



St Matthias Newsletter



Friday 26th June 2026

St Matthias Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Virginia Beale

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Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

What a HOT, HOT, HOT week we have had. Thank you for supporting our very tough decision to close the school during the afternoons and Thursday fully. The classrooms definitely warmed up through the day and we struggled to find ample shade and cool areas around school.

We have kept the children calm in the classrooms and reduced the amount of time outside to a very minimum.

I have to thank the children and staff for being very sensible about the excessive heat and doing everything in their power to stay cool. I even saw Reception children sitting on chairs with their feet in trays of cool water— great idea!



Goodbye and Good Luck Mrs Chaplin

We are very sad to say a goodbye to Mrs Chaplin who has been a Teaching Assistant at St Matthias for over 3 years. Mrs Chaplin has been completing her Masters in Educational Psychology so has secured a job in this line of work which she is thrilled about and we are very pleased that she is pursuing her dream! She has shared her expertise with us over the years working with children with additional needs, so although we will miss her greatly we wish her all the very best and every success!



Welcome Miss McCollum

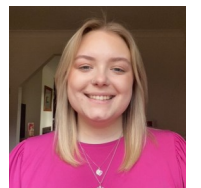
We welcome Miss McCollum officially to the St Matthias family after successfully completing her Teacher training with us and she will now become an Early Careers Teacher at St Matthias. We are thrilled that she is joining our team, she has such a sunny, warm disposition, compassion and has built wonderful relationships with not only pupils but our staff too!

Miss McCollum was also a past pupil at St Matthias and started her own educational journey in our Nursery class, so it seems apt that she has been drawn back to St Matthias to start her teaching career. Here is a photograph of Miss McCollum at St Matthias as a pupil and her now! I am hoping she will inspire others to embark on a career in education— aspirations for their futures!



Welcome Miss Earle

We also welcome Miss Earle officially to the St Matthias family, she has been covering lots of classes across the school this year and more recently covering Mrs Cottrell's maternity leave. She will continue to cover the maternity leave next year and is a valued member of staff. Miss Earle has built strong relationships with staff and pupils and enhances our wonderful school family.



Peter Pan Show – postponed

Due to the excessive heat the children having not been able to finalise their show routines or having a full dress rehearsal, we would like to postpone the show. New dates will come out asap and the tickets will be valid.

SEND review meetings for Nursery and Year 2– postponed

Again due to the excessive heat we have postponed these meetings. Nursery SEND review meetings will be held on Monday 29th June— the time slots will remain the same. Year 2 SEND review meetings will be held on Thursday 2nd July— the time slots will remain the same. Thank you

Have a lovely cooler 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; we **believe** 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.'



Class Teachers: Autumn Term 2026

During the rest of this term current class teachers will be assessing the children, completing the teaching and learning sequences and preparing their class for their transition. The current class teachers will also be liaising with the next class teachers and making time for them to meet and build relationships so that your children know who their teacher will be in September. On Tuesday 14th July the children will meet their new class teacher for a 'moving up' morning to meet their new class teachers so they can experience their new classrooms, build relationships and have a morning of wellbeing and team building. During the summer holidays, you can talk to your children about their new teachers.

During the week beginning Monday 7th July, your child's end of year report will come home for you to read. In the school reports we have also included a transition leaflet so your children can see their new class teachers and classrooms and become familiar with their new environments. I am sure you will help your children feel positive about the moves and encourage them to talk about their feelings and any worries so they are prepared for September.

We fully understand and appreciate that this is always an anxious time for children as they leave the security of the adults in their class that they are familiar with and build new relationships with the staff to which they are going. We will make the transition as smooth as we can, however you are welcome to let us know if you feel that we can do extra to support your child if they are feeling more anxious than normal. There is always a detailed discussion and much consideration to the following academic year with regards to classes so I am thrilled to let you know that your child's class teacher for next year is listed below.

Nursery: Mrs Cale**Reception:** Mr Salmon**Year 1:** Mrs O'Connor & Mrs Page (Weds)**Year 2:** Miss McCollum & Mrs Page (Monday)**Year 3:** Miss Earle (Mon-Weds) & Mrs Page (Thurs & Fri)**Year 4:** Mrs Chandram**Year 5** Mrs Philgence & Ms Pearman (Mon)**Year 6** Mrs Maidens

PPA cover Mr Thompson (Y6) & Ms Pearman (Y4 & Y6)

**SENCO** Mrs Joyce**Learning Base** Mrs Cope & Ms Pearman**Nurture Base** Miss Prince

Water Safety during hot weather

I want to make parents aware of the dangers of open water swimming in hot weather so you can monitor your children and know where they are. Please talk to your children about the dangers of water and explain how they stay safe.

