



St Matthias Newsletter



Friday 27th March 2026

St Matthias Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Virginia Beale

Cromwell Road, Malvern Link, Worcestershire, WR14 1NA.

Telephone or Facsimile 01684 574984

Email: head@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

Website: www.stmatthiasceprimary.co.uk



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It has been a very eventful and fun packed week to end this Spring Term. Thank you to all the staff, children, parents and governors for making this term another successful one! We have had lots of visitors in school, including SIAMs inspectors, external visitors and governor learning walks; all remarked on how engaged the children are in their learning, how positive the children are about school and what a lovely atmosphere and working vibe. We are very proud of the children at St Matthias. We wish you all a very relaxing Easter holiday and look forward to seeing you at **8.40am on Monday 13th April**.

Worcestershire Education Awards

Last night, a number of staff attended the Worcestershire Education Awards, as Mrs Joyce (SENCO award), Mrs James (Business Manager award) and our Primary School had been selected as finalists for the award ceremony. There were over 300 nominations this year and they all go to a panel of judges who select 3 finalists for each of the 12 categories. We felt immensely proud to have been invited to the award ceremony amongst some very worthy educationalists.

The winners were chosen by an independent panel of judges.

We had a wonderful evening and I am thrilled to share that Mrs Joyce won SENCO of the Year award and Mrs James won Business Manager of the Year award. I am so proud of them both and our whole staff as it is such an honour to be part of this prestigious event.



Maternity Leave – Mrs Cottrell

We are hoping to welcome back Mrs Cottrell back after Easter for just one week before she starts her maternity leave, (as long as baby boy holds on. We want to wish Mrs Cottrell all the very best and will give her a goodbye and good luck when we return. Miss Earle, who knows the Year 3 class well, will be covering Mrs Cottrell's maternity leave for the rest of this academic year. Miss Earle will not be attached to ClassDojo, so any messages for her are to please come via Mrs Beale or Mr Thompson on ClassDojo or through Mrs Lewis in the office. Thank you

Mrs Howden

We have also welcomed back Mrs Howden in the last few weeks of this term. It is absolutely brilliant to have her back at St Matthias. She has smashed her cancer treatment and is now continuing with treatment weekly for a short while. I know you will welcome her back as we have when you see her more regularly after Easter. We are proud of you Mrs Howden!

**Have a peaceful Easter
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.'



Easter Service

Our Easter service was held on Wednesday 25th March. Thank you to Rev. James for welcoming and blessing our service and Ness for helping us with the music and all the parents and carers who were able to attend. It was a lovely service which was led by the children. Our Year 5/6 readers took us through the Easter story journey and led us with British Sign Language while singing "For God so loved the world", the rest of the school reflected on Easter through prayers, artwork, drama, song and dance. Each class had their own special part to play, with Nursery and Reception waving palms during 'The Donkey Song' and our Year 3 children informed us about Salvation. Year 2 re-enacted "The Last Supper" through role play. Year 1 children entertained us with a dance to 'Easter Jubilation' Year 4 started and ended our service with prayer and our Nurture group shared their beautiful stained glass window artwork. It was a very fitting end to our Spring Term wishing everyone a very happy Easter break.



Easter Egg Wall Fundraising Event

Mrs James has been selling little bricks for our Easter Egg Wall fundraising event. Thank you to everyone who bought bricks; we also decided to put a free brick in the pot for every child so no one missed out. We have been overwhelmed by the amount of donation of Easter Eggs for this event.

A massive thank you to parents who donated eggs, Morrisons who donated 12 mini egg eggs and a special thank you to Mr Edy and the Malvern Hills Round Table club who donated a very generous 50 Easter Eggs. He also made links with our local Aldi store who donated 25 Easter eggs and the very kind staff there who donated another 12 through personal donations. We are immensely grateful for the generosity from everyone. The amazing £130.00 funds collected will go back to the children and towards a resources for classrooms, curriculum and playtimes.

Thank you all.

A whole school event is also being planned for next academic year in October 2026.



Easter Bonnet Workshops

We were wonderfully pleased at how many parents came to our Easter bonnet workshop on Thursday morning and afternoon this week. The children were very excited to work with families and friends to create their Easter Bonnet masterpieces. They were so proud of their final designs! Thank you to everyone who was able to attend!



Easter Bonnet Parade!

