

# St Matthias Newsletter



## St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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**Friday 10th September 2021**

### ***Dear Parents, Carers and Children,***

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back after the summer holidays even if we did have the heat wave when we returned this week!



### **Teacher Education Days**

I welcomed the staff back last week during our two Teacher Education Days (TED). During our first training day we welcomed a guest from the Diocese who worked with the whole staff and governors on our school vision. The St Matthias Vision had not been reviewed for many years and with a recently appointed leadership team, many new staff and governors, we felt it very apt to get together and discuss a new vision for everyone at St Matthias. We wanted to ensure that the vision behind 'Aspire, Believe, Achieve' reflected us as a school community, underpins our church school ethos and how we flourish together; I can't wait to share it with you in next week's newsletter!

The second training day was focused on our School Development Plan and the priorities for this academic year to ensure that St Matthias continues to maintain high expectations, focuses on developing an engaging and well sequenced curriculum catering for all pupil needs, to build a love of learning and retain lots of new knowledge and skills. We are particularly focusing on spelling and developing a rich vocabulary across the curriculum from Early Years to Year 6.

Parents, you can help us achieve our priorities by supporting your child at home to read every day, complete homework set, talk about words and their meanings and by enabling your child to have an excellent school attendance (above 96%) Holidays should NOT be booked in term time and medical appointments should be booked outside school hours unless absolutely necessary. Every day, every half day and every lesson counts towards giving your child the best chance of success and making as much progress as they can. Please support us in educating your child.

### **First week back**

It has been an extremely hot week to welcome the children back to school, but they have been absolutely amazing at settling in to their new class with their new class teachers and re-establishing good routines. We were really disappointed in July when we had to cancel the transitions sessions as we know how important they are in supporting the children to settle. However, despite this they have returned to a fantastic work ethic and walking through the school has been a pleasure.

### **Symptoms of Covid**

If your child develops any symptoms which are related to COVID-19 (continuous cough, high temperature, loss of taste, smell or they generally feel unwell) please ring 119 and take their advice. If they have a PCR test please keep your child at home until the results are back.

### **Lunchtimes**



I have to thank the lunchtime supervisors for their patience this week as we have transferred back from eating in the classrooms in bubbles to hot dinners being served in the hall again. It is always tricky introducing a new routine but as the week has progressed the children have remembered where they go and what to do and I have been very impressed! If you would like your child to have a hot dinner please log onto **Black Pepper School Lunches** and select your options. <https://www.blackpepperlunches.com/BP-default.php>

### **It's Good To Grow– Morrisons Scheme**

We have signed up for the 'It's Good To Grow' Morrisons **FREE gardening equipment** for schools scheme. For every £10 you spend (in store or online) at Morrisons, you'll get a Grow Token to help St Matthias School get everything we need to get growing. You will need to download the MyMorrisons app to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose St Matthias Primary School to donate to, if you enter our postcode WR14 1NA our school name will appear. Ask your friends and family to do this too! If you already have the Morrisons app you may need to update it to the latest version in the app store.



<https://my.morrisons.com/blog/community/good-to-grow/>

We will be able to exchange our Grow Tokens for FREE gardening equipment so please start collecting!

**Have a wonderful weekend, Mrs Beale.**

## Learning this week– Art Week

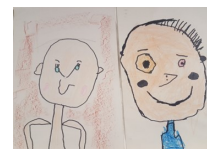
**Early Years** have been exploring their own artistic talents using lots of different textures and materials. We are also proud of our newest children who have been exploring their classrooms and outdoor space whilst settling into their new environment.



**In Year 1**, they have focused on observational drawings. First, they used chalk to create a soft drawing of their class teddy bear, Super Ted. Children learnt how to blow the chalk dust away or rub the lines to smudge the colour. The following day they used graphite pencils to draw a picture of Super Ted, trying hard to vary the shade of lines by pressing firmly or gently. As a comparison, children drew an imaginative teddy bear using felt-tip pens. To make the bear look fluffy, children drew short lines which were close together along the outline. The pictures are absolutely beautiful; I am very impressed with their listening skills and levels of concentration. Well-done Year 1!