Water Safety

With temperatures forecast to remain exceptionally high, there is an increased likelihood of children and young people seeking to cool off in rivers, lakes, quarries and other open water locations.

Schools have been asked to remind pupils and families of the dangers associated with open water swimming and other water-related activities during periods of hot weather.

Key messages include:

- Risk of drowning increases by 70% when temperatures exceed 30°C.
 - Open water can be deceptively dangerous, even for confident swimmers.
 - Cold water shock can affect anyone, regardless of age or swimming ability.
 - Hidden currents, sudden drops, submerged objects and poor water quality can present serious risks.
 - Inflatables should never be relied upon in open water and can quickly drift into dangerous situations.
- For older pupils, particularly secondary-aged young people, please reinforce the message to "**Be A Mate**" and speak up when friends are considering risky behaviour around water.

Further water safety information and resources are available from the [Royal Life Saving Society UK](https://www.rls.uk/).

Here is a video to share with your child

<https://vimeo.com/863949936>

Drowning is preventable. Nobody should drown. Always follow the Water Safety Code. We can all contribute to creating communities free from drowning.



This year, Drowning Prevention Week is expanding to reach 13-17-year-olds, as recent data from the National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) reveals that drowning deaths of this age group have increased an alarming 67% between 2020-2022 and 2023-2025.

Speak up. Be a mate Speak up. Be a mate. | [Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK \)](https://www.rls.uk/)

Key message for teens is to #BeAMate and speak up when friends are taking deadly risks around water. Before a mate jumps in, messes around with inflatables, or does something risky in open water... **speak up.**

- **You can't see what's under the water.** Rocks, drops, currents - it's not worth guessing.
- **Cold water hits HARD.** Even strong swimmers can panic and lose control.
- **Inflatables are not safe in open water.** One gust of wind and you're gone - fast.
- **Pressure isn't friendship.** Real mates don't push you into danger.

One of our parents volunteers in the Search And Rescue team which is linked to helping people when they become in trouble in water.

They have shared a FREE online course to upskill and inform parents and adults in water safety and it gives top tips on keeping safe near water which you can then share with your children. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the link to the FREE water safety online course.

Thank you for helping us keep your child and other children safe.

Year 5 & 6 trip to Lifepath

On Monday, Year 5/6 joined children from several other primary schools in the Priory church in Great Malvern for Lifepath. This annual event celebrates the history of the building, which is a former monastery, and through a carousel of different activities, helps children reflect on their own journey through life.

It was a fun day, packed with interesting tasks. Every group took part in a problem-solving activity to make a self-supporting arch - fantastic physics! One group got to taste a monk's meal of vegetable soup and another group bravely climbed a narrow spiral staircase leading to the bell tower and had a go at bell ringing!

Then all schools came together for a Bible story, songs and reflection. It was a lovely day!

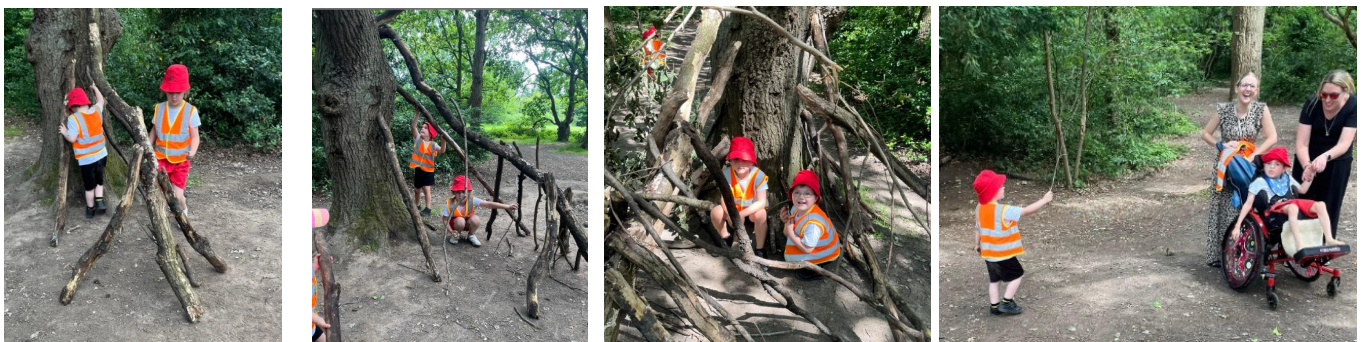
Report by Charlotte

We were met by people who had flags waving us inside, which was a very warm welcome. Inside the Priory, we sang a wonderful song about our life path and our next journey. There were many activities and my favourite was the bracelet making and crafting. My group dressed up as monks; it was extremely hot wearing a cassock! Other groups went to the bell tower, learnt brass rubbing, spun wool and created wooden arches. We were joined by many other schools, which was very exciting.