There is always great cheer when we parade our Easter Bonnets through the playground. Lots of clapping and encouragement with proud children and unique hats. We love this event, especially with so many smiles and the weather just about held up for us! Thank you parents for staying a little longer on the playground to view this event!



Dentist Visit to Reception Class

EYFS guidelines require settings to actively promote good oral health, emphasizing twice-daily brushing with fluoride toothpaste (1000+ ppm), reduced sugar intake, and regular dentist visits. Yesterday, we had two Sophie's visit us with their pet dragon and they taught us about the importance of parents supervising toothbrushing, using smear/pea-sized toothpaste amounts, and educating on tooth-friendly snacks. All of the children got a special sticker for joining in and took home a tooth brushing chart.



WELL DRESSING – Our Traditional May Bank Holiday Event

After Easter we will be focusing on our traditional Well Dressing for May Bank Holiday weekend. The theme this year is 'Birds.' This is a very broad topic so we have already started thinking about how we can fill the space at Lord Sandy's Spout in Spring Lane.

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP WITH DONATIONS, we are looking for some donations to help us with our designs. The classes will need; colourful material, green fabric, sheets, brightly coloured socks, small plastic bottles (500ml), large plastic bottles(1-2l), cardboard boxes, plastic bottle lids, plastic bags, egg boxes, brightly coloured feathers, tissue paper, newspaper, magazines, old wrapping paper, fabric scraps or old clothing, natural materials, like twigs, leaves, blue and white flower petals, moss etc, chicken wire and a garden fork !!!

We would be most grateful .

Kind Act - Thank you!

A huge thank you to Mr Brookes who spotted that our gutters at the front of school were overflowing! He and his work colleagues brought some ladders and cleared the gutters, so they now won't overflow when it rains! We are really grateful!

REMINDERS

Black Pepper Lunches

Please order your child's Black Pepper Lunches online before midnight on Saturday 12th April. You need to order them even if your child is entitled to Free School Meals (FSM). All children in Years 1 , 2 and Reception are entitled to Universal Free School Meals (UFSM).

Activity Clubs

Club booking forms were sent out last Friday, please return them on the first day back in school. These clubs will commence on 20th April.

Whizz Kids Wrap Around Care

Booking form were also sent out last Friday. Please ensure you have booked what you need in advance. This service is getting busier and we always need to ensure we have the correct ratios of adults to children.

Year 2 Trip to the Safari Park

Year 2 and our Nurture group had a wonderful day out on Tuesday at The West Midland's Safari Park. The day started with a drive around the park looking at the safari animals, we were very lucky as most of the animals were out of their hide aways and entertaining the visitors. We saw giraffes, hippopotamus, lions and lioness, elephants and penguins to name but a few. After the drive around the children had lunch and then explored the park. The Nurture group explored the dinosaur area, reptile house and insect house. The rest of Year 2 took part in an African village guided tour. We all had a wonderful day and we were very proud of all the children. There were definitely some sleeping lions on the way back to school!



Outside Achievements

It was lovely to celebrate our outside achievements this week. We always enjoy hearing about all the different activities and achievements your children have completed as it will inspire others.

Isabelle Y5 for taking part in the Cross Country Finals last weekend as she qualified for them during our local Y5/6 Cross Country event with school a few months ago. We are especially proud of Isabelle as this was a tough event and her first one of its kind. Isabelle completed the race, she did not give up and we are very proud of her! Thank you for representing our school and for believing in yourself as we do! Congratulations what an achievement!

Ralphee Y5 for achieving 'Player of the Match' during his football match on Saturday. We are really proud of you and know you are a real team player and deserve this recognition. Well done!

Marlee-Mae Y5 For starting a new hobby and enjoying her first lesson of 'jujitsu.' We hope you continue to enjoy the lessons and can't wait to hear about your achievements going forward. Well done.



Hope



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.

Hope



Our Value this half term is "Hope"

Isaiah 40:31 "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint"

Gandhi "What is true of the individual will be tomorrow true of the whole nation if individuals refuse to lose heart and hope."

Dalai Lama "When faced with problems don't lose hope. Keep up your self confidence and don't be too impatient to achieve quick results."

Mother Teresa "Never lose hope. Never lose faith. The living has a great hope, we have life to bounce back from any difficulty"."

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

Don't forget...

