

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 1st March 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

ELS Phonics visit.

This week we welcomed an Early Reading Expert to our school to discuss and review our Essential Letters and Sounds Early Reading and Phonics offer. The Early Reading Expert is from one of the nationwide English Hubs which is funded by the Department for Education and supports schools to deliver high quality teaching of early language, love of reading and phonics. She has been working with our school for the past two years and has commented on the incredible implementation of our ELS scheme which has now been in place for those two years. Some of you will remember when we made the change and it has been an extremely positive one. She observed phonics and reading lessons and closing the gap interventions. She discussed data and progress from the previous visits she has made. I want to say a huge thank you to the children for welcoming her into the school and also the staff involved in delivering the lessons and discussing our progress. She always comments on her welcome, the progress made and our wonderful children and staff. We are also sharing good practice with other schools across our Trust as the impact of the Phonics Scheme on Early Reading and Writing is of a high standard.



New Ramp

Thank you for your cooperation and patience while the ramp was created this week. The children adapted well and after a few minor hiccups in the finishing of the ramp it was completed ahead of schedule!



Welcome Mrs Bland!

I would like to introduce you all to a new member of the St Matthias family. Mrs Bland has recently moved to Malvern and has a wealth of experience working in schools. She has been a Teaching Assistant for 2 years and worked with a range of year groups in Primary Schools. Here at St Matthias she will be based in Year 2 and I know you will warmly welcome her when you see her.



This means that Mrs Lester can start her retirement fully; we were lucky to be able to keep her for a little longer than expected and we thank her for her hard work and love she has shown to all of our pupils. Mrs Lester's last official date will be Friday 8th March and then she can put her feet up!! (Unless we need her from time to time!)

Nursery September 2024

Children join our Nursery in the term after they become 3 years old. Therefore, a child can join our Nursery from September 2024, if they were born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021. We cater for 15 or 30 hours; we are flexible with parents working hours; we have wrap around care from 7.45am to 5.20pm/6pm. If you have not completed an application form please ask for one at the school office and return it to Mrs Kazerooni asap.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Beale.

ASPIRE, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE

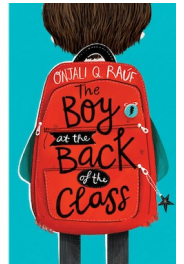
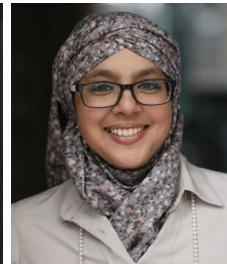
'Our school family values us all as unique individuals and children of God.

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.'



Years 5 & 6 Author Trip

Today, Friday 1st March Years 5 and 6 visited Malvern Cube to hear multi-award winning author Onjali Q. Rauf, who wrote 'The Boy at the Back of the Class,' tell her life story and answer our questions. The children listened with intent and at the end of the session the books that children chose to purchase were signed.



Easter Fund Raiser

For our Easter Fund Raiser we are going to be holding our usual **Easter Egg raffle** where you can buy a 'brick' to be put into a draw to win an Easter Egg. Every brick bought will be put into a box and during our last Worship the named bricks will be pulled out and that person will win an egg. The more bricks you buy the more chance you have of winning Easter Eggs; you could win more than one!



We are also looking for Easter Eggs to be donated to school for the competition. The more eggs that are donated the more names we can pull out of the box. Please be as generous as you can! Thank you!

Look out for the Easter Wall bricks which can be purchased outside school during the mornings. **Each brick will cost £1.**



MOTHERING SUNDAY - Sunday 10th March.

St Matthias pupils and parents have been invited to attend the St Matthias Church Mothering Sunday service.

There will be a small bunch of flowers for each carer/ parent or loved one as part of an interactive service.

There are also activities for the children to do. We would love as many of you to take part and during the service they have asked that St Matthias children sing a song for the congregation.

We love singing as part of our Worship time so we would love to show off our voices.

Please return the letter which we emailed and sent home last week so we know how many children will be available on the day.

The service starts at 10.30am so if families or children arrive from 10.15am a member of staff will be there to greet them.

The service will finish at about 11.30am so if parents are dropping their children at church to be with a member of staff then please wait outside the church from 11.20am for collection.

We hope that families will stay and take part in this beautiful service where we will celebrate anyone who 'mothers' us or cares for us on a daily basis.



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

Nursery to Year 6

'ASPIRE, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE'



Starting school in September 2024 or 2025?

Visits to St Matthias are warmly welcomed!

Come and meet our amazing team and see our school in action!

Nursery 15hr and 30hr funded places and Reception places available.

Looking for a school with an exciting outdoor environment, staff who care about the development of your child, value high expectations alongside nurturing and social development?

Then apply for a Nursery or Reception place at St Matthias. Our team of dedicated practitioners plan a curriculum which is both exciting and stimulating based on your child's needs.

We value the importance of building strong relationships with both children and parents.

Listen to what our parents say about us....

Our School Vision

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.'

'Educational trips and enhanced experiences complement learning'

'The teachers are all really approachable and genuinely care about your child's wellbeing.'

01684 574984

Cromwell Rd, Malvern, WR14 1NA

admin@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

Website:

<https://www.stmatthiasceprimary.co.uk/>

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!

Mrs Joyce – for studying incredibly hard over the past year to gain her NASENCO qualification. Mrs Joyce is our SENCO and taking the degree gives her specialist knowledge in the field of Special Educational Needs. It is a very difficult qualification and takes an incredible amount of time and skill to complete so we are very proud of her!



