



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 10th November 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

We hope you all had a lovely and peaceful half term break.

Governor Review

This has been a week full of successes. This week, four of our governors visited school to complete a Governor Review of English along with our School Improvement Partner. The morning was very successful and the children were very much engaged with their learning as usual. I am always so proud when I am showing any visitors around our school as the children are so inviting and loving their learning. The governors saw evidence of consistent practice across the school in the delivery of phonics and this also led into the teaching of spelling further up the school. There was clear evidence of impact of the teaching of Phonics as the children applied their learning to their reading and writing. The governors commented on the high levels of engagement and responses from all learners in all classes whether they were working as a whole class, in small groups or individually. We were very proud of the developments in writing and how the children are embracing editing their work with purple pens, even in the younger classes and this showed a consistent approach across the school. There were many more positives and I would like to say a huge "thank you" to Mrs Maidens our English Lead for organising the morning for our Governor Review. I would also like to thank all staff and children for welcoming our visitors into the classes to share in our learning.

Parents' Evening

Thank you to everyone to managed to attend our two Parents' Evenings this week, 84% of children had a face to face or telephone parent consultation. It was lovely to see and hear the buzz of teachers and parents discussing the successes of the children. This was a great opportunity for you to talk to the teachers, find out about how your child is doing in school and see their books. Our next formal Parents' Evening will be in the Spring Term. However, please don't think this is the only opportunity to speak to the teachers. If you have a worry or concern or just need to inform them of something, then please don't hesitate to contact them. There are a few ways to contact your child's class teacher: via a ClassDojo message, making an appointment via the office, requesting a telephone appointment or simply catching them after school when they are on the playground. If you were unable to make your appointment you will receive a short written summary of the discussion you would have had with the class teacher.

Parent Questionnaire

What do you and your child/children think about St Matthias?

The governors and school staff appreciate feedback from parents in order to continue to make further improvements for the children of St Matthias. All views are confidential and taken seriously.

We strongly encourage you to click on this link <https://forms.office.com/e/MrFBhaig6c> to complete our questionnaire to share your views. The closing date for the parent questionnaire is Friday 24th November 2023; if you would prefer a paper copy to complete please inform the office.



Have a good 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.'*



Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying Week Monday 13th November - Friday 17th November 2023



This year, the theme for our anti-bullying week is - '**Make A Noise About Bullying**' and the focus is to urge adults and children alike to come together to have discussions about what we mean by bullying behaviour, how we can tell the difference between 'banter' and bullying and how we can make changes to reduce bullying. Together, we can make a difference if we make a noise to stop bullying.

The theme will be introduced to the whole school during an assembly and classes will complete activities throughout the week to raise awareness. We will have important discussions about what is bullying behaviour so that we can ensure that we all make a positive contribution to our school community.

On Monday, we would like to invite children to wear odd socks which raises awareness and give everyone the opportunity to express themselves by celebrating their individuality and what makes us all unique!

Parent and Carer Information

It is important for parents and carers to be able to start conversations with their children about bullying no matter the age of your child. [Click here](#) for a parent and carer resource pack to help bring Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks day to life at home.

This resource pack is not only a tool for parents to use during Anti-Bullying Week next week, but it is useful at any stage of a child's life and at any moment. It tells you what bullying is and there is a very useful part on advice to give your child if they need some help. There is also advice on how to approach school to discuss the matter in a calm and focused way aiming for a resolution.

Kidscape



Kidscape have a super website with advice for parents and children with leaflets. <https://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/>

Parent Advice Line: Open Mondays and Tuesdays 9.30am-2.30pm

Parent Advice Line: 07496 682785

WhatsApp: 07496 682785

Or you can email
website:

them via their

**ODD SOCKS DAY on
MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023**



Come to school
wearing your odd
socks to celebrate
what makes us all
unique!

Enjoying exploring and learning across the school



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!

Charlotte, Y4 for achieving her Level 3 Gymnastics medal this week! Well done we are very proud of you!



PTA support needed for our Christmas Fayre!

SORRY! We are already mentioning the 'Christmas' word in this newsletter.



Our Christmas Fair is on **Friday 1st December** and therefore after half term the PTA will start to organise this event.

Fundraising events are really important for us as they give us the opportunity to give back to the children by purchasing new equipment, helping towards trips and enhancing learning through exciting events in and out of school. So please come along, bring a friend and help raise vital school fund money for the benefit of your child!



