

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 2nd February 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Parents' Evening

Thank you to everyone who has booked in to our Parents' Evening which is being held during the first week after half term. We nearly have a full house! If you have not booked in, please do contact Mrs Kazerooni in the office or follow the link as we would love to share your children's successes with you.

Learning Walks

Mr Thompson and I have been visiting classes this week and completing some learning walks. We are always impressed with the consistency of approach through the school as the teachers deliver their Maths and English lessons. Working walls build up the learning through the week and are an excellent reference to the children as a support for learning. We saw lots of evidence of editing of writing and using their writing skills across the curriculum. Even our youngest children learn to edit as they learn to improve their number and letter formation or orientation, to correct key vocabulary and spellings as they progress through the school. We are always very proud of what we observe in the classroom and admire the high expectations our staff have of learning so we get the best from your children.

Half Term Food Vouchers

Families eligible for Free School Meals (not universal FSM) will be allocated the Edenred vouchers for this half term. We will set the vouchers to arrive on Wednesday 7th February. Please check your 'junk' folder and if they have not arrived let us know before half term. There is an expiry date of approx. 1 month so please ensure you use them as we cannot reissue any vouchers that have expired.



NSPCC Number Day 2024

Today we have celebrated Number Day in aid of the NSPCC. This is a great cause as the money raised goes to support the NSPCC services such as Speak Out and Stay Safe and Child line to support all children in need. We will let you know how much we raised next week.



Our staff and pupils designed and wore 'Number Hats.' We wore them to our celebration worship and congratulated the stunning and inventive designs linked to Maths! A big thank you to the huge effort that everyone put into this occasion. In the classrooms, children played number games, investigated number challenges and problem solved. The children and staff had lots of fun and made this day really special! Please enjoy the photo here of class winners and other amazing hats on the next page.



Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Beale.

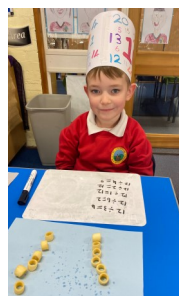
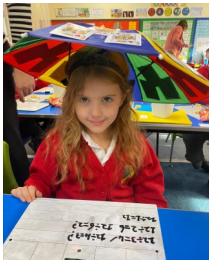
ASPIRE, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE

'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.'



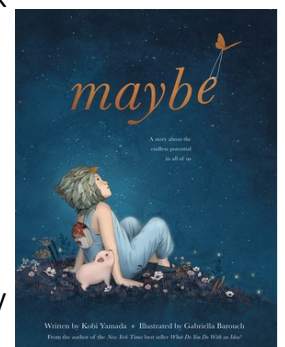
Number Day 2024



Storytelling Week.

This week we celebrated story telling week. The children at St Matthias enjoy listening to stories and every day each class finishes with a class novel.

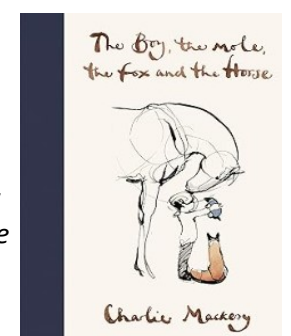
In our Worship this week we shared a wonderful book called 'Maybe' by Kobi Yamada. The book 'Maybe' celebrates the possibilities we have inside us. It shares with us that 'You' are the only you there ever has been or ever will be. It fits beautifully with our school vision as it highlights how 'You' are unique in the universe. It inspires readers to dream big and remember that anything is possible!



Children's Mental Health Week and Internet Safety Week.

Next week we celebrate both Children's Mental Health Week and also Internet Safety Week. Our Community Support Officers are delivering bespoke lessons linked to internet safety and children will have the opportunity to ask lots of questions. The Community Police are also happy to answer any questions relating to keeping safe in the community as this also supports children's mental health.

We linked some of our assemblies this week to both storytelling weeks and mental health by also sharing another lovely book called 'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse' by Charlie Mackesy. We read some quotes from the book linked to kindness. The book promotes being kind to yourself every day; this can help us look after our mental wellbeing because it helps you to feel good about yourself. It also celebrates differences and what makes us special. Everybody is special in their own way and we all have things to celebrate about ourselves. A quote from the book *"Always remember you matter, you're important and you are loved, and you bring to this world things no one else can."*



NEW Let's Connect sessions for KS1 parents

Please come along if you can and spend some time being creative with your children!

Nursery and Reception Let's Connect session – Wednesday 7th February 9am

Year 1 Let's Connect Session – Thursday 8th February 2.30pm

Year 2 Let's Connect Session – Friday 9th February 2.30pm

New Attendance Profiles — February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a school, we have a legal duty to keep you informed of your child's attendance.

