

Matthew's C.E (Aided) Primary School and Nursery Centre



'I can do all things because Christ gives me strength' Philippians 4:13

Friday Feature: 6th March 2026



This half-term we are focusing on the Christian Value of **Forgiveness**

Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive others.

Colossians 3.13



Music Showcase



Thank you and well done to the children in Yr3 and Yr4 for their amazing recorder and toot performance. With support from Telford Music service teacher Faye, the children demonstrated the skills they have been learning in their music lessons.



Attendance Support

As a school we are continually monitoring and trying to support families and their children to improve their overall attendance. As a school we aim to have attendance above the national target of **94.6%** however we are currently only at **93.5%** which is below where we would like to be. Working together we can change this.



We are launching an initiative to celebrate those children and families who are really trying hard to attend school every day and to celebrate those whose attendance is rapidly improving. At the end of the Spring term the names of all of the children whose attendance is above the national target of 94.6% and the names of all of the children who have improved their attendance every week since the start of this half term will be placed into a prize draw. A pupils from EYFS/KS1 and a pupil from KS2 will each win a **£10 SMYTHS Toys** voucher. Your child's attendance at Nursery and School is a vital part of supporting them to reach their full potential.



Pupils of the Week



Nursery	Ciara
R St Francis	Kemi
1: St Teresa	Jaxon
1/2: St Nicholas	Fechi
2: St Joseph	Jayden
3: St Cecilia	Olivia M
3/4: St Sophia	Aurora
4: St Kateri	Aaliyah
5: St Thomas	Haiden
6: St Padre	Amelia J

Times Table Rockstars Players of the week

2: St Joseph	Carter
3: St Cecilia	Kakkra
3/4: St Sophia	Jaida
4: St Kateri	Alicja
5: St Thomas	Roxy
6: St Padre	Ryan



Attendance Award



This week the attendance award has gone to:

2 St Joseph

Weekly Attendance		
1st	St Joseph	99.6
2nd	St Thomas More	99.4
3rd	St Nicholas	97.3
4th	St Sophia	94.1
5th	St Cecilia	93.1
6th	St Teresa	92.6
7th	St Padre Pio	92.5
8th	St Kateri	91.5
9th	St Francis	91.5



Attendance Thank you

Thank you to the children and parents in the following classes whose attendance improved this week:

- Nursery 30 hours
- Nursery Afternoon
- St Cecilia 3
- St Joseph 2
- St Nicholas 12
- St Thomas 5



Future Dates

17th and 18th March	Parent Consultations
Friday 20th March	Red Nose Day
Wednesday 25th March	
Friday 27th March -	Yr6 Arthog
30th March to 10th April	Easter Break
4th May	Bank Holiday
25th to 29th May	Half Term
1st June	PD Day
17th July	Break up for
Summer	

Weekly prayer



Dear Lord

We give thanks and praise for our wonderful school family.

Encourage us to be kind and caring and help us show forgiveness when needed.

Guide us as we develop together the roots to grow and the wings to fly to achieve our dreams.

Amen

World Book Day

Once again our children and staff have amazed us with their creativity! Thank you so much for all of your support.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING



Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health ... so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.



1. GET CONNECTED

Playing online games together with your child or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is not only fun but also an excellent way of establishing some common ground to discuss things you've both seen or done online – as well as keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.

2. KEEP TALKING

Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can also be an excellent refresher to help prevent cyber-bullying situations. Topics you might want to revisit include why it's important to only connect online with people we know and trust, and why passwords should always remain secret (even from our best friends).

3. STAY VIGILANT

Observe your child while they're using technology and just after they've used it. Are they acting normally, or out of character? Possible signs of a problem may include seeming quiet or withdrawn, jumpy or anxious, angry or repeatedly checking their phone. When you feel it's the right time, you may want to check in with them to see if everything is OK.

4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member they could turn to, in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.

5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN

When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're likely to be difficult, emotional and upsetting for both you and your child. Actively listen to your child while they're bringing you up to speed, and try not to show any judgement or criticism – even if they haven't dealt with the situation in exactly the way you would have hoped.

FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

Childline: talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at www.childline.org.uk/get-support/

National Bullying Helpline: counsellors are available on 0845 225 5787 or by visiting www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html

The NSPCC: the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/ and can be reached on 0800 800 5000

6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent "fighting their battles for them". In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to choose the path they take, you're putting them in control but are also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.

7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE

Cyber-bullying often takes place through a particular app, social media platform or online game. If this is happening to your child, encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.

8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

Protecting themselves online is the priority, of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness other people falling victim to cyberbullying. Even if they don't feel confident enough to call someone out on their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidentially report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.

9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

Victims of online bullying frequently experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, a loss of self-esteem and potentially even thoughts of self-harm or suicide. If you think that an incident of cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental wellbeing, then seek psychological support for them. There are some useful contact details in the central panel below.

10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger – or if there are any signs whatsoever of explicit images being shared as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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