Save the Date!

Friday 1st December from 3.30pm

There promises to be lots of Christmassy stalls, tombolas, raffles, Children's gifts, visits to Santa and lots more!



Volunteers Needed!



In order for the Christmas Fayre to be a success we need lots of volunteers. Every parent / carer whose child attends St Matthias is automatically part of the PTA. We are looking for a team of people (elves) to make this happen! We have an active PTA who have some amazing ideas and pull together to help organise this event.



If you are able to volunteer either before the event by supporting with organising, sorting, preparing and delivering letters, or able to help on the day: setting up, running stalls, clearing away, then please speak to Mrs Beale, Mrs James or one of the active PTA members, Mrs C Bird, Mrs Heywood-Pullen, Mr Rogers or Mr and Mrs Boyle. They will be extremely grateful for your help and support.

Christmas Jumpers needed!

Christmas Jumper Donations.



We are collecting Christmas Jumpers again this year in preparation for our Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 7th December.

This is a great way of recycling your Christmas jumpers that no longer fit and buying a bargain Christmas jumper for your child!



So seek out your old Christmas jumpers this half term and donate them to us so we can raise some vital school funds by selling them before the 7th December.

Thank you!

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. Rayan, 1. Alice, 2. Rihanna, 3/4. Harlem, 5. Tyler, 6. Kayleigh.

Value Leaf for showing Thankfulness: R. Reggie Wi, 1. Mia, 2. Albie, 3/4. Ellis, 5. Evie-May, 6. Lily-Ann.

Spotted (Improve Spelling & Editing): R. Teddy, 1. Kendall, 2. Charlie, 3/4. Jacob B, 5. Zach, 6. Connor.

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

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside): Ella N Yr 1

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	92.3%	4	Year 3/4	98.7%	4
Reception	80.8%	24	Year 5	92.2%	12
Year 1	87.5%	12.5	Year 6	90.0%	12
Year 2	94.2%	7.5	Whole School	91.1%	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 3/4 for 98.7% this week.

Year 3/4 were at or above our target of 96%, Congratulations!



97 pupils had 100% attendance for September plus a further 8 had between 96% and 99.9%. So 105 out of 172 pupils have attained the DFE target. The prize voucher for September went to Elsie B Yr 2

72 pupils had 100% attendance for October plus a further 10 had between 96% and 99.9%. So 82 of our 172 pupils have attained the DFE target. The prize voucher for October went to Caelyn Yr 1



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 Peace

John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you.

Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

Hebrews 12:14 "Make every effort to live in peace with everyone"

Dalai Lama "Do not let the behaviour of others destroy your inner peace"

Gandhi "The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will have peace".

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.

Teachers will be on the look out this half term for children who are really trying hard to be peaceful and to make peace with the children and adults in their lives.

Heavenly Father, We lift up all those who are facing various illnesses. Give them the hope and courage they need today and every day. Comfort their pain, calm their fears, and surround them with Your **peace**. **Amen**.





NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Into Film - Free Cinema Trip

Years 3 - 6 on 15th November am.
To see Matilda The Musical

Into Film - Free Cinema Trip

Years R - 2 on 22nd November am.
To see Epic Tails

Letter emailed out today.

CLASS EVENTS

Reception Hearing Tests
Monday 18th January 2024

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 or 2nd hand Uniform; 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>

HELPFUL INFORMATION



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.

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

Autumn 2023

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.

HALF TERM BREAK Saturday 10th to Sunday 18th February 2024.

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE Friday 22nd March 2024 at 3.15pm.

Summer Term 2024

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

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

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

EVERY CONTACT SHAPES A LIFE



A healthy start for
a brighter future

Are mealtimes stressful?



Is your child's fussy eating taking its
toll? Would you like to have more fun
and less nagging?

If you answer yes to this, would you like to...

- Feel more confident as a parent?
- Reduce mealtime stress?
- Encourage your family to be more active/healthy?
- Help reduce screen time?



Come along to our free group for parents/carers...

Where: Sunshine Family Hub, WR14 3SW

When: Friday 19th January 2024 for 8 weeks (excluding half term)

Time: 9.30-11.30am

For more information or to book a place please contact Louise Moriarty on 07793803501

Or louise.moriarty@actionforchildren.org.uk