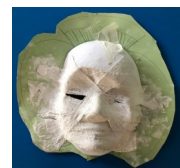
**Year 2** have been creating self-portraits with different medium; firstly drawing lines with pencil, then adding pen and coloured crayons and finally with colour mixing using paint. They looked at Van Gogh for inspiration.



**Year 3** are investigating the question 'What kind of Art came from the Stone Age! They have started to sketch cave paintings in black and white using graded pencils and charcoal by observations of images from the Stone Age. They are finishing the week with hand stencilling as seen in many examples of Stone Age cave paintings. They have used primary colours to make darker reds and oranges as in photographs of cave paintings originally.



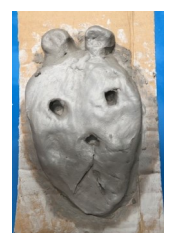
**Year 4** are focusing on designing and making an Egyptian Mask. They have explored line, shape and colour looking at images of Egyptian Masks and have started to design their own mask to be made out of Plaster of Paris.



**Year 5** are designing and making a shield representative of those used in Viking times. They have explored line, shape and colour through looking at images of Viking shields, have researched, sketched and annotated their ideas in sketch books and are now beginning to transfer these ideas onto their own shield.



**Year 6** are exploring the question 'What was the Art of the Maya culture? They have explored line and shape in images of Maya masks. They have started to design their own mask after carefully exploring designs from a variety of resources and have begun to transfer their designs onto clay to create a 3D mask.



### School Photographer

Our photographer will be in school on **Monday 27th September**. He will take individual photos of every child and siblings within school. This year he will include older and younger siblings of our pupils, who do not attend this school. If you wish for your older and younger children to be in a photo with our pupils please come along to the main entrance at 8.20am. Please try to maintain a distance between your family and the other families that come along. All siblings who come to our school will automatically be photographed together during the school day.

### School Uniform

It is lovely to see everyone return in their smart new uniforms. We still have some second-hand uniform for sale should you need anything extra. Just a few reminders; you can still purchase a reduced price NEW PE Hoodie from school, EVERY child will need a hoodie as it is part of the PE kit so please complete an order form if you haven't done so already.

EARRINGS – children must **NOT wear earrings on their PE days** and on other days can only wear small stud or sleeper earrings to school, large and colourful earrings must be kept for home wear only due to health and safety reasons.

### Physical Education Lessons

Children can continue to arrive at school in their PE kits on their PE days. Please see below for your child's PE lesson day. May I remind everyone to visit the school website for the correct PE kit and uniform to avoid us asking you to repurchase the correct colours. Thank you

<https://www.stmatthiasceprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=44>

If you wish to purchase a PE kit or PE hoodie please email [finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk)

**Reception : THURSDAY**

**Year 1: FRIDAY**

**Year 2: FRIDAY**

**Year 3: THURSDAY**

**Year 4: THURSDAY**

**Year 5: WEDNESDAY**

**Year 6: WEDNESDAY**



Large book bag

£6.50



Small book bag



PE T Shirt

£6.50



PE Hoodie

~~£11.00~~

£6.00



PE cotton shorts

£6.00



PE bag

£4.00



Beanie hats

£3.50



Caps

£3.50





## Worcester's Big Parade

'Arlo' our beautiful baby elephant has been viewed by thousands of people this summer as he stood proudly in Worcester. It has been one of a number of highlights during my summer holiday receiving so many photographs of St Matthias children with Arlo via ClassDojo. Thank you for being so involved in the Big Parade. The elephants are now at a 'Farewell Event' at Worcestershire Country Cricket Club and members of the public are able to purchase tickets to view ALL the elephants in one large space. If you wish to go to this event click on this link to book tickets.

<https://worcestersbigparade.co.uk/event/farewell/>

St Matthias still needs to raise money for St Richard's Hospice by selling raffle tickets which are available from school. Next week we will be selling the tickets at the front of school; cash only. Please bring exact cash. £5 per book or £1 per ticket. We will then deliver the ticket stubs and cash to St Richard's Hospice so they can be entered into the prize winning draw.



## Celebration Worship Awards

Every Friday we hold a 'Celebration Worship' to give out awards to our children to celebrate their achievements. Currently these are held virtually from the classroom using either Teams or Zoom.



