might be eligible for Free School Meals and have not applied please click on the link and complete the online form.

[https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/684/applying\\_for\\_free\\_school\\_meals](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/684/applying_for_free_school_meals) scroll to the half way down on the page and click on 'apply for FSM.'

Once you are eligible for Free School Meals, you will receive vouchers for meals through the holidays through the Edenred scheme. If you would like your child to join a club in school but need financial support, please speak to Mrs James or Mrs Beale.

### **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!

**Tyler, Y5-** For drawing a football match against a strong team and being commended for their team's manners and politeness. They were also commended on their defending and passing techniques! Keep up the good work!

**Oliver, Y5-** For working with his football team to win their match and being a determined goalie! Well done Oliver.

**Rosie Y6, Lily Y6, Molly Y6, Athena Y6-** For raising a super £150 for Birmingham Children's Hospital through making and selling fidget toys and receiving a certificate for their generous donations.





**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. Theo, 1. Hunter, 2. Lexi, 3/4. Evie, 5. Megan, 6. Jayla.

**Value Leaf for showing Thankfulness:** R. Hallie, 1. Kyra, 2. Miriam, 3/4. Jake, 5. Peter, 6. Athena.

**Spotted (Improve Spelling & Editing):** R. Eva, 1. Cassius, 2. Theo, 3/4. Damian, 5. Jamie, 6. Max.

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

**Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside):** Darcey 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	72%	14	Year 3/4	88%	20
Reception	86.7%	16	Year 5	91%	14.5
Year 1	95%	5	Year 6	91.9%	12
Year 2	96%	5	Whole School	89.7%	86.5
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 96% this week.**

**One class was 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 Shcwab** "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.**

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



SOLIHULL APPROACH

Starting Well Partnership  
EVERY CONTACT SHAPES A LIFE

# UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD

Come along to this relaxed, fun group to explore issues including, developmental needs, having fun, communication, sleep and behaviour difficulties.

The group is suitable for families with children and young people from birth to 19 years. This group is also suitable for Parents/carers whose children have additional needs.

## TO BOOK A PLACE:

Call Laura on 07971 095661

Or email [laura.Cartwright@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:laura.Cartwright@actionforchildren.org.uk)

Alternatively you can reserve your space by booking on at the school reception office!

Starts Tuesday 9th January 2024 for 10 weeks (excluding school holidays)

9:15am—11:15am

St Matthias School

[www.startingwellworcesters.nhs.uk](http://www.startingwellworcesters.nhs.uk)

EVERY CONTACT SHAPES A LIFE



# NOTICEBOARD



## REMINDERS

### WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

**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 October Year 6  
Wednesday 25th October Yrs R - 5

**Parents' Evenings**

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

### CLASS EVENTS

**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](mailto: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](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 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.