- 1,at the end of every month all children with 100% have their names put into a hat and one lucky child wins a gift voucher.
- 2,at the end of every full term (ie. 3 times a year) all children with 100% have their names put into a hat and one lucky child wins a gift voucher.
- 3,at the end of every full year ALL children with 100% are rewarded with a gift voucher!

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

67 amazing pupils had 100% in March. An extra 40 children had above 95%.

So out of 165 pupils 107 attained our target. Well done to those children!

The £10 gift voucher prize winner for March 2026 will be drawn after Easter !

32 amazing pupils had 100% in the Spring Term, from January to Easter. An extra 63 children had above 95%. So out of 165 pupils 95 children attained our target. Well done to those children!

The £10 gift voucher prize winner for the Spring Term 2026 will be drawn after Easter !



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	8	4	4	9	8	7	9	49
Total Number of Sessions Missed	23	11	10	17	23	25	24	133
Class Percentage	86.8	92.6	94.1	94.1	87.9	90.0	92.7	91.4%
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 Years 1 and 2 for the best attendance this week. Well done KS1 !

No classes had over 95% this week!



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

New Activity Club form came home last Friday, please fill in a form for your child to join a club. New Activity Clubs will commence on **20th April**.

School Photographer in to do Class Groups and Leavers Packs Thursday 4th June

CLASS EVENTS

Year 3 History Man - Greeks
Wednesday 22nd April

Year 4 History Man - Romans
Wednesday 22nd April

Year 6 Dysons Yr 7 Headteacher to meet pupils going in Sept.
Monday 27th April.

Year 1 Jewish Culture
Monday 11th May

Year 4 Think Tank Science Trip
Wednesday 20th May

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

SUMMER TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN **at 8.40am** Monday 13th April 2026

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY Monday 4th May 2026 - School Closed

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.

AUTUMN TERM (New Academic Year)

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN **at 8.40am** Thursday 3rd September 2026

EASTER Family Club



Enjoy lunch together, explore the story of the Last Supper with a short interactive talk, then get creative with a range of Easter activities including:

- Egg rolling challenge
- Easter crafts to take home
- Make spring animals and flowers
- Build a giant Easter garden together
- Decorate eggs and Easter cards
- Make a Holy Week mini book

St Matthias Church | 2nd April | 12:30 to 2pm



EASTER EVENTS

28TH MARCH - 12TH APRIL

Lego® Club:

Every Saturday, 10:00 - 11:30am (Free & drop-in)

Rat-a-tat Tales:

Every Saturday & Sunday, 11am & 3pm (Free & drop-in)

Stay & Play Dad's Group:

Saturday 28th March, 10:30am - 12:00pm (Free & drop-in)

Little Sprouts:

Sunday 29th March, 1:30 - 2:30pm (Bookable: Tickets are £1.50)

Jigsaw Club:

Sunday 29th March & Sunday 12th April, 10am - 12pm (Free & drop-in)

Make & Take Easter Animal Puppets:

Monday 30th March, 10 - 11am & 11am - 12pm (Bookable: Tickets are £1)

Earth Day:

Tuesday 31st March

Wacky Wednesday:

Every Wednesday, 13:30 - 3:00pm (Free & drop-in)

Family Film:

Wednesday 1st April & 8th April, 10am - 12pm & 1 - 3pm (Free & drop-in)

Junk Modelling:

Thursday 2nd April & 9th April, 10am - 12pm (Free & drop-in)

Story Carousel:

Thursday 2nd April & 9th April, 2 - 3pm (Free & drop-in)

STEM Club:

Sunday 12th April, 1:30 - 2:30pm (Bookable: Free)



Lidl Foodies

Before you begin your Lidl Foodies activities, don't forget to grab your **free pack of fruit.**

Scan the code for your **free fruit** from Lidl and get everything you need for the fun ahead



Scan me to grab your Lidl coupon code



Subject to availability: 7000 coupons available. Coupons can be redeemed in the Lidl Plus app 02/02/2026 - 01/05/2026. Coupons valid for 14 days after being entered into the app. 1 coupon per account. Full coupon T&Cs apply. See 'Coupons for You' in the Lidl Plus app for more information. 18+, GB residents. Lidl app required. Full T&Cs apply. <https://www.lidl.co.uk/g/lidl-plus-terms-of-use/100254147#debanner=true>