Reception walk in the area- Den building and exploring

Taking advantage of our local environment and the lovely weather last week Reception class went for a walk on Malvern Link Common. Their aim was to be curious about the world around them, have some fun, work together in teams, practice their oracy skills through communication and listening and also be safe in our wonderful environment. I think you smashed these skills- well done!



School Council charity event!

On **Friday the 3rd July**, the School Council will be holding a '**Break the Rules Day**', which will coincide with Sports day. Children will of course be wearing their PE kits to school for Sports Day but if they would like to break one of the listed rules then they may do so and pay £1 for every rule broken. The money raised will go towards the children's chosen charity- **Cancer Research**. Please see the list of rules, which may be broken. At the end of the day, there will also be a cake sale, organised by the School Council to help raise further funds. Please watch out for a paper plate with details on being sent home next week. We will be very grateful for any homemade cakes or bought donations.

Many thanks for your support

School Council

BREAK THE RULES DAY

Friday 3rd July

If you choose to break any of the following rules then you must pay £1.

- Don't wear coloured trainers
- Don't wear nail polish
- Don't wear hair colour
- Don't wear odd socks
- Don't wear tattoos

Dates for your Diary

Sports Day (Reception to Y6) Friday 3rd July.

Weather permitting, we will be holding our annual Sports Day on Friday 3rd July. We will be holding the event on our school field during the morning.

The event will be split into two sessions.

9.15am-10.30am Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

10.45-12.15pm Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5/6.

Parents from the corresponding classes can watch the event and there will be an area where you can bring some camping chairs/rugs if you wish to sit. If you have children in both sessions you may stay for the morning. There will be a no smoking policy at the event. More information will follow to give details of the Sports Day event.



Free School Meals – Check if you are eligible

The Department for Education has recently updated the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals.

This means some families may now qualify, even if they have not been eligible in the past.

If you receive Universal Credit, you should apply. We strongly encourage all families to check their eligibility and submit an application.

To apply, you will need:

- Your name
- Your National Insurance number
- Your date of birth

Find out more and apply online here: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Please note: the application system will be unavailable from 9 July to 15 July.

Free School Meals team

freeschoolmeals@worcestershire.gov.uk

Outside Achievements

It was lovely to celebrate our outside achievements this week. We always enjoy hearing about all the different activities and achievements your children have completed as it will inspire others.

John Y1 for tackling some adventurous obstacles during a visit to Go Ape, well done for overcoming fears and listening to safety instructions to believe and achieve! Very impressive! Well done Dad too!!

Isabelle Y5 for tackling two adventurous obstacle courses at Go Ape as you pushed yourself to complete some challenging and very high activities. You also helped your dad uproot a big tree stump which was in your garden. You and your dad persisted until the job was complete!! Excellent achievements! We are proud of you!

Marlee-Mae Y5 for passing her first grading in jujitsu and gaining her white belt with red tag. We are very proud of you! Keep up the great work!



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 the values mean in our lives and in our relationships with each other.



Our Value this half term is "Community"

Romans 12.16 "Live in harmony with one another."

Colossians 3:13-14 "Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity"

Romans 12:4-5 "Community is life-giving and essential to following Christ. Scripture says that's because we're better together than we are alone"

Helen Keller ""Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Gandhi "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others".

Coretta Scott-King "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."

Attendance and Celebration Worship

Attendance information will be update next week along with Celebration Worship.

Due to the excessive heat we will not be holding the Worship in the hall, we will celebrate our successes next week when it is cooler to be back together!



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Nursery SEN Parent Appointments
Monday 29th June