We are now approaching the end of the 3rd half term of this school year, so at

the end of this half term, every child in school will bring home our newly designed Attendance Profile. The Attendance Profile will show your child's attendance percentage, the number of school learning days they have missed,

how many late arrivals they have had and how many minutes of lessons they missed and whether your child's attendance is improving or slipping downwards. It will also give you key information about attendance in general. We will send these out at the end of each half term ie. Six times per year.

These profiles are not intended to cause offence; they are merely our new way to keep you up to date with your child's progress throughout the year. We do understand that in most cases we have had valid reasons for absences.

In addition to the Attendance Profiles we will continue to monitor every child's Monthly attendance and issue certificates to those who have 96% or above.

Don't forget...

at the end of every month all children with 100% have their names put into a hat and one lucky child wins a voucher. and ...

at the end of every full term (ie. 3 times a year) all children with 100% have their names put into a hat and one lucky child wins a voucher.

and ...

at the end of every full year all children with 100% are rewarded with a voucher.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

111 pupils had 100% Attendance for January 2024 plus a further 8 pupils had between 96% and 99.9%.

So 119 out of 177 pupils have attained the DFE target. Well done to you all !

The winner of the prize voucher for January will be announced in the newsletter next week

Outside Achievements

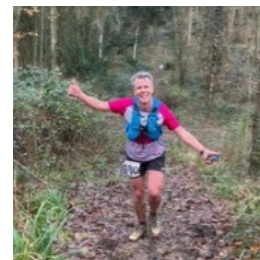
We have already started to celebrate our outside achievements this week.

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 4 gymnastic medal! A super achievement and we are very proud of you!

Evie Y4 – for achieving her Emerald medal for floor gymnastics. Well done for a super achievement, we are proud of you!

Mr Salmon for completing the Wychavon Ultra Race which comprised of 41.5 miles from Droitwich to Broadway following trails, through fields and over Bredon Hill. Mr Salmon finished in an impressive 2nd place out of 100 competitors in 6 hours and 17 minutes. I think he might need a new pair of trainers now!



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	92.7%	4.5	Year 3/4	93.2%	10.5
Reception	94.6%	6.5	Year 5	97.7%	3.5
Year 1	96.2%	4	Year 6	92.0%	9.5
Year 2	94.8%	7	Whole School	94.66%	45.5

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

We are pleased that two classes are at or above our target of 96% - Well done to you!

Congratulations to Year 5 for the best attendance this week.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



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. Eva, 1. Albie, 2. Miriam, 3/4. Shanti, 5. Peter, 6. Poppy.

Value Leaf for showing DIGNITY: R. Hallie, 1. Cassius, 2. Ryan, 3/4. Pippa, 5. Summer, 6. Max.

Spotted (Improve Spelling & Editing): R. Olivia, 1. Elliana, 2. Sophie, 3/4. Edward-Noah, 5. Poppee, 6. Lily-Ann.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times): Peter Yr5

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside): Miriam Yr 2

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



Dignity



As a church school, every half term we concentrate on an important value for life.

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.

Dignity



Our Value this half term is DIGNITY "Dignity — to behave in a composed or serious manner."

Matthew 19:14 "Let the children come to me for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Peter 2:17 "Treat everyone you meet with dignity."

Dalai Lama "Love for others and respect for their rights and **dignity**, no matter who or what they are: ultimately these are all we need. "

Gandhi "The truest test of civilization, culture and **dignity** is character and not clothing."

Teachers will be on the look out this half term for children who are really trying hard to show dignity in lessons and around school.

Let's all be dignified in our lives especially in challenging times.



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Children's Mental Health Week
from Monday 5th February

Internet Safety Day
Tuesday 6th February

"Wear it Red Day"
Friday 9th February

Parents' Evenings
19th, 20th and 21st February

World Book Day
Thursday 7th March

CLASS EVENTS

Nursery and Reception Parents
Luna New Year – Stay and Play
Monday 7th February 9am.

Yr1 Parents Let's Connect Session
Thursday 8th February at 2.30pm.

Yr2 Parents Let's Connect Session
Friday 9th February at 2.30pm.

Year 6 Optional Bikeability Course
Monday 4th to Thursday 7th March

Year 5 Optional Bikeability Course
Friday 8th March

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

Spring Term 2024

HALF TERM BREAK
SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

Saturday 10th to Sunday 18th February 2024
Friday 22nd March 2024 at 3.15pm.

Summer Term 2024

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN
MAY DAY (School Closed)
SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE
HALF TERM BREAK

Staff Development
SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN
SCHOOL & NURSERY END

Monday 8th April 2024 at 8.40am.

Monday 6th May 2024 - School Closed

Friday 24th May at 3.15pm

Saturday 25th May to Sunday 2nd June 2024

Monday 3rd June 2024 – School Closed

Tuesday 4th June at 8.40am

Friday 19th July 2024 at 3.15pm

Dates for Next Year are on Newsletter 17