



# 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)

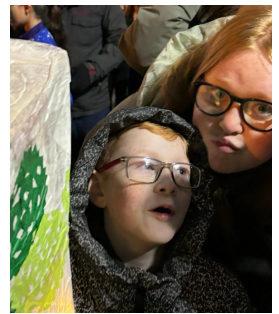
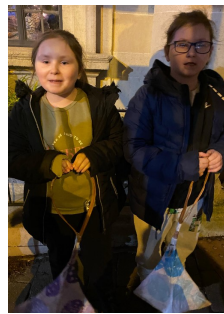
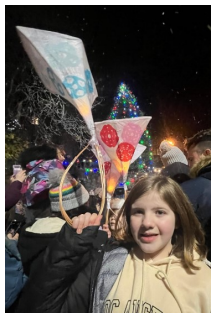


**Friday 1st December 2023**

**Dear Parents, Carers and Children,**

## Great Malvern Lantern Parade

I was thrilled to receive lots of photographs over the weekend of children visiting the Great Malvern Light switch on and Lantern Parade. I was unable to attend this year so receiving the photographs was very special and the lanterns that Year 6 made with Mrs Boffy looked amazing and very beautiful! It looked a super event with the theme of Narnia and begins the festive season!



## Our School Family Christmas Trees

Yesterday our Christmas trees arrived. We have a beautiful tree in our hall which is beginning to be decorated with 'peace' prayers for Christmas. We also have a lovely tree outside our Early Years area covered in twinkling lights! Our third tree is outside the main entrance of school. Thank you to our Whizz Kids for helping to put the lights on the trees for me!

Both outside Christmas Trees are starting to have some beautiful decorations on them donated by the children. We have done this now for a few years; the children love hanging their own decoration and prayer on the trees. It gives the school a wonderful family and community feel at Christmas! You can add a decoration up until the end of the term, so no rush if you haven't had a chance to find a decoration!

If you would like one of our trees, or if you know another family who would, we are giving away our trees at the end of term; please let Mrs Beale know!



## Whizz Kids

Our wonderful Whizz Kids staff and children have been getting festive over the last few weeks as they have designed our Christmas Post Boxes for each classroom. If your child would like to give a Christmas Card to someone in their class they may post it in the box in their classroom any time up until the end of term and they will be given out to their friends at points through the week.



**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.'**



### **External Review**

St Matthias underwent an External review which focused on English. Mrs Maidens, who leads our English across the school, led the morning and showed off all the super work the teachers and children do on a daily basis. Our Early Reading and Phonics teaching was commended and the children demonstrated their ability to learn new sounds, blend and decode words consistently across Reception and Key Stage One. Other lessons seen were focused on a range of writing, editing and improving work, teaching of spelling and word of the day and grammar. The morning went very well; the children, as always, were focused and engaged in their learning. I want to thank the children and staff for always putting in 110% on a daily basis and for rising to the high expectations we have as a school. Like you, we want the best for your children so they can Aspire, Believe and Achieve their personal goals.

### **Parent Questionnaire**

Our Parental questionnaire is now closed. We had 47 responses completed which is the same as last year. We are now going through your comments and suggestions so thank you for taking the time to complete it for us. We value all feedback to ensure we gain parent views. Later in the year we will collect staff voice and also pupils' voice so we can continue to listen to all perspectives.

### **Christmas Fayre Class gifts**

We look forward to seeing you all after school today for our annual Christmas Fayre. There will be lots to see and do including, raffles, Father Christmas, tombolas, children's tombola, teas, coffee, chips and hot dogs! But most importantly the children have made their own gifts for their parents to buy. Each child has made something in their class and you can purchase that gift tonight. If you have not been able to attend the Christmas Fayre today their gift will be kept so you can buy them next week.

We look forward to seeing you tonight!

**Nurse**

**£1.50**

**Reception**

**£1.50**

**Year 1**

**£1.50**

**Year 2**

**£1.50**



**Year 3/4**

**£1.50**

**Year 5**

**£1.50**

**Year 6**

**£2.50**





### **Malvern Link Co-Op Grand Opening**

This morning, our School Council Representatives from Year 5 and Year 6 were invited to the grand opening of the newly refurbished Malvern Link Co-Op store.

