

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 7th November 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back after the half term break – we hope you had a lovely half term with your families.

Mrs Howden Update.

During half term, Mrs O'Connor, Miss Williams and I were in school when a very special visitor popped in! We were elated to see Mrs Howden! Mrs Howden is looking really well following her stem cell cancer treatment, although it has been a very tough few months for her. She has very little/ no immune system so is unable to meet people in large crowds or busy places, so it was a real treat to be able to catch up with her and we felt very privileged as it was one of her first times she had been able to go out! She is now preparing for another round of chemotherapy just before Christmas. I am always amazed at Mrs Howdens faith, strength and positivity through a really gruelling process of fighting cancer. I know a few others in our community will appreciate this as we hold others in our thoughts and prayers too. For healing and strength - Psalm 23:4 'Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me.'



School Photographs Proofs Out Today

I know a few parents have asked about the school photographs. You should have received the proofs today, if your child is absent we will have the proof safe for you. There will be a closing date of 17th November for the ordering process so please act quickly to avoid disappointment. Orders done before 17th November will be delivered to school.

Remembrance Day Fund Raising.

We have some Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal merchandise left. Thank you for all your donations. The RBL will collect the funds on Tuesday next week so Monday will be the last day of that items will be available.



Parent Questionnaire

What do you and your child/children think about St Matthias?

The governors and school staff appreciate feedback from parents in order to continue to make further improvements for the children of St Matthias. All views are confidential and taken seriously.

We strongly encourage you to click on this link [Parent Questionnaire November 2025 – Fill in form](#) to complete our questionnaire to share your views. The closing date for the parent questionnaire is Friday 28th November 2025; if you would prefer a paper copy to complete please inform the office.

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; 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.'*



Creation Station Experience in Partnership with St Matthias Church.

This week, Years 1-4 visited St Matthias Church for a Creation Station Experience.

There are many different creation stories from around the world.

Mrs Cook welcomed the children (they were very excited to see Mrs Cook!) and they talked about what we might create, for example a model and then the children shared how they feel when people really like their creations or how they feel when their creation has been spoilt.

The children heard how Christians use a special book called the Holy Bible to learn about creation. Christians believe that it is God who designed, planned and made everything. 'God looked at what he made and saw that it was good.'

When God made people, he made them in his own image. He made them special and gave them the responsibility to look after our world.

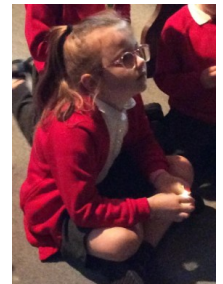
At each station, the children thought about what was good.



Station 1 - Light and Dark, Day and Night

Here the children saw that separating the light from darkness was good - sunlight, moonlight and starlight. God made a brighter light to rule the day and a smaller light to rule the night.

They heard how light in churches is also very important, for Christians, **Jesus is the Light of the World.**



To help experience the importance of light and darkness, children held a tea light in a darker space and also created a scratch-card picture, noticing how bright the colour/light is against the black card.

Station 2 - (Font) Dry Land and Water

Here the children learnt that water is very important. A lack of clean water and water pollution affect many different places and people. Some people may have to walk a long way to collect clean water, not everyone can turn on taps.

They heard how important water is for the Church, during Baptism. Holy Water washes away all the old stuff and means we can start again - it's a new beginning.

To help understand this concept, children scribbled on a sheet of plastic to represent the messiness, for example when we have done things wrong or have hurt other people and they then put the scribble in the water and washed it clean.



This symbolises **God's forgiveness.**

Station 3 - Green and Growing

At this time of year, we celebrate Harvest and the children thought about how some people in the world do not have the same amount to eat.

They heard how important food is for the Bible; sharing a meal, coming together is something that happens a lot. We thought about the Feeding of the 5,000 and The Last Supper.

In Church, sharing bread and wine together is a special time. The children had a small glass of squash or water and a piece of bread to eat together.



Station 4 - Birds and Fish

Christians believe that God created everything - sea creatures and flying creatures. The children discussed how pollution can harm birds and fish.

They learnt that fish in the Bible are important, some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen. Many stories and miracles involved fish.

A fish was a symbol of the early Church. If you were a Christian and you wanted to make sure that you were talking to another Christians, you would make a sign in the sand with your foot and if the other person was a Christian and understood the sign, they would complete the fish.

To experience this, children practised drawing the symbol of the fish and coloured it in.



