

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 4th September 2026

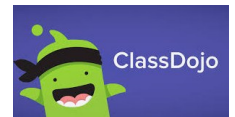
Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It has been lovely to see you all return safely after the summer holidays and a warm welcome to 11 new children and 7 new families. As reflected upon in our School Vision below, we hope you feel part of our wonderful school family and that you have made some new friends to help you feel at ease! We endeavour to ensure everyone, including adults and children, flourish and 'Aspire, Believe and Achieve.' Look out for information in our newsletters each week which highlights the learning we do, events which are happening, attendance, celebrations and important dates. The newsletter will be emailed to you, but you can collect a paper copy from the office from Monday each week if you wish.



ClassDojo

ClassDojo is our communication app where parents can contact their child's class teacher privately or see whole class information. You can also contact the Senior Leadership Team and see whole school news too. If you have not already signed up, please let us know and we can send our link to your email address.



A warm welcome to all our staff, pupils and families (new and familiar!)

We have had a lovely few days settling into routines, getting to know our teachers and socialising with our friends again. I am very proud of our school family for being so sensible and welcoming to each other, especially welcoming our new friends!



Polite Parking and Respect for our Resident Neighbours request

Please can I ask parents to be respectful when parking in our neighbouring streets. Hampden Road is an 'Except for Access' road for the residents. Please try to use Church Road and walk along the alleyway to access the school gates or Cromwell Road for the main entrance. If you do park in the residential streets can I remind you to not block or park across driveways or dropped curbs. Do not park or stop on double yellow lines or zig zags and keep your speed to a minimum as there are children walking to school - '20 IS PLENTY!' Please DO NOT stop and smoke cigarettes outside residents homes. We try to keep our local residents working with our school and would like parents to help us maintain that positive relationship. Thank you!

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.'



Teacher Education Days

On Tuesday we completed our yearly, whole school safeguarding training to update our knowledge in line with the statutory DfE Document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026.' It enables all staff to keep your children safe, recognise when a child or family may need some extra support and how to put that into action. Safeguarding is 'everyone's' responsibility and we are here to support children and families as part of our school early help offer. We also reviewed our SEND provision by discussing the adaptations which we make in the classroom to enable all children to succeed.

On Wednesday we had two external speakers delivering training linked to part of our English focus this year on a new handwriting scheme. It incorporates lots of practical ideas to strengthen children's muscles in their hands and bodies enabling them to write more at ease. The research behind the scheme enables pupils to not only develop a more legible handwriting but also engage their body muscles, brain function and flow of writing. It is taught in letter families which have similar formation for ease of consistent letter formation. We are very excited to be starting this new system. This was followed by some Oracy training as we know it is important for children to succeed through life. Oracy is articulating ideas, developing understanding and engaging with others through speaking, listening and communication. So learning to talk and learning through talk. There are 4 main areas of focus -

1. Voice – learning to speak and body language
2. Developing vocabulary
3. Working with others and turn taking – listening and responding
4. Explaining meaning and organising own thoughts or building on ideas of others

Throughout the year our staff continue to learn and complete courses enabling us to flourish, please look out for parent workshops throughout the year enabling our families to also continue to learn and flourish too!

St Matthias Church — Prayers for our local Church Schools at the start of the academic year.

It was lovely to receive an email this week from Revd James who not only wished his church schools a settled first week and successful year but he also shared a number of beautiful prayers with which to reflect. I thought I would share a few with you so you can also join in our community thoughts and prayers as they support our new starts. He has also invited all our families to a special church service this weekend. See poster for more details.



Praying for our Schools at the start of the new school year...

As the new school year begins we pray for pupils teachers and families giving thanks for them and asking God's blessing of wisdom joy and peace in the months ahead.

Join us as we pray...



Praying for our Schools



For Students

Almighty God,
the source of all wisdom and knowledge:
bless all who begin this new school year.
Grant them curiosity in learning,
patience in difficulty,
and friendships that nurture and sustain;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Praying for our Schools



For Parents and Families

Heavenly Father,
you entrust children into our care:
bless parents and families as they support
young people in their learning.
Give them patience, encouragement,
and peace at home,
that together they may grow in love
and knowledge of you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Summer Craft Boxes

Thank you to everyone who sent photographs and shared their crafty pictures with me over the summer!



