



St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 5th November 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back after the half term break. We hope you had a lovely peaceful half term and made the most of family time.

Harvest Service and Food Bank Donations

During the week before half term we held our Harvest Service in the church with Father Phillip. I have to say it was a beautiful service celebrating the 'Harvest of Ourselves,' through the gifts God has given us, which linked wholly with our new school Vision. The most special part was being able to gather our whole school together for the first time since the start of the pandemic. Each class had a special part to play and the rest of the school listened with complete respect and attention. I was so proud! Our St Matthias choir stood at the front of the church to lead each song in the service and Lydia certainly brought a tear to most eyes with her solo within the magical song; 'This is Me.' Thank you Lydia. Unfortunately, even with all the technology in the church and the attempt to record the service for everyone to watch at home, there was a 'glitch' right at the start. Father Phillip couldn't believe that when he went to replay the service and send the link to me that only a few seconds had recorded and then there was a problem with the internet which stopped the recording. We will certainly try again for the Christmas service and have every faith that it will fully record next time. During the service we thanked all the children and asked that they thanked their parents for the generous donation of food for the Food Bank. During the TED day on Friday the volunteers from the Food Bank collected the donations and took it to be weighed in. We collected an impressive 134.7kg of items and they sent us a certificate of thanks!



A Visit from the Mayor of Malvern

During the Summer term 2021, Malvern Town Council ran a Sunflower competition across lots of Malvern Schools. They delivered a number of packets of seeds for planting the sunflowers and asked each school to nurture their sunflowers and help them grow. Just at the end of the summer term they contacted schools to see how the sunflowers had grown and asked for some measurements. The Whizz Kids group, with Mrs Plant, also took part in the competition and their sunflower grew to 82cm tall. We were surprised to find out just before half term that our sunflower was the tallest in the competition and that the Mayor of Malvern, Cllr Houghton was visiting St Matthias to present a certificate and book voucher to the school. It was lovely to meet him when he attended one of our assemblies and some of the Whizz Kids children were able to receive the award for their efforts. Thank you Whizz Kids and Mrs Plant for helping to grow an amazing Sunflower!



Have a wonderful weekend, Mrs Beale.

ASPIRE, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE

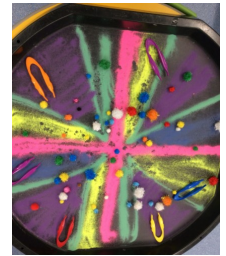
'Our school family, values us all as unique individuals and children of God. We **aspire** to be the best version of ourselves; **believing** that through the gifts God has given us, we can make a positive contribution, flourish and **achieve** together to make a difference in our ever-changing world.'



Art and Design Week

Early Years

Happy Diwali from the Early Years unit. They have been learning about the Hindu festival of light: Diwali; through colourful Rangoli designs, making cards and moulding clay Diva lamps.



Year One

Year One have been designing and making their own hand puppets for their story characters. Their puppets are amazing and their careful sewing has been very impressive!



Year Two

Year Two have been designing and making 'healthy sandwiches' they have chosen their own types of bread, filling and then carefully chopped and sliced to create their delicious sandwiches. They took them home to taste and evaluate!



Year Three

Year three are learning how to create 3D cards / Pop up cards. They have started by learning how to make v-folds as part of their DT in preparation for their final design creations.



Year Four

Year four have linked their Art/DT week to their Egyptian topic and designed and made clay Amulets.



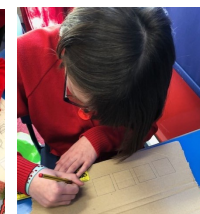
Year Five

Year five have been designing and creating Anglo Saxon Round Houses linked to their topic. They measured and cut the structure for the house and then started the construction with foliage from the outdoors to begin their Round House.



Year Six

Year six have been studying the Maya and have designed and started to make chocolate moulds. They are designing a box which holds 6 chocolates measuring 4x4cm square and 3cm high. They are also designing



Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS)

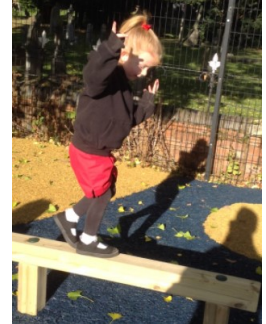


From November the 8th - 11th children in Years 3 to 6 can take part in "England Rocks" on Times Tables Rock Stars! All children have been entered into the competition and will be competing against other schools within England –

Can we get St Matthias on the leader board?

