

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 13th February 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

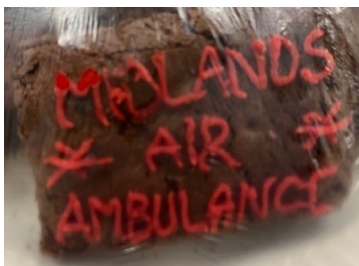
We have arrived at February half term; we do hope that next half term might have less rain and more Spring like weather! It has been a packed end of the half term with lots of activities going on in school, read on to find out more! With this newsletter is also a Parent Governor nomination form. If you would like to be part of our Governing Body please complete the form emailed or call in at the office for a paper copy.

West Midlands Air Ambulance Fundraising- 'Bake it Red Day'.

Thank you to our School Council and Mrs Philgence for organising our yearly charity fund raising for the 'Air Ambulance.' The Air Ambulance is such an important charity as it is run entirely on funds raised by donations and events like we have held today. All the Malvern schools were invited by the Air Ambulance charity to raise money this week by showing their love for the Air Ambulance service and wearing as much red as possible. Last year over 30 schools signed up, I think this year will be similar!

The cake donation for the 'Bake it Red Day' was amazing, thank you so much to everyone who donated cakes and to everyone who bought cakes.

The money raised for the Midlands Air Ambulance was £170.32p



Lent Challenge Wednesday 18th February to Thursday 2nd April 2026

Next week, during half term, marks the start of Lent. Attached with this newsletter is a Lent Challenge which lasts for 40 days, representing the time Jesus spent 40 days and nights in the wilderness. Lent is a time of preparation for Easter, similar to waiting for Christmas during Advent. To remember Jesus' sacrifice some Christians 'give something up' for example eating chocolate or a favourite snack, or 'Do More,' instead of giving up something some Christians are encouraged to have positive habits or complete acts of kindness or donate to charity. We are providing families, with this newsletter, an 'Act—Family Wallchart' which suggests some lovely acts of kindness or activities to complete each day. It does not have to cost anything and it can be completed as a family. I know our local church, St Matthias, will also be taking part. Do let us know how you get on if you choose to take part!



'Generosity isn't just something we do once; it's something we practise. It grows when we repeat it, day by day.' 'Every person in this school helps to shape what it feels like to be here. Kind actions, friendly words, and careful choices all add up. A kind school doesn't happen by accident – it happens when people choose kindness again and again.'

Have a lovely half term, see you on Monday 23rd February at 8.40am

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.'



Internet Safety Day – Tuesday 10th February

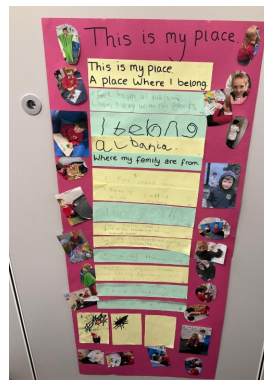
Everyone's talking about AI, and with many children and young people hearing about and using AI online, it's important they have the skills and confidence to make safe choices when they are using smart technology.

This Safer Internet Day we explored the impact of AI on all of our lives, looking at how AI can be used for good, and giving advice and guidance that empowers people to use AI safely and responsibly. We have spent time this week exploring and discussing all things AI across the school.



Children's Mental Health Week 2026

This week we are celebrating 'Children's Mental Health Week!' The theme this year is 'This is My Place' where we encouraged our friends, school family and communities to create a sense of belonging. Classes across the school spent time thinking about what mental health is and how it is ok to experience a range of different emotions. Children discussed what they could do if they have uncomfortable feelings. Across the school children took part in different activities to promote positive mental health and also create a sense of belonging.



Let's Connect with Sewing!

Year 3 invited parents and carers into class this week to help complete their DT project! It was very well attended; thank you adults for supporting and being so creative! Sewing is very tricky and more eyes and fingers certainly helped complete their project!



SEND Information

This information has been shared with us by the NHS: ADHD and Autism – Right to Choose for under 18s

Every patient in England has the right to choose an alternative NHS commissioned provider of health services:

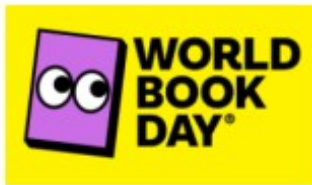
- At the point of referral or
- Where the waiting list for the referred service is longer than 18 weeks

Right to Choose applies to autism and ADHD assessments for children under the age of 18 years.

NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire has published some information for parent carers about Right to Choose, which includes a list of the accredited Right to Choose providers:

[ADHD AUTISM Right to Choose under 18s v 8 Jan 26](#)

If you would like to discuss this further please contact Mrs Joyce by email, telephone or ClassDojo.