Station 5 - Those with Legs

Christians believe that God created humans in his image.

The children looked in a mirror and looked at their fingerprints to understand how we are all unique, there has only ever been one of you.

The Bible tells us that we are fearfully and wonderfully made so thought about how we should greet each other.

Children took a wooden heart and they could write their own name or someone else's name as a reminder of how loved and special and unique they are.



Station 6 - And...Relax

The Bible tells us that after the sky, the earth and all that filled them were finished, God rested on the seventh day from all the work he had done in creating the world.

Rest is important, it helps our bodies to recover, it helps us to feel better - we have more energy and feel great.

The Bible tells us how Jesus rested - he took time away from the crowds and all the work he was doing, to pray.

At this station the children lay down together and listened to music; they closed their eyes and breathed slowly.



Anti-Bullying Week



Anti-Bullying Week Monday 10th November - Friday 14th November 2025

This year the theme for Anti-Bullying Week is 'The Power of Good'.

Our School Council introduced the theme in our Collective Worship on Thursday this week.

Every year, bullying impacts the lives of countless young people and silence helps it grow. That is why, next weeks Anti-Bullying Week, we're empowering young people to use their 'Power for Good' to safely speak up and raise awareness when they see bullying, face to face or online.

Lasting change needs all of us. From playgrounds to parliament, our homes to our phones — we all have a part to play.

Together, we can use our Power for Good to end bullying — for good.

Kindness Challenge!

At St Matthias, we have set ourselves a challenge and next week we are going to express our 'Power of Good' by living out our Christian Vision and '*being the best version of ourselves*' - we are going to 'Measure the Power of Kindness.'

Each class has decided upon 6 acts of kindness (suitable to their age) and created a tally chart to record how many acts of kindness each child completes or if someone else sees them do something, they can be awarded a point.

To measure the power of kindness, children are collecting 'Power of Good' points for their house team - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Next Friday, the House Captains will total the number of acts of kindness shown and we will reveal the winning house the following week!

Please join in with us at home and let your class teacher via Dojo know if your child shows acts of kindness - at home and in the community.

On **MONDAY 10th November**, we would like to invite children and staff to wear **odd socks**. This raises awareness and gives everyone the opportunity to express themselves, by celebrating their individuality and what makes us **all unique**, while also being respectful. 'Respect' is one of our school rules, so we are very familiar about how we can be considerate and show respect!



Parent and Carer Information

It is important for parents and carers to be able to start conversations with their children about bullying no matter the age of your child. [Click here](#) for a parent and carer resource pack to help bring Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks day to life at home. This resource pack is not only a tool for parents to use during Anti-Bullying Week, but it is useful at any stage of a child's life and at any moment. It tells you what bullying is and there is a very useful part on advice to give your child if they need some help. There is also advice on how to approach school to discuss the matter in a calm and focused way aiming for a resolution.

Kidscape

Kidscape have a super website with advice for parents and children with leaflets.

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/>

Parent Advice Line: Open Mondays and Tuesdays 9.30am-2.30pm

Parent Advice Line: 0300 102 4481

WhatsApp: 07496 682785 Or Email them via their website: <https://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/parent-advice-line/>



Celebration Worship Awards

Every Friday we hold a 'Celebration Worship' to give out awards to our children to celebrate their achievements. On the last Friday of each month Nursery also join our Friday celebration worship.

Certificate for effort: R. Dante, 1. Bella, 2. Enrico, 3. Albie, 4. Enzo, 5/6. David.

Value Leaf for showing "Peace": R. Ella-jade, 1. Aurora, 2. Grace, 3. Louie, 4. Eva, 5/6. Loki.

Spotted for correcting Spellings & Grammar: R. Cayson, 1. John, 2. Ayla, 3. Heidi, 4. Oakley, 5/6. Jacob.

Book Prize Draw Winner for children who have read five times this week: Ella D Yr 3

Lunchtime Award for children who have demonstrated our school values outside: Charlie S Yr 5

Thank you to the parents who were able to join us this morning !



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.**

Outside Achievements

It was lovely to celebrate outside achievements this week. We always enjoy hearing about all the different activities and achievements your child has completed as it can inspire others.

Please let Mrs Beale know about the outside achievement and send a photograph via Class Dojo if you have one so we can also celebrate this on a Friday morning and in the weekly newsletter.

Heidi Y3 for gaining horse riding confidence, being able to ride a pony independently without lead rein which is a massive achievement to be able to control a pony independently. We are proud of you for now starting your beginner level in the horse riding programme. Keep up the super work and enjoy being with a beautiful animal!