Here is a selection of some of the pictures that were sent to me!

Celebration Worship Awards

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

Parents of children receiving an award will be contacted on a Thursday to join us in school on a Friday morning at 9am to watch the presentation.

Our first Celebration Worship will be on **Friday 11th September at 9am.**



Outside Achievements

We also celebrate any outside achievements your child has received or taken part in outside of school. For example, music lessons, sporting or dance activities, learning to ride a bike, Baptisms etc.

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.



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 Shwab "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.

Office Staff Reminder of days they work to assist parents.

Finance Secretary - Mrs James

Mrs James is at St Matthias from Monday to Thursday. She is not here on Thursday afternoons or Fridays. Please talk to her for any financial matters, Whizz Kids information, Free School Meals, Early Years funding trip payments or other financial questions. You can also contact her by emailing :-finance@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk

Office Secretary and Attendance Support - Mrs Lewis

Mrs Lewis who is the admin secretary works Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. She is not in the office on a Wednesday. You can send an email to admin@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk Emails will not be regularly checked on a Wednesday so please make sure you telephone the school for all urgent messages. 01684 574984

School Photographer

Our photographer will be in school on **Monday 19th October 2026**. He will take individual photos of every child and siblings who attend our school. This year he will also include older and younger siblings of our pupils, who do not attend this school. **If you wish for your older and younger children to be in a photo with our pupils please come along to the main entrance at 8.15am.** All siblings who come to our school will automatically be photographed together during the school day.

School Uniform – Pop Up Shop!

It is lovely to see everyone return in their smart new uniforms. For anyone needing any extra uniform, we have a very useful Second Hand Uniform Pop Up Shop which is situated on the KS1 playground. If you would like any extra uniform please see Mrs James and we will let you know when the shop opens.

Lunch Box Suggestions

Please send your child in with a healthy packed lunch and drink. We suggest a sandwich, slice of quiche or sausage roll, plus a piece of cheese and fruit , a yoghurt OR a small cake OR a biscuit.

Sweets, chocolate bars, fizzy drinks, and drinks which contain colouring or glass bottles are NOT permitted. Thank you.

Physical Education Lessons

Some classes will have two shorter sessions for their entitlement and other classes will have one longer session for their entitlement. This is due to timetabling. If your child has two sessions they can wear their PE kit twice a week. Please don't worry about the washing, I am sure washing it once a week will be sufficient!



For the health and safety of the wearer and others, NO earrings or other jewellery will be worn during PE, swimming, or games. Preferably, remove all earrings and jewellery before school, otherwise your child will need to remove their own earrings before their PE session. We can provide envelopes for safe keeping.

Please make sure your child has the correct school PE kit for lessons, we do not allow home clothes for PE lessons.



Reception– Monday & Friday

Year 1– Monday & Wednesday

Year 2– Wednesday & Friday

Year 3– Tuesday & Friday

Year 4 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 5– Thursday– Some Y5 will swim and some will do PE– a letter will be sent to those swimming.

Year 6– Thursday– ALL Y6 will swim this half term with some of Year 5

Year 5 and Year 6 – Thursday (**Swimming will start at Malvern College on Thursday 10th September 2026 for some Year 5 (those invited will have a letter) and all Year 6 children.** Please ensure your child's costume fits comfortably. No bikinis and no long swim shorts. After half term you will be notified if your child is carrying on with swimming or staying at school to do PE.



NOTICEBOARD



REMINDERS

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

Nasal Flu Vaccine (Yrs R - 6)

Monday 2nd October.

School Photographer

Monday 19th October (am) to take every individual child plus sibling groups from within school. Siblings who don't attend the school can have family photographs from 8.20am. New staff will also be photographed.

CLASS EVENTS

Swimming Lessons

Some Year 5 and Year 6 pupils. Letter sent yesterday

Start next Thursday 10th September.

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 9.00am**), 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, Free School Meals, 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

AUTUMN TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

at 8.40am Thursday 3rd September 2026

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

at 3.15pm Friday 23rd October 2026

HALF TERM BREAK

Saturday 24th October to Sunday 1st November

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

at 8.40am Monday 2nd November 2026

SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE

at 3.15pm Friday 18th December 2026

SPRING TERM

Staff Training

Monday 4th January 2027 – School Closed

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN

at 8.40am Tuesday 5th January 2027