World Book Day 2026

World Book Day is one of our favourite days of the year!
To celebrate, we have organised a range of exciting,
book-related events on **Friday 6th March**.



Read on to find out more!

Dress as an adjective!

Are you sleepy? Sporty, wise or colourful? Graceful, scientific or maybe even adventurous? Well, on Friday 6th March, come dressed as a word and join the vocabulary parade! Make sure your word is displayed clearly and celebrate our love of descriptive words!



Breakfast and a book

Children will be welcomed into class, on Friday 6th March at 8.40am with toast, fruit and a box of books to enjoy. To celebrate World Book Day and to mark the start of the National Year of Reading, we will enjoy some quality time with a good book in our classrooms!

'Reading for Pleasure' in our House teams

This year, we have enjoyed spending time in our houses (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) with special Let's Connect time. On World Book Day, the house teams will meet and our teachers and house captains will read their favourite bedtime stories to the children.

Family Reading Café - Friday 6th March

Come and join us for our St Matthias Reading Café on World Book Day from 3.30pm – 4.00pm. We will provide the books, refreshments and space for you to share a story with your child/ren and enjoy exploring books together!

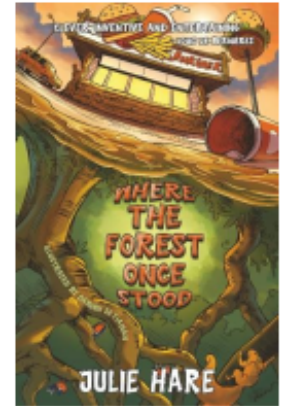



Book Swap (Every Day!)

You don't have to wait for World Book Day to take advantage of our 'Book Swap Library' in our front reception area – just borrow a book and when you've finished reading it, swap it for another!

Whole-School Poetry Unit


During the week, every class will study poetry taken from the book 'Where the Forest Once Stood'. On the theme of the natural world and caring for our planet, each class will enjoy writing and reciting poetry. We have a focus on improving our oracy skills, so learning to perform a poem and present it to an audience will be a key task this week. We will celebrate the children's learning in a special poetry recital assembly on Friday 6th March.





WORLD BOOK DAY
5 March 2026


£1 Book Token



Choose your £1 book for free!

Children, families & educators: This token is for single-use only and entitles children (under 18) to ONE FREE World Book Day 2026 book or £1 off a book or audiobook costing £2.99 or more in participating booksellers only, subject to stock availability.
Find your nearest participating bookseller at worldbookday.com/books-and-tokens/participating-retailers/
Full terms and conditions: worldbookday.com/terms-conditions
Retailers: Full terms and conditions: worldbookday.com/booksellers/
Promoter: World Book Day® is a registered charity (no. 2079257) and registered company (no. 03783096) in the UK. World Book Day and the associated logo are the registered trademarks of World Book Day Limited.
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Valid from 12 February - 15 March 2026




Win Yoto's ultimate reading bundle!

Discover the incredible world of audiobooks with Yoto. Win a **Yoto Player** and **up to £200** worth of Yoto cards from the large library selection in Yoto's card store.

To enter and for full terms and conditions go to worldbookday.com/yoto-competition.

One entry per person. Winners will be notified shortly after 15 March 2026.

Prize promotion runs from 12 February to 15 March 2026.



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Celebration Worship Awards

Every Friday we hold a 'Celebration Worship' to give out awards to our children to celebrate their achievements.

Certificates (Effort in their work): R. Daniel, 1. John, 2. Logan, 3. Maddie, 4. Sym, 5/6. Jasmine.

Value Leaf for showing "DIGNITY": R. Keira, 1. Florence, 2. Elsie-Ann, 3. Imogen, 4. Lexi, 5/6. Jacob.

Spotted (Improve Handwriting & Editing): R. Ada, 1. Ivy, 2. Paisley, 3. Lyla, 4. Albie, 5/6. Kai.

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times): Jake Yr 5

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside): Bella Yr 2

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



Dignity



As a church school, every half term we concentrate on an important value for life.

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.

Dignity



Our Value this half term is DIGNITY "Dignity — to behave in a composed or serious manner."

Matthew 19:14 "Let the children come to me for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

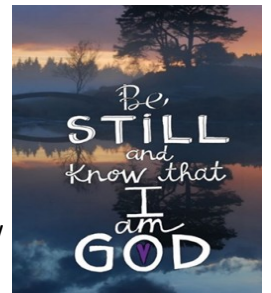
Peter 2:17 "Treat everyone you meet with dignity."

