

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 1st October 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

School Council News

The School Council would like to say a big thank you to everyone who joined in the fundraising event by wearing red clothing and donating £1 to the Air Ambulance. So far we have raised over £130; the Yr5 and Yr6 council reps helped Mrs James count the money.



We also had an amazing surprise when we received a 'thank you' video message, from Rosie and Daisy's close friend and Godfather, who is a real hero saving lives for the Air Ambulance Service. We were very touched and truly appreciated the personal message he sent to us on behalf of the Air Ambulance Service. They really do, do an amazing job saving lives and helping people very much in need.



Worship

It has been lovely welcoming back Father Phillip this term to our Worship time. Each week he visits our school with one of his friends from church; this week it was Helen. They shared the story of 'Jonah and the Whale' in an animated and entertaining way and the children listened intently to the story and joined in with the actions and sounds. The children learned that God's love, grace and compassion extends to everyone and God loves all people. We thanked God for our uniqueness and talents and then sang one of our favourite songs with passion 'Our God is a Great Big God'.



Outside Achievements

We know how important it is to celebrate our achievements and we know that many children at St Matthias are awarded certificates, badges and medals for example, for things they do and flourish at outside of school. If you attend clubs or lessons such as Swimming, Dance, Cubs, Beavers, Music or any other activity and you receive an award then please bring it in on a Friday to our 'Celebration Worship' as we would also like to hear what you take part in outside of school and celebrate your achievements with you... you never know, you might just inspire someone else to have a go at something they have never done before!



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.'