Year 2 SEN Parent Appointments
Thursday 2nd July

Sports Day Yrs R – 6
Friday 3rd July

School Moving Up Morning 9.30 – 11.30_{am}
Tuesday 14th July

Summer Craft Box give away demo
Tuesday 14th July 9_{am}

SEND Coffee Morning support transition
Tuesday 14th July 9_{am}

CLASS EVENTS

Year 6 Chase Induction Day
Wednesday 1st July 2026

Year 5 Dysons morning
Wednesday 1st July 2026

Reception All Things Wild Trip
Wednesday 1st July

Year 6 John Masefield Induction Day
Thursday 2nd July

Meeting for future Nursery Parents
Thursday 2nd July 3.30pm

Year 6 Dysons Induction Day
Monday 6th July 2026

Year 3 Seeds for Life Trip
Tuesday 7th July

Year 6 Hanley High Induction Day
Wednesday 8th July 2026

Year 1 Worcester Cathedral
Postponed due to heat

Year 4 Boundless Outdoor Trip
Monday 13th July

Nursery Stay & Play for Parents
Monday 13th July 1.30_{pm}

Year 6 Leavers Service in Church
Wednesday 15th July 9_{am}

Who to contact in school

MRS LEWIS Works Mon, Tue, Thu + Fri for:- Attendance issues, (reasons for absences if possible contact us **before 9.00am**), medical issues, to request forms, change 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 phone 01684 574984

MRS JAMES Works Mon, Tue, Wed + (Thu am only) for finance matters :- Whizz Kids or Nursery bookings, paying any bills or invoices, trips, music lessons, purchasing PE kit etc . Please phone 01684 574984 and ask to be put through to her, or email finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

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
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>

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 of 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

SUMMER TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN **at 8.40am Tuesday 2nd June 2026**

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE at 3.15pm Friday 17th July 2026.

AUTUMN TERM (New Academic Year)

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN **at 8.40am** Thursday 3rd September 2026

The full dates for next academic year are on Newsletter 27 page 4.

All our past newsletters are also on our website.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

Transition Support Parent Drop-in Coffee Morning



I am very pleased to invite **all parents and carers** to a coffee morning on:

Tuesday 14th July 9am

Including the Time to Play parent drop in.

During the drop-in service, parents are invited to come and chat about supporting your child with their **transition** in September. This includes those starting Reception, those transitioning to their next year group and those who are leaving us to go on to start their secondary school journey.

There will be lots of **support and advice** on offer including lots of **resources and activity ideas** for you to take home to support your children with transition over the summer holidays.

Please do call in for a chat, coffee and cake or to collect some of the helpful resources.

I look forward to seeing lots of you there!

Mrs Joyce (SENCO)



Wondering how to fill
the long summer
holidays?

In the last week of term, Time to Play with the generous support of Malvern Hills District Council, will be giving away a box of arts and crafts materials for every child in school.

For tips, tricks and ideas on how to use them, join Emma, from 9am on Tuesday 14th July



We have
the answer



Summer Holiday Craft Box Give Away!



Hi, Its Emma from Time to Play.

Some of you will know me as a play and creative arts therapist working with children in school on Tuesdays. What you might not know is that I work for a small charity that supports children and families in Malvern to play their way to positive mental health and well-being.

This summer, the charity has secured a grant from Malvern Town Council to provide a box of art and craft materials for every child at St Matthias to use at home during the summer holidays. Your child can choose to keep their artwork just for home, share photos via the Dojo, or bring their creations to school in September for an exhibition.

To help you to get the most out of your box, I am running a short workshop for parents and carers **9am on Tuesday 14th July**. You will get a preview of what is in the boxes and tips and tricks for how to use the resources. If you would like to, you can try out the resources for yourself and ask any questions. No artistic experience or ability is needed. The aim is to show how children can feel good about themselves when they use art and craft materials.

There are still places left.

To book a place and receive a £5 voucher for The Works, sign up at reception.

Looking forward to seeing you on 14th July.

Emma



Campaign for a Pedestrian Crossing outside St Matthias Church to enable children to safely cross Church Road. Some parents and Governors of St Matthias C of E Primary School have been on a mission to keep St Matthias children safe due to increasing traffic and no crossing patrol. We are hoping by petitioning that we will be able to convince the Local Authority Highways Authority that this is an important addition to Church Road which would benefit not only St Matthias pupils but also other children and adults in the area to safely cross an increasingly busy road. Please support by scanning the link and adding your name to the petition. Or clicking this link [Support our campaign](#)



**PLEASE HELP SUPPORT
OUR CAMPAIGN TO GET A
SAFE PEDESTRIAN
CROSSING FOR OUR
CHILDREN**





July 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	6 July 10am
Anxiety Explained	6 July 7pm
Introduction to OCD	7 July 10am
What is ACT?	7 July 7pm
Decreasing Depression	13 July 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	13 July 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	14 July 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	14 July 7pm
FREE - Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 July 7-8pm
Autism-Improving Communication	20 July 10am
Improving Family Communication	20 July 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	21 July 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	21 July 7pm
Understanding Anger	27 July 10am
School Anxiety	27 July 7pm
Facing Defiance	28 July 10am
Supporting Health Screen Use	28 July 7pm