

# St Matthias Newsletter



## St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 24th September 2021

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

#### Lesson Visits

It has been a great week for visiting classrooms. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning Mr Thompson, who leads Maths, and I completed lesson visits throughout the whole school. It was a joy to see the children focused on their Maths, answering questions, using equipment and drawing on knowledge they have learned previously.

Early Years were using number in their games, painting, chalking outside and even with using glitter and porridge oats! Years 1 and 2 were practising their counting forwards and backwards and entering into challenges of missing number sequences. Years 3 and 4 were comparing number sizes using the 'greater than' and 'less than' symbols where they had to use their knowledge of place value to problem solve. Years 5 and 6 were focusing on their multiplication knowledge and rounding using place value and knowledge of number. It was very encouraging to see the children enjoying their maths, enthusiastically answering questions, working together to problem solve and learning new concepts.



We also had a visit from one of our governors yesterday, who has been waiting very patiently for us to be able to let visitors back into school due to the pandemic. She enjoyed her visit to each classroom where the children were all working very hard, enthusiastic and focusing on their learning. It is lovely to be able to show people around again and share the wonderful atmosphere we have at St Matthias and the love of learning.

#### School Council



Another exciting event this week was the first School Council meeting since before the pandemic. Classes have voted for their School Council Representatives, who had to put forward their names to be considered and explain why they would be a good School Council member.

Congratulations to Isla and Jake in Year 1, Charlotte and Tia in Year 2, Megan and Camden in Year 3, Lily and Alumie in Year 4, Glyn and Elizabeth in Year 5 and Evelyn and Dominic in Year 6.

They have 'School Council' pin badges so they are easily identified should anyone want to speak to them with ideas for the meetings.

The School Council held their first meeting this week with Mrs O'Connor and Mrs Philgence and they have started to think about school events to fund raise, their roles as Council Representatives and whole school projects. If you read on in this newsletter, Glyn has designed a poster to advertise our first charity fund raising event in aid of 'The Air Ambulance.'

*Have a wonderful 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.'





## **MIDLANDS AIR AMBULANCE DAY**

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

**We would like everyone in school to donate  
£1 to wear red clothing for the day in  
support of this amazing life-saving charity.**

**If you don't have any red clothes, please still  
consider donating £1 to support Midlands  
Air Ambulance so they can save more  
peoples' lives.**



## **Sporting News**

Yesterday we received an email from the Worcestershire West School Games Organiser with a special certificate and thanks to everyone at St Matthias for their sporting efforts over the past year during the pandemic. This was their message to us...

*'I would like to thank you and your colleagues for all your efforts ensuring your young people have remained physically active and I'm delighted to attached your schools' School Games Mark Framework Certificate in recognition of your ongoing engagement in the School Games for the 2020/2021 academic year.*

*This is a special achievement in a difficult year; please celebrate your SGMF success through and put your certificate proudly on display to recognise this achievement. Everyone deserves to know how committed your school has been to physical activity during the pandemic.*

*Thank you for your continued support of PE, School Sport and Physical Activity.*

*Kind regards,*

*Ben Robertshaw*

*School Games Organiser*

**Well done everyone I am very proud of you all!**



## **Online Virtual Parent Consultations—Week beginning 11th October 2021**

Nursery Parent Consultations— Monday 11th October and Tuesday 12th October via Zoom.

Reception and Year 1 Parent Consultations Wednesday 13th October and Thursday 14th October via Zoom

Year 2-Year 6 Parent Consultations Wednesday 13th October and Thursday 14th October via Teams.

A Teams guide will be emailed nearer the time.

We will send the link out next week to book your parent consultation. Parents can only have 1 appointment to discuss their child's progress therefore if the child has two teachers in one class you will only speak to one of those teachers.

## **Harvest Festival**

This year we are going to hold our Harvest Service at the church, just before half term, with just the pupils, staff and Rev Phillip. We have not been in the church for such a long time, we thought it would be a very special occasion to begin to bring the whole school back together this half term. We have been practising our harvest songs in the classroom and thinking about our theme for this year's celebration.

We are linking our theme to our vision and value (thankfulness) and each class is contributing in a way to consider our uniqueness, our gifts of health, gifts God has given us, God's gifts to the earth and the gift of communication. We hope to be able to record this in the church so we can share the experience with parents BUT without holding public events, to avoid a potential covid spreading event.

We will be asking for Harvest donations which will go to the Malvern Food Bank and will send out a list of items needed nearer the time.



### **PLEASE SUPPORT US! 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!



### **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. Mia-Rose, 1. Ella, 2. William, 3. James, 4. Max 5. Elizabeth, 6. Oliver.

**Value Leaf (For showing Thankfulness):** R. Daisy, 1. Shanti, 2. Harlem-Ocean, 3. Poppy F, 4. Sophie, 5. Glyn, 6. Lily.

**Spotted (Improved spelling):** R. Leo, 1. Jake, 2. Ellis, 3. Lily, 4. Bonnie, 5. Ollie, 6. Rilee.

**Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times this week):** William Yr 2

**Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside)** Charlie S Yr 1



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 Shwab** "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. If you wish for your older & 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 & other families that come along. All siblings who come to our school will automatically be photographed together during the school day.

#### Virtual Parents Evenings

11th to 14th October. See Page 3.

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

Wednesday 24th November (am)

### Class Events

**Yrs R and 1** Eye tests on Wednesday 6th October.

**Year 6** Language Workshop at Dysons on Thursday 7th October.

**Yrs 3 - 6** Virtual author event Joseph Coelho CLPE "Happy Here" book on Wednesday 13th October.

**Year 5** Literature Festival Thursday 14th October

**Yrs 5 and 6** Cross Country Run Friday 15th October

**Year 6** Closing Date for High School Applications is Sunday 31st October

## 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](#)) or ring **119**

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

**Child Line** - 0800 1111 for free

**School Nurse**— **01684 612668**

**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](#))

### 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.

**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

**Staff Training Day**  
HALF TERM BREAK  
SCHOOL CLOSURES

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

### SPRING TERM 2022

**Staff Training Day**  
SCHOOL OPENS  
HALF TERM BREAK

**Tuesday 4th January 2022**  
Wednesday 5th January 2022  
Saturday 19th to Sunday 27th February