New Early Years Playground

In June 2021 our Early Years climbing frame was condemned for being unsafe. Mrs Taylor and Mr Salmon quickly began to design and create a new climbing frame and physical development space for the Early Years Unit. It was supposed to be built in the summer holidays, however sourcing all the resources for the equipment proved very difficult for the company who were installing it. During half term and this week the play equipment has finally arrived and been installed. The children found watching the workmen fascinating while they completed the area and made it safe to use by laying a rubber 'sand and sea' flooring under the play equipment. On Wednesday the children were finally allowed to test the equipment out and I have a feeling it was a real hit!



Remembrance Day – November 11th

During November we always remember those who put themselves on the frontline during the war and the symbol for this is a red poppy. The Poppy Appeal was first launched in 1921 to help remember those who fought in the war. The poppy was chosen because they now grow in the fields of northern France the Belgium where some of World War 1 toughest battles took place. The Royal British Legion, which started the Poppy Appeal, give the money raised to the service men and women who are still alive and whose lives have been changed by war. We are selling Poppy Appeal items in school until Thursday 11th November, if your child wishes to purchase some items please send them in with the correct change or donation next week.

Outside Achievements

We have a number of outside achievements to celebrate this week. They were shared in our Worship this morning and we hope to inspire more of you to share your outside achievements with us in school! Well done, we are very proud of you all!

We are also proud of **Mrs Lodge** as she has attended her Worcester University Graduation today, to receive her Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Special and Inclusive Education) An amazing achievement for Mrs Lodge and St Matthias who will benefit from her expert SEND knowledge.



Oliver Y3, got man of the match, his team won 8-0!



Freya Y6, took part in the Worcester Life Stories exhibition over the half term. She made a cityscape of Worcester inspired by the exhibition at the Worcester museum. It was brilliant! She signed it with her name and St Matthias School.

<https://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk/events/worcester-life-stories-exhibition/>

Lily Y6, for gaining her 800m swim badge and certificate.

Tianna Y2 and Darcey Y4, for gaining their stage 8 Gymnastics proficiency award

Gracie Y5, completed stage 6 at her swimming club.

Scarlett Y5, gained her 'cycling' cubs badge and added it to her collection!



Attendance

There are 365 days in a calendar year, 175 of them are not school days – that's plenty of time for shopping, days out, parties, 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 183 out of the 190 school days. The table below shows class attendance statistics for this week.

Congratulations to the 111 children who had 100% attendance for October and to the 76 children who have 100% for the whole first half term! Amazing Achievement!

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	88.5%	12	Year 3	97.6%	7
Reception	96.4%	8	Year 4	92.9%	15
Year 1	93.8%	8	Year 5	95.7%	11
Year 2	91.0%	18	Year 6	96.6%	10
There are two sessions in every day, am and pm. All children from Yrs R - 6 attend 10 sessions per week.					

Well done to Years R, 3 and 6 for above 96% attendance. Well done to Year 3 for the least amount of missing sessions.

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. Hope, 1. Kai, 2. Jacob, 3. Evie-May & Ledjana, 4. Anisia 5. Caitlyn, 6. Eveline.

Value Leaf (for showing Peace): R. Isaac, 1. Ella, 2. Stanley, 3. Lily, 4. Michael, 5. Valters, 6. Niamh

Spotted (Improved spelling): R. Sofia, 1. Shanti, 2. Evie, 3. Coby, 4. Owen, 5. Elizabeth, 6. Freya

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times this week): William Yr2

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside) Pippa Yr 1

Achievements Outside School - So Many this week; please see Page 3 for details - Well Done All !



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 Peace

John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

Hebrews 12:14 "Make every effort to live in peace with everyone"

Dalai Lama "Do not let the behaviour of others destroy your inner peace"

Gandhi "The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will have peace".

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.

Teachers will be on the look out this half term for children who are really trying hard to be peaceful and to make peace with the children and adults in their lives.

Heavenly Father, We lift up all those who are facing various illnesses. Give them the hope and courage they need today and every day. Comfort their pain, calm their fears, and surround them with Your **peace**. **Amen**.



NOTICEBOARD



Reminders

Whole School Events

Nasal Flu Vaccine (Yrs R - 6)
Wednesday 24th November (am)

Christmas Service 8th December

Christmas Jumper Day to raise money for Save The Children.
Friday 10th December.

Christingle Service 15th December

Class Events

Year 2 Farm Nativity Trip
Thursday 2nd December.

Year 1 Commandery History Trip
Thursday 9th December.

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 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

SCHOOL CLOSES

Friday 17th December 2021.

SPRING TERM 2022

Staff Training Day

Tuesday 4th January 2022

SCHOOL OPENS

Wednesday 5th January 2022

HALF TERM BREAK

Saturday 19th to Sunday 27th February

SCHOOL CLOSES

Thursday 7th April 2022

Staff Training Day

Friday 8th April 2022