

St Matthias Newsletter



St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

We have had a very busy week of learning and getting back into routines. This is a very busy term so please do read the newsletter each week as there will be information of events coming up, dates for your diary and shared learning.

Our School Priorities

We're so excited to share with you what we're focusing on this year to help your child flourish at St Matthias!

We want every child to continue making brilliant progress in all their learning. Lessons are engaging, carefully planned and perfectly pitched for each child. We are making sure that everything your child learns builds beautifully on what they already know, helping them to remember and use lots of new knowledge and skills.

This year, we are particularly passionate about helping children become fantastic writers.

We are focusing on:

- **High-quality writing** in every subject (not just in English lessons!)
- **Handwriting** that children can be proud of
- **Oracy** – this means helping children learn to express themselves confidently and learn through rich conversations.

Of course, all areas of learning matter, and the wonderful thing is that talking, reading and writing weave through everything we do – from Science to History, Maths to Art!



How you can help at home

You play such an important part in your child's learning journey and there are some simple things that make a huge difference. Daily reading together even just 10-15 minutes per day makes a real impact on your child's progress. Talk about the story, the characters and what might happen next! Any homework set helps reinforce what they have learned in school and builds good learning habits. Talk about what you see around you, explore new words together and discuss what they mean. These everyday conversations are golden learning opportunities!



Excellent Attendance

Please aim for 100% attendance – every single day counts! Each lesson missed is a learning opportunity lost.

A note about term-time holidays: We completely understand that family time is precious, but we do have a duty to report low attendance to the Local Authority and they may issue fines for persistent absence. Please try to book holidays during school breaks.

Medical appointments: Where possible, please book these outside school hours. We know this isn't always possible, but every hour in school really does make a difference.

Every Moment Matters! - Every hour, every day, every lesson is a chance for your child to learn something new, build their confidence and take another step towards success. Together, we can give them the very best opportunities to flourish! Please see page 5.

Thank you so much for your partnership in your child's education – we couldn't do it without 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.'



New Learning Space.

Over the summer, a wonderful new outdoor classroom was built at the back of school behind our Year 1 classroom. This indoor/outdoor space will provide nurture provision for small groups of younger children who need specific learning and emotional support and Barney, our school dog, will enjoy it too on a Wednesday!

We're incredibly grateful to our local councillors who helped fund this project, and a huge thank you to Mr Lungu, our caretaker, for his hard work preparing the area – it was quite a challenge!

Next, we will be redesigning the Year 1 outdoor space to link beautifully with this new learning area.



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 before 3pm on Thursdays, so that we can also celebrate this on a Friday morning and in the weekly newsletter.

Flossie Y1 for passing her first ballet exam during the summer. A super achievement, we are proud of you!

Florence Y2 for passing her level 5 swimming award! We are very proud of you! It sounds like you have had a very successful summer! We are proud of you!

Theo Y3 (and Daniel) for taking part and enjoying playing football as part of a team. You were unsure at first but then really enjoyed it and we are very proud of you for persisting— keep up the amazing achievement. We are proud of you!

Bertie Y4 for passing his first grading on the piano during the summer holidays with a brilliant 'Distinction!' Maybe you would like to share one of your piano pieces in Worship! We are proud of you!

Millicent Y4 for gaining her gymnastic dance medal junior bronze award and passing her exam with 'Distinction!' Fantastic achievement we are very proud of you!

Miss Stimson for completing a 5K rainbow run—that looked great fun and very messy! Well done we are proud of you!

Miss McCollum for completing and passing her teaching degree, we are so pleased you have joined us, congratulations on graduating!



Important dates for your diary

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 your Nursery child only attends in the afternoon on Mondays, please bring them along at 8.40am and we will take their photos straight away so that you can wait and take them home. **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.



Parents Evening

Our first parents evening will be held the week after half term week beginning **Monday 2nd November**. More details will follow later during this half term.

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.

A BIG plea to all parents/carers– lost property

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE could you name all uniform especially jumpers, coats and PE hoodies which are removed when your child gets hot!

This week I have tried to find the owners of brand new jumpers, cardigans and ties and no child seemed to claim them. PLEASE name all items of clothing (INCLUDING SHOES) which could be removed so we can return it to the rightful owner. We know how much money is spent on uniform so help us help you make sure they come home with everything!



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 17th September 2026 for some Year 5 (those invited will have had a letter) and 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.

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. Olivia, 1. Ada, 2. Florence, 3. Ayra, 4. Kyra, 5. Renella, 6. Shanti.

Value Leaf for showing "Thankfulness": R. Marlee, 1. Thea, 2. Luna, 3. Scarlett, 4. Bertie, 5. Mila, 6. Jake.

Spotted (Improve Handwriting & Editing): R. Eyla-Wren, 1. Flossie, 2. Nathan, 3. Eva, 4. Alice, 5. All Charlie. 

Book Prize Draw Winner (for children who have read five times this week): Flossie Yr 1

Lunchtime Award (for children who have demonstrated our school values outside): Olivia YrR

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 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 Shcwab "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.



Attendance Information

At St Matthias we are eager for all our pupils from Nursery to Year 6 to attend for 100% of their time. In our registers there are two sessions per day; am and pm. In Nursery there are two 3 hour sessions per day – 9am to 12 noon and 12 noon to 3pm. For the rest of the school there are 5.5 hours of learning per day – 8.45am to 12noon and 1pm to 3.15pm.