Dalai Lama "Love for others and respect for their rights and **dignity**, no matter who or what they are: ultimately these are all we need."

Gandhi "The truest test of civilization, culture and **dignity** is character and not clothing."

Teachers will be on the look out this half term for children who are really trying hard to show dignity in lessons and around school.

Let's all be dignified in our lives especially through challenging times.



Mr Salmon's Cross-Country Club

Cross-Country Club ventured out onto Malvern Link Common this week with Mr Salmon and it felt like a scene from "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" - yes we went through it! The children are working so hard and have been developing technique, running interval sprints as well as increasing distance and endurance. Running in the mud on the common and hearing the children laughing so much whilst exercising was just what it is all about! Well done everyone and I can't wait for more runs after half-term... maybe even up the hills!



Dealing with Ice, Snow & Prolonged Winter Weather

If the weather is very frosty or snowy, the caretaker and I will assess whether the access to school is safe enough for adults and children to use the usual entrances and whether the playgrounds are safe enough to cross. Worcestershire County Council have circulated their recommendations which were discussed and agreed at a recent Governors' Meeting.

It is recommended, for best effect, to salt our school front entrance only prior to freezing conditions. We will close all other access routes on bottom playgrounds and all children will enter by the main entrance. All adults and children are asked to be extra careful to avoid slipping and be aware that the entrance will be congested and everyone needs to help each other by not rushing and making sure they wait in a sensible way. I'm sure that you will all be patient and kind to each other.

Please note we are not allowed to clear pavements or roads so you need to take extra care.

We will text all staff and parents at about 8.15am if we are going to close the gates by the church path.



Mentor Link-advert



Children's charity Mentor Link are looking to recruit new Volunteer Mentors, who can spare 1-2 hours a week to help children with social and emotional issues, who may be struggling with engaging in education and attending school, suffering with anxiety, low self-esteem, friendship or relationship issues, and need a listening ear to help make a difference!

If you feel you can help at a different school to the one your child attends, please contact Mentor Link on 01299 822336 or email enquiries@mentorlink.org.uk

Absences

Mrs Lewis is the person responsible for keeping our registers up to date & is the one who needs to know. Please remember to let Mrs Lewis know by email or phone before 9am if your child is going to be absent.

Thank you.

At St Matthias we continue to aim for our school New target of 100% attendance.

Our school gates open at 8.40am and learning starts immediately at 8.45am.

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

The table below shows class attendance statistics for this week the winning class certificate will be given out next Friday in the award assembly.



Attendance Statistics <u>This Week</u>	N	R	1	2	3	4	5/6	School
Number of Pupils who have been absent	7	5	5	10	6	6	8	47
Total Number of Sessions Missed	18	14	12	30	25	11	29	139
Class Percentage	89.8	91.1	92.9	89.7	86.8	95.6	91.2%	91.1%
There are two sessions per day, am and pm. All children from Yrs R - 6 attend 10 sessions per week and Nursery children are expected to attend all of their booked sessions.								

Congratulations to Year 4 for the best attendance this week. Well done!



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

World Book Day
Friday 6th March
Information out soon.

Parent Evenings
16, 17th & 18th March
No activity clubs this week.

Activity Clubs end at Easter.

CLASS EVENTS

Yr 4 Footy Team (10 pupils)
Tuesday 24th February

Reception Eye Tests
Thursday 26th February
Please return forms

Year 6 Athletics Festival
Friday 27th February

5 Year old Dental Checks
Wednesday 4th March
Please return Forms

Year 3 Trip Lower Smite Farm
Thursday 5th March

Year 5/6 Hartlebury Castle Trip
Wednesday 11th March
Letter out soon.

Who to contact in school

MRS LEWIS Works Mon, Tue, Thu + Fri for:- Attendance issues, (reasons for absences if possible contact us **before 9.00am**), medical issues, to request forms, change 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 phone 01684 574984

MRS JAMES Works Mon, Tue, 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 phone 01684 574984 and ask to be put through to her, or email finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

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>

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 of a child.

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

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

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

Report Scam Emails - forward them to report@phishing.gov.uk

TERM DATES & HOLIDAYS

SPRING TERM

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

SUMMER TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

at 8.40am Monday 13th April 2026

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY

Monday 4th May 2026

HALF TERM BREAK

Saturday 23rd May to Monday 1st June

Staff Training

Monday 1st June 2026 - School Closed

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

at 8.40am Tuesday 2nd June 2026

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

at 3.15pm Friday 17th July 2026.