Alice Y1 – For taking part in 'The Big Winter Wander' over half term with a goal of walking 5km to raise money for the WWF. Alice not only raised over £235 but she exceeded her goal by walking 6km! We are very proud of you!

Heidi Y1 – for achieving two gymnastic medals for level 1 and level 2. We are very proud of you!

Libby Y2 – for being very brave when having an operation. We are very proud of you!

Lily Y5 – for achieving two awards! Her first certificate was for a crash course in swimming at Ledbury Swimming pool. By the end of the session she swam under water for a whole width! Very impressive! Her second certificate and badges were for achieving her bronze award in Brownies. We are very proud of you for these super achievements!



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. Astria, 1. Kendall, 2. Mason, 3/4. Charlie, 5. Logan C, 6. Anisia.

Value Leaf for showing HOPE: R. Theo, 1. Harrison, 2. Oakley, 3/4. Loki, 5. Taylor, 6. Rosie.

Spotted (Improve Spelling & Editing): R. Elsie-Ann, 1. Evie-Grace, 2. Elsie, 3/4. Tianna, 5. Lily P, 6. Jayla.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times): Libby Yr2

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

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



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**
7 MARCH 2024

**World Book Day is one of our favourite days of the year
and the theme this year is, 'Read Your Way'.**

World Book Day 2024

**Dress as
a word!**

Online Fairy Stories Event – Years 2-6 (Monday 4th March)

We have booked an online 'Fairy Stories and Traditional Tales' workshop with authors Michael Rosen and Jasbinder Bilan, with live illustrations by Allen Fatimaharan. This creative event will take place in school and encourage children to cook up their own tales!



Author Visit – Whole school (Tuesday 5th March)

We are delighted that Elka Evalds, author of *Granny Magic*, will be spending all day with us in school on Tuesday 5th March. She will visit every one of our children; reading stories and running workshops, giving our pupils tips on how to bring characters to life and how to write creatively. Elka will stay for a book signing after school – please complete the form in the front office if you would like to pre-order a copy of *Granny Magic*.



Extreme Reading (Entries submitted before 7th March)

Where do you like to read?

We invite all children to send in pictures to their teacher of them 'reading their way' in unusual places. Judging will take place on World Book Day, with prizes for the best entries!



Dress as a Word! (Thursday 7th March)

To encourage our children to broaden their vocabulary, we are inviting all pupils to **dress as a word** on World Book Day. We will show off our new words and definitions in a **vocabulary parade** in school.

St Matthias Reading Café (Friday 8th March)

Come and join us on Friday 8th March for our World Book Day reading café. We will provide the books, refreshments and space; you just need to book in for one of our sessions and enjoy sharing a story with your child/ren, looking at the illustrations, asking questions and enjoying your time together.

The sessions are half an hour long and run from:

9.45am – 10.15am

2.30pm – 3.00pm

3.30pm – 4.00pm



There will also be an Usborne Book Stall where you can purchase or order books to share at home.

The link to book a place will be sent out via text on: <https://forms.office.com/e/wrYnx8Fe29>

Please only book one session per family. If you are unable to attend, you do not need to complete the online booking form.

Book Sale - At the reading café, there will also be an opportunity to buy Usborne Books!

The Big Book Giveaway! (Thursday 7th and Friday 8th March)

We have been developing and re-organising our library and have some books to give away. Please feel free to rummage through the selection and give a book a new home! Donations to our 'Improve the Library' fund would be most welcome.

Book Swap (Every Day!)

You don't have to wait for World Book Day to take advantage of our 'Book Swap Library' in our front reception area – just borrow a book and when you've finished reading it, swap it for another!

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	91.8%	5	Year 3/4	96.7%	5
Reception	95.4%	5.5	Year 5	95.5%	7
Year 1	92.8%	7.5	Year 6	92.4%	9
Year 2	91.8%	11	Whole School	94.1%	50
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 one class, Year 3/4 are at or above our target of 96% - Well done to you!

Congratulations to Year 3/4 for the best attendance this week.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



104 pupils had 100% Attendance for February 2024 plus a further 5 pupils had between 96% and 99.9%.

So 109 out of 177 pupils have attained the DFE target. Well done to you all !

The winner of the prize voucher for February is Rayan in Yr R .

Hope



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.

Hope



Our Value this half term is "Hope"

Isaiah 40:31 "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint"

Christians see their hope in God's promise, "that love and goodness have and will ultimately overcome all evil"

Dalai Lama "When faced with problems don't lose hope. Keep up your self confidence and don't be too impatient to achieve quick results."

Gandhi "Only he can be a leader who never loses hope"

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



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Author Elka Evalds Visit
Tuesday 5th March

World Book Day - Various Activities
Thursday 7th March
Read pages 5 + 6 for details

World Book Day - Reading Cafés
Friday 8th March
Read pages 5 + 6 for details

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](#))

CLASS EVENTS

Years 2 - 6 Online Fairy Story
Monday 4th March

Year 6 Optional Bikeability Course
Monday 4th to Wednesday 6th March

Year 5 Optional Bikeability Course
Thursday 7th March

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 OPEN

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

Saturday 10th to Sunday 18th February 2024

Monday 19th February at 8.40am.

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

Term Dates for Next Year are on Newsletter 17