**Certificates (Effort in their work):** R. Mila, 1. Amelia, 2. Evie, 3. Esmae, 4. Jayla 5. Tiffany, 6. Harry.

**Value Leaf (Showing our value Thankfulness):** R. Hope, 1. Logan, 2. Lottie, 3. Oliver, 4. Lily P, 5. James, 6. Evelyn Bi

**Spotted (Improved presentation):** R. Libby, 1. Charlie P, 2. Adam, 3. Poppy F, 4. Grace, 5. Valters, 6. Martha.

**Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times this week):** watch this space next week

**Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside)** Libby Yr R



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 Thankfulness

**Colossians 2:7** Let your roots grow down into him and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught and you will overflow with thankfulness."

**Psalms 118:2** "This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it."

**Dalai Lama** "When you practise gratefulness, there is a sense of respect towards others"

**Charles Shcwab** "The way to develop the best that is in a person is by appreciation and thanks. Be **thankful** for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough. He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has."

Adults in school will be on the look out this half term for children who are really trying hard to be thankful and grateful for the good things in their lives.

**We are thankful for the gifts God has given each and every one of us to enable us to be unique individuals and make a difference in our own ways.**





# NOTICEBOARD



## Reminders

### Whole School Events

#### **School Photographer**

Monday 27th September to take every individual child plus sibling groups from within school only. Please read page 3 for details.

#### **Nasal Flu Vaccine (Yrs R - 6)**

Wednesday 24th November (am)

### **Class Events**

**Years 5** History Man Visit - Anglo Saxons & Vikings on Friday 17th September.

**Year 6** History Man Visit - Mayan Civilization on Friday 17th September.

**Year 6** Swimming lessons start on Wednesday 22nd September.

**Year 6** Closing Date for High School Applications is Sunday 31st October. Application instructions coming home with children today.

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

### **Severn Trent Water - Big Difference**

Help that is available from **Severn Trent Water** for reducing water bills for families with low household incomes. If eligible for the scheme, you could receive a discount of up to 90% off your water bill and potentially suspend any arrears. Please click here for more information.

<https://bigdiff.co.uk/login.php>

### **Platform Housing customers only**

Platform Housing have launched a 'Wellbeing Fund' for all customers to access in order to help cover the cost of food, essential items such as school uniforms, energy and utility costs as well as helping to bridge the gap between a benefit application and first payment. You can apply following this link.

<https://www.platformhg.com/wellbeing-fund>

### **Covid 19**

COVID-19 symptom check ([click here](#))

Book an NHS COVID 19 test ([click here](#))

Book a COVID-19 Vaccine ([click here](#))

### **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](#))

### **Family Support**

**Family Front Door** - 01905 822666 to report a concern about a child or request extra help for a family.

**The Family Hub** for parenting support and advice ([click here](#))

**Parent Online Safety Information** ([click here](#))

**Malvern Hills Housing support** ([click here](#))

**Child Line** - 0800 1111 for free

### **Who to contact in school and how**

**MRS KAZEROONI** for:- Attendance issues, reasons for absences, request any forms, change of address or phone numbers, general enquires, urgent contact, 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 (Only works Mon - Thu)** for:- Whizz Kids booking, paying any bills/invoices for nursery, trips, music lessons, PE kit etc please email [finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk) or Phone **01684 574984** and ask to be put through to Mrs James.

**CLASS TEACHER** for:- classroom issues, learning or behaviour related, use ClassDojo or Tapestry. 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 to be made.

**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, visit their website <https://www.blackpepperlunches.com/BP-default.php>

## TERM DATES

### **AUTUMN TERM 2021**

**SCHOOL OPENS**

**Staff Training Day**

**HALF TERM BREAK**

**SCHOOL CLOSES**

### **SPRING TERM 2022**

**Staff Training Day**

**SCHOOL OPENS**

**HALF TERM BREAK**

**Monday 6th September 2021 AT 8.45AM**

**Friday 22nd October**

**Friday 22nd to Sunday 31st October**

**Friday 17th December 2021.**

**Tuesday 4th January 2022**

**Wednesday 5th January 2022**

**Saturday 19th to Sunday 27th February**