Congratulations We are proud of you.



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Attendance - The table below shows class attendance statistics for this week; the certificate will be given out next week.



	Percentage	Days Missed		Percentage	Days Missed
Nursery	95.3%	3 days	Year 3	93.3%	6 days
Reception	97.3%	2 days	Year 4	95.4%	5.5 days
Year 1	89.3%	8.5 days	Year 5/6	94.2%	5.5 days
Year 2	97.2%	4 days	Whole School	94.8%	38.5 days

There are two sessions in every day, am and pm. All children from Yrs R - 6 attend 10 sessions per week.

Congratulations to Reception for the best attendance this week with 97.3%. Well Done!

St Matthias ATTENDANCE for pupils - Nursery to Year 6

As a school, we have a legal duty to keep you informed of your child’s attendance; so you will receive a text for each of your children telling you their attendance percentage for each month as we go through the school year.

These texts are not intended to cause offence, they are merely to keep you up to date with your child’s progress so far this school year. We understand that in most cases we have had valid reasons for these absences.

At St Matthias we believe that good attendance and punctuality are vital for a child to progress to the best of their ability. Even in the Nursery and Reception classes, absences cause a rift in the child’s education and can also disrupt their friendship groups. Our expectation is for every child to have an attendance of 96% or above, including in our Nursery class. Good punctuality and regular attendance get a child into good habits for their future school and work life. Please only keep your child at home if they are genuinely ill. If a dose of Calpol or similar will keep them ticking through the day, then please send them to school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

An amazing 79 pupils had 100% and a further 27 pupils had over 95% in September. So out of 152 pupils 106 attained our target. Well done!

An amazing 82 pupils had 100% and a further 4 pupils had over 95% in October. So out of 152 pupils 86 attained our target. Well done!

Both months prize winners for 100% a gift voucher will be drawn on Monday in our worship.

Attendance Ladder



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Odd Socks Day

Monday 10th November

Anti Bullying Week

10th to 14th November

School Open Morning

Tuesday 18th November 9.30-11.00_{am}

CLASS EVENTS

Year 5/6 Cadbury World Trip

Friday 21st November

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Who to contact in school

MRS LEWIS (Works Mon, Tue, Thu + Fri) for:- Attendance issues, (reasons for absences if possible contact us before 9.15am), medical issues, to request forms, changes 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 Telephone 01684 574984

MRS JAMES (Works Mon to 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 email finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk or Phone 01684 574984 and ask to speak to Mrs James.

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>

Worcestershire Virtual Family Hub



SCAN ME

Scan this QR code to access support for you and your family. There are a range of resources that are available online, on the phone or face to face, that you can access yourself.

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](#))

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 about a child.

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

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

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

TERM DATES & HOLIDAYS

AUTUMN TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

at 8.40am Monday 3rd November 2025

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

at 3.15pm Friday 19th December 2025

SPRING TERM

Staff Training

Monday 5th January 2026 – School Closed

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

at 8.40am Tuesday 6th January 2026

HALF TERM BREAK

Saturday 14th to Sunday 22nd February

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

at 8.40am Monday 23rd February 2026

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

at 3.15pm Friday 27th March 2026 for Easter

SPRING TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

at 8.40am Monday 13th April 2026



With the support of



This **ANTI-BULLYING WEEK** we are holding

ODD SOCKS DAY on MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025



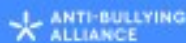
Come to school wearing your odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique!

If you're worried about bullying you can speak to ...

#OddSocksDay
#AntiBullyingWeek
#PowerForGood



↳ National Children's Bureau - registered charity no. 238823, registered in England and Wales No. 950793. Registered office: 23 Westmore Terrace, London, SE 18 6PU. A company limited by guarantee.



ORGANISER



PARTNER



PARTNER



St Matthias C of E Primary School

Nursery to Year 6

'ASPIRE, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE'



All welcome to our Open Morning!

Starting school in September 2026 or 2027
or interested in visiting our friendly and
caring school?

Come and meet our amazing team and
see our school in action!



ALL CURRENT PARENTS ARE WELCOME

OPEN MORNING

Tuesday 18th November

9.30am-11am

No booking needed

01684 574984

Cromwell Rd, Malvern, WR14 1NA

admin@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

Website:

<https://www.stmatthiasceprimary.co.uk/>

Our School Vision

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.'