We were the first into the store and it looked smart and fresh.

There is a Community Catch-Up board with lots of information to share about community events and advice for support.

We met the Store Manager, Andrew Lane and Community Member Pioneer, Tina Palmer and our School Council Representatives officially opened the store with large scissors and ribbon!



It was very exciting and we were thrilled to have been invited to such a special event. Look out for us in the local newspaper! Please go and visit the store and support our local Co-Op! They also donated a generous gift to our Christmas Fayre for which we are very grateful.



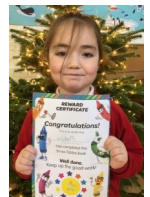
### **Outside Achievements**

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!

**Adam Y4** for being a captain for his football team and working together with Tommy and the other team members to gain their best result so far! Well done Adam for leading the team!

**Tommy Y4**, for amazing team work with Adam and the other footballers in your team, for gaining your best result! Super work Tommy.

**Miriam Y2** for completing a home Maths book and gaining a certificate. Well done!



### **Dealing with Ice, Snow & Prolonged Winter Weather**

If the weather is very frosty or snowy, the caretaker and I will assess whether the access to school is safe enough for adults and children to use the usual entrances and whether the playgrounds are safe enough to cross. Worcestershire County Council have circulated their recommendations which I discussed and agreed the following at recent Governors Meeting.

It is recommended, for best effect, to salt our school front entrance only prior to freezing conditions. We will close all other access routes on bottom playgrounds and all children will enter by the main entrance. All adults and children are asked to be extra careful to avoid slipping and be aware that the entrance will be congested and everyone needs to help each other by not rushing and making sure they wait in a sensible way. I'm sure that you will all be patient and kind to each other. Please note we are not allowed to clear pavements or roads so you need to take extra care.

**We will text all staff and parents at about 8.15am if we are going to close the gates by the church path.**



### **School closures due to severe weather**

During periods of severe weather such as heavy snow or flooding, or any other circumstances beyond our control we may need to close the school at short notice.

We will obviously do everything we can to keep the school open and will only make the decision to close the school if we have no other choice and there are serious health and safety issues. Should we need to close the school we will let you know by **text message**.

Free Radio (previously known as Radio Wyvern) and Radio Hereford and Worcester will also list all the schools closed each day.

**Please assume the school is open unless we inform you otherwise.**

### 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. Hallie, 1. Cassius, 2. Sienna, 3/4. David, 5. James, 6. Molly.

Value Leaf for showing Peace: R. Theo, 1. Ella N, 2. Lexi, 3/4. Adam, 5. Coby, 6. Camille.

Spotted (Improve Spelling & Editing): R. Ruben, 1. Harrison, 2. Mia, 3/4. Charlie, 5. Esmae, 6. Michael.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times): Kai Yr 3/4

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

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



*69 pupils had 100% Attendance for November plus a further 4 pupils had between 96% and 99.9%. So 73 out of 173 pupils have attained the DFE target. The prize voucher for November will be drawn next week.*

**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	94.3%	3	Year 3/4	86.4%	21
Reception	95.8%	5	Year 5	95.5%	7
Year 1	80.0%	20	Year 6	85.4%	17
Year 2	90.0%	13	Whole School	89.6%	87

There are two sessions in every day, am and pm. All children from Yrs R - 6 attend 10 sessions per week.

**Congratulations to Reception for 95.8% this week.**

**No 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 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

Please read the  
Christmas Events Diary  
sent with  
Newsletter 12  
on  
1st December  
for a full list of our  
exciting  
Christmas Events.

### CLASS EVENTS

**Year 1 History Trip**  
Thursday 7th December

**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](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 or 2nd hand Uniform; 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>

## 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](mailto: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.



Please remember to sign up before Christmas by letting Mrs Kazerooni or Mrs Beale know.

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