

St Matthias Newsletter



Friday 21st July 2023

St Matthias Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

This is my last newsletter for this academic year as we break up for the summer holidays today. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone: staff, children, parents, volunteers, governors and Trust for all your support during the year. We all work incredibly hard to ensure your children make progress in their learning, follow our school vision, enjoy their work and have a range of opportunities throughout the year to enhance the curriculum and we have had a fantastic year making lots of memories.



September

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Wednesday 6th September at 8.40am**. The staff have two Teacher Education Days on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th September.

Blackpepper Lunches

Don't forget to book your child's hot dinners for September before we return for the term. You can do this by clicking on this link <https://www.blackpepperlunches.com/BP-default.php> If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 they are entitled to free hot dinners, so please take advantage of this. If you are entitled to Free School Meals then you still need to book your child's lunches. If you are not entitled to Free School Meals then you can purchase a hot dinner or provide a packed lunch. Any child can have a packed lunch provided by their parent if they wish.

School Uniform

Please ensure that you purchase the correct uniform for September. A reminder that our new Year 3 class next year will need a white shirt, tie and V-neck jumper as they move into KS2. Please visit our website to see our uniform list [click here](#). Socks should be dark grey, black or white and PE kit must be worn on PE days, not home clothes.

Our uniform is sold at Kitz Uk in Malvern and School Togs in Worcester.



Have a lovely holiday and we will see you all at 8.40am on Wednesday 6th September for a fantastic new school year!

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.'



Year 6 leavers

Our Year 6 children amazed us again with their wonderful memories, speeches, prayers and singing shared at their Leavers’ Service this week. It was emotional and every child took part in their own special way.

They also had a crazy time at their Leavers’ Party celebrating their last few days with a bouncy disco dome, pizza, drinks fountain and chocolate fountain. They also took part in secret missions and solved lots of puzzles!

Thank you to all the staff who made their last few days so special at Primary School; they will all be truly missed and never forgotten!



Speech and Language – Narrative

There are lots of opportunities to build language skills in the summer holidays! Support your child to tell others about what they have done. Using photographs to record the day can be useful so the child has a visual to support them. Sharing experiences also helps to develop relationships with family and friends.

Using photographs to retell the story of their day will...

Give them chance to hear all the new words from the day again!

Help them hear and learn tenses



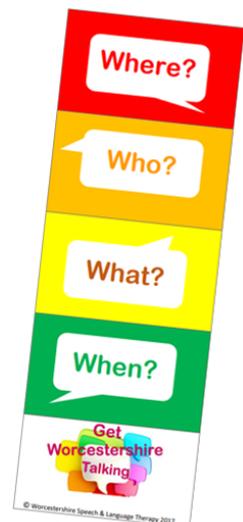
Let them enjoy sharing their experiences!

Help them to sequence the events in a narrative

Support episodic memory and recall of real events



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The narrative bookmark above (left) can be downloaded from <https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/childrens-speech-and-language-resources/> – look under ‘Language Resources’. Try using it to prompt ‘where’ did you go? Or ‘who’ did you go with? when telling stories.

If you have any concerns about your child’s communication skills please phone or email the school office (admin@stmatthias.worcs.sch.uk), and I will call you back on my next visit into school. You can also contact me directly on **01562 714700**.

Jasmin Jacks (Speech and Language Therapist)

Support and Advice
Adult Mental health support
 ([click here](#))
Starting Well - for parenting, health & 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](#))

Worcestershire Virtual Family Hub
 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.



Monthly 100% Attendance Award for July 2023 Congratulations to the amazing 117 children who had 100% attendance in July 2023. The July prize draw winner is Summer in Year 4.

Termly Attendance Award Huge congratulations to the 36 pupils who had 100% attendance for the Summer term. The Summer term prize for 100% attendance has gone to Shiv in Year 6.

Annual Attendance Award Massive Congratulations to the super fit 8 children who have had 100% attendance this whole academic year. They have all received a delicious prize. The Annual prize winner is Zach in Year 4.

Attendance The table below shows class attendance statistics for **the whole year**.

	Percentage	Sessions missed		Percentage	Sessions Missed
Nursery	85.1%		Year 3	89.2%	
Reception	91.1%		Year 4	94.4%	
Year 1	91.8%		Year 5	90.0%	
Year 2	91.5%		Year 6	93.7%	

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

Congratulations to Year 4 for having the best class attendance this year.



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 “Community”

Romans 12.16 “Live in harmony with one another.”
 Colossians 3:13-14 "Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity"
 Romans 12:4-5 “Community is life-giving and essential to following Christ. Scripture says that’s because we’re better together than we are alone”
 Eisenhower “This world of ours must avoid becoming a community of dreadful fear and hate, and be, instead, a proud confederation of mutual trust and respect.”
 Gandhi “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others”.

Ours is a wonderful school, nurturing and flourishing; showing great depths of community.

SCHOOL closes for summer at 3.15pm on Friday 21st July 2023.

New Academic Year 2023 to 2024 Dates are below

ALL our newsletters can be found on our website.

The children start back on Wednesday 6th September at 8.40am.

ACADEMIC TERM DATES for St Matthias of The Spire Learning Trust 2023 - 2024

AUTUMN TERM

Staff Professional Development	Monday 4th September 2023 – School Closed
Staff Professional Development	Tuesday 5th September 2023 – School Closed
SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN	Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 8.45am
SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE	Friday 27th October 2023 at 3.15pm
HALF TERM BREAK	Saturday 28th October to Sunday 5th November 2023
SCHOOL OPEN	Monday 6th November 2023 at 8.45am
SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE	Thursday 21st December 2023 at 3.15pm
Staff Professional Development	Friday 22nd December 2023 – School Closed

SPRING TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN	Monday 8th January 2024 at 8.45am
SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE	Friday 9th February 2024 at 3.15pm
HALF TERM BREAK	Saturday 10th to Sunday 18th February 2024
SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN	Monday 19th February 2024 at 8.45am
SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE	Friday 22nd March 2024 at 3.15pm

SUMMER TERM

SCHOOL & NURSERY OPEN	Monday 8th April 2024 at 8.45am
MAY DAY (School Closed)	Monday 6th May 2024
SCHOOL & NURSERY CLOSE	Friday 24th May at 3.15pm
HALF TERM BREAK	Saturday 25th May to Sunday 2nd June 2024
Staff Professional Development	Monday 3rd June 2024 – School Closed
SCHOOL & NURSERY END	Friday 19th July 2024
Staff Professional Development	Monday 22nd July 2024 – School Closed

The children attend school each year for 190 days. The staff work for 195 days per year.

The five Teacher Education Days are for staff training, the dates vary each year and are often held at other venues or online.