All children from Yrs R – 6 and some from Nursery attend 10 sessions per week. (Part time Nursery children are expected to attend all of their booked sessions.)

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

As a school, we have a legal duty to keep you regularly informed of your child's attendance. After the end of each month, we will text you the number of school learning hours and days your child has missed through absence; also how many late arrivals they have had and how many minutes of learning they have missed. These texts are not intended to cause offence; they are merely our way to keep you up to date with your child's attendance progress throughout the year. We do understand that in most cases we have valid reasons for absences.

In addition to the attendance texts we will continue to monitor every child's monthly attendance and issue certificates to those who have 96% or above.

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

- 1, at the end of every month all children with 100% attendance will have their names put into a hat and one lucky child will win 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 will win a gift voucher.
- 3, at the end of every full school year (September to July) ALL children with 100% are rewarded with a gift voucher!

All winners will be announced in our newsletters.

**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 this week	LS	N	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	All
Number of pupils who have been absent	1	3	0	2	2	4	4	6	1	23
Number of hours of learning missed	5½	21	0	18¾	11	18¾	18¾	33	5½	132¼
This weeks Percentage	95%	93.1%	100%	93.6%	97%	96.5%	96.5%	90.4%	98.1%	95.4%

For Years R to 6 there are 3¼ hours of learning in mornings + 2¼ hours each afternoon.

For Nursery there are 3 hours in each nursery session am and pm.

Congratulations to Year 1 for the best attendance this week. Excellent !

Years 2, 3, 4 and 6 also had over 96% this week! Fantastic well done!



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. Please see Page 2 for more details.

CLASS EVENTS

Swimming Lessons
Start on Thursday 17th September.

Young Voices Concert
Monday 11th January 2017
(wrong day was on letter)

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

Togetherness Understanding your Child

**FAMILY
HUBS**

St Matthias Primary School
Cromwell Road, Malvern, WR14 1NA



Tuesday 22nd September
9:00 - 11:00am
FREE 9 week course
every week (excluding half term)

For parents/carers of children aged 0-19 years old

We will be looking at:

- Developmental needs
- Having fun together
- Parenting styles
- Communication
- Sleep
- Behavioural difficulties

To book a place please
use the link or scan
the QR code
www.worcestershire.gov.uk/familyhubs/groups



www.worcestershire.gov.uk/familyhubs



 **worcestershire**
county council

Sensory Processing Workshop

**FAMILY
HUBS**

Wednesday 16th September 2026

1:00 - 3:00pm

Online 2 hour workshop via Teams

This workshop will help parents/carers to have a better understanding of sensory processing and sensory systems considering:

- What is sensory processing
- What are the 8 sensory systems
- How these might impact on behaviour
- How to meet a child's sensory needs



To book:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sensory-processing-south-worcestershire-parents-tickets-1996452620531?aff=oddtcreator>

[worcestershires.gov.uk/familyhubs](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/familyhubs)



worcestershire
county council

Talking Teens

**FAMILY
HUBS**

Monday 28th September, 5th, 12th, & 19th October 26
12:30 - 2:30pm

For parents and carers of
children aged 10 - 19 years old

FREE
Virtual
course via
Microsoft
teams

We will be looking at:

- Being a parent of a teenager
- Understanding your teenager
- Communicating with your teenager
- Managing conflict



To book a place please
use the link or scan
the QR code
www.worcestershire.gov.uk/familyhubs/groups



[worcestershire.gov.uk/FamilyHubs](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/FamilyHubs)



Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF)

**Are you struggling with essential costs, heating or housing?
Support is available through the
Worcestershire Crisis and Resilience Fund**

Help when families need it most

The Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF) can provide support for families experiencing a financial crisis and helps Worcestershire households build long-term financial resilience.

The fund can help with:

- Food and essential household costs
- Energy bills and heating emergencies
- Essential household items
- Housing-related financial difficulties
- Support to improve long-term financial resilience and money management

What support could families receive?

Depending on the circumstances, support may include:

- Cash payments
- Energy vouchers
- Supermarket vouchers
- Essential household goods
- Advice and support services



Scan the QR to find out more or visit:
www.worcestershire.gov.uk/CRF

What support is available for families?

Oil and LPG Energy Support Scheme

Support is available for low-income households that rely on heating oil or LPG and are struggling with rising fuel costs.

Crisis Payments

If a family has experienced a sudden financial shock, such as illness, an accident, loss of income, or a household emergency, they may be able to receive urgent support to help meet essential needs. All applications are assessed based on individual circumstances.

Heating Repairs and Replacements Scheme

Help may be available if a family's heating system has broken down or developed a fault and they cannot afford the repair or replacement.

Housing Support

Housing Payments may be available if a family receives Housing Benefit or Universal Credit and needs extra help with housing costs, such as rent in advance or rental deposits.

Need advice?

Any family can contact their local Worcestershire Advice Network (WAN) partner:

- Food and essential household costs
- Energy bills and heating emergencies
- Essential household items

Free and confidential advice is available on benefits, housing, debt, energy costs and other cost of living support.

Find support

Worcestershire Advice Network: www.worcestershireadvicenetwork.org.uk

Cost of Living Support: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support

Energy Advice and Support: www.actonenergy.org.uk/area/worcestershire



Scan the QR to find out more or visit:
www.worcestershire.gov.uk/CRF