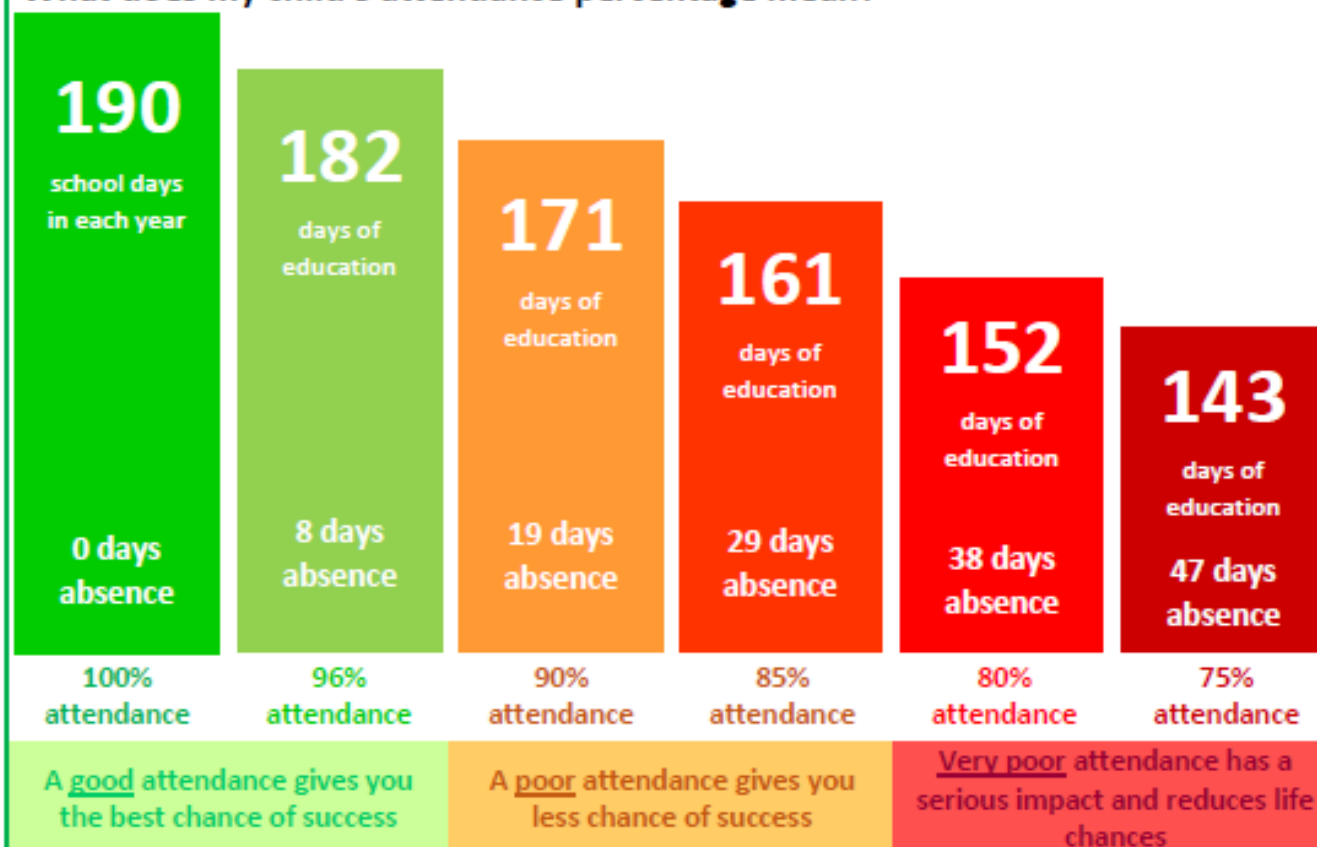
Attendance Matters

We have sent you a text informing you of your child's attendance percentage since returning to school in September. The government's national expectation for children's attendance is 96%.

There are 365 days in a calendar year. 175 of them are not in school – that's plenty of time for shopping, days out, holidays, appointments and visiting family and friends.

Good attendance means being in school over 96% of the time. In a school year, that means being in school on over 182 out of 190 school days.

What does my child's attendance percentage mean?



Well done to all of the children who have achieved **100% attendance*** since returning to school in September. Every child who has 100% attendance for the month will have their name entered into a prize draw to **win a £10 Argos voucher!** The lucky winner will be drawn monthly in Friday's celebration assembly and their parents will be notified by text message.

Attendance figures for the whole school in September:

Nursery	81.7%	Year 3	95.6%
Reception	97.8%	Year 4	92.7%
Year 1	96.5%	Year 5	94.4%
Year 2	95.9%	Year 6	95.8%

Reception and Year 1 are leading the way with their attendance in September! Both classes are above the target of 96% attendance. Well done and keep it up. 😊 We hope that more classes beat the target in October.

**Please note that at the moment, absence due to self-isolation whilst a child is waiting for results of a PCR test are not included in their attendance figure, so it is still possible to have 100% attendance even with time off self-isolating.*

Stranger Futures

We are thrilled to be working once again with local theatre company, Stranger Futures. Their new project is called 'The Whole World's Invited to Dinner' and over the next few weeks St Matthias pupils will be attending animation workshops to create material that may be included in their first performance in December. Matt and Will held an assembly this week to introduce the project to children in Years 4,5 and 6 and talked a lot about delicious desserts, which made us all very hungry! We will share more about this exciting opportunity with you in the coming weeks.



History

On the 17th September, Years 5 and 6 had a history day. Each class had an in-depth session focusing on their topic (Year 5 Anglo-Saxons and Vikings— Year 6 Maya). Each child got to explore lots of artefacts from general household items and clothing to weapons! Everyone gained so much knowledge!



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. Molly, 1. Pippa, 2. Addison, 3. Zach, 4. Sam 5. James, 6. Maisie.

Value Leaf (For showing Thankfulness): R. Sofia, 1. Charlie S, 2. Jasmine, 3. Oliver, 4. Darcey, 5. MaicieLeigh, 6. Jamie.

Spotted (Improved spelling): R. Rihanna, 1. Isla, 2. Jacob, 3. Poppy M, 4. Freya, 5. Holly, 6. Dominic.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times this week): Harvey Yr 3

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside) Gracie Yr 5

Outside Achievements:



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

Virtual Parents Evenings

Nursery 11th + 12th October.

Reception to Yr 6 13th + 14th October

Harvest Festival (No Parents)

Thursday 21st October

Nasal Flu Vaccine (Yrs R - 6)

Wednesday 24th November (am)

Class Events

Years R and 1 Eye tests on
Wednesday 6th October.

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

Year 5 Animation Workshop
Thursday 7th October.

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

Year 5 Literature Festival
Thursday 14th October

Year 6 Animation Workshop
Thursday 14th October

Years 5 and 6 Cross Country Run
Friday 15th October

Year 5 Teaching Tree Trip
Monday 18th October

Year 4 Animation Workshop
Thursday 21st 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 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 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 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**, visit their website
<https://www.blackpepperlunches.com/BP-default.php>

TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Staff Training Day
HALF TERM BREAK
SCHOOL CLOSURES

Friday 22nd October
Friday 22nd to Sunday 31st October
Friday 17th 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