

St Matthew's Newsletter

"Let Your Light Shine" – Matthew 5:16

30th January 2026



In memory of Ms Morris

It is with an incredibly heavy heart that I share with our community that the lovely, vibrant Ms Morris, who taught our Year 6 of 2022-23, sadly lost her courageous battle with cancer, a few weeks ago.

Ms Morris was an exceptional teacher and a wonderful asset to our team - full of enthusiasm and creativity, with a deep commitment to ensuring that every child within her care flourished and shone. The children adored her.

She brought joy into the classroom, inspired confidence in her pupils, and nurtured their talents with patience and love. Under her guidance, the Year 6 production of Matilda became a showstopper - full of energy, laughter, and fun - just like her!

I ask that you please keep her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.



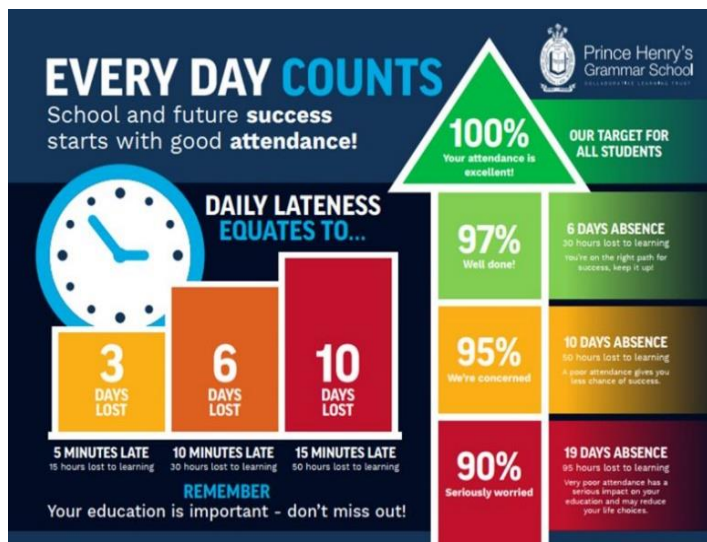
Ms Morris pictured on far right at the Y6 Leavers' disco July 2023

Rest in peace, dear Ms Morris. You shone so brightly, touched so many lives, and leave behind a legacy of kindness, passion, and light. You will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing you.

May your spirit continue to guide, inspire, and surround all who loved you.

May your memory be a blessing, and may your light never fade.

How important is your child's education?



Our attendance and punctuality have really dropped this academic year, which is very concerning. **Every minute of education lost has an impact on your child's learning & future success.**

During the Autumn term, **76% of children had at least one absence, equalling 684 days of learning missed and averaging to almost 4 missed days of learning per child.**

21% of children are currently Persistent Absentees – meaning that we are incredibly concerned about those children's attendance. From Monday, 2nd Feb, any child arriving after 8.50am via the front office will need to be signed in by an adult and a valid reason given for their lateness. Please do not leave your

children at the gate. I truly hope that as a community we can work together to improve our attendance and punctuality – as this is what is best for each and every child.

Birthday Book



A big thank you to Safwan in Year 2 for donating the following books to our school to celebrate his 7th birthday: *The Wild Robot (three book series) by Peter Brown.*

We welcome any children bringing in a book to share with their class to celebrate their birthday. Donated books will have a birthday sticker and child's name put inside the book, to be remembered by every reader!

Please see your child's class teacher or Ms Kanaris if you would like a recommendation of books to buy to celebrate your child's birthday in school.

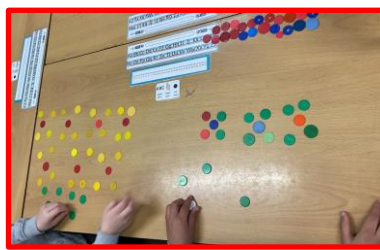
EYFS

This week in EYFS, the children have been exploring *The Three Little Pigs* story. They loved getting hands-on by building their own houses using straw and bricks, talking about which materials were strong and why. We also carried out a fun "huff and puff" experiment, where the children made predictions about which objects might move when we huffed and puffed on them. This helped develop their early scientific thinking as they observed, tested their ideas, and talked about what happened. Lots of learning, teamwork, and fun all round!



Year 1 – Maths

This week we have been step counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. We have used this skill to help count items quicker by making these into groups. We linked this with our unit on money by skip counting to find totals of coins.



40p

Showing Togetherness In Year 2

In RSHE, the children have been exploring how to achieve their dreams and goals through teamwork and togetherness. They put these ideas into action by collaborating to create a wonderful *Bird of Dreams*. This exciting task required thoughtful compromise, clear communication, and shared responsibility. The children shone as they confidently assigned roles, supported one another, and worked with respect and determination to achieve their shared goal. It was fantastic to see our school values come to life, with togetherness at the heart of everything they did.



"We have different job roles – I am the background drawer" - **Safwan**

"Everyone felt important to the group" - **Karis**

"I think we were successful because we showed respect and listened to each other" - **Beverley**

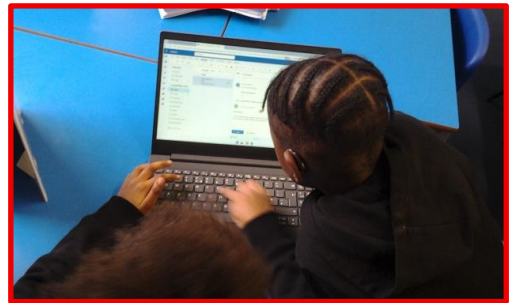
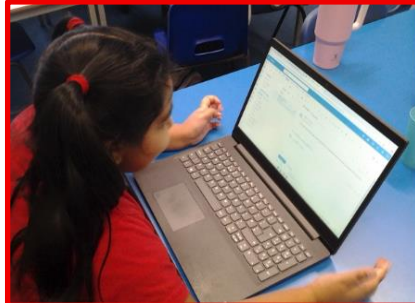
Year 3

In our computing lesson, we looked at how to use emails as a form of communication.

Hamza – “We were emailing each other about our weekend and school holidays. It was an exciting lesson!”

Nana – “We were learning how to send emails to other people. It was good because we were telling others about how good our weekend was.”

Geonte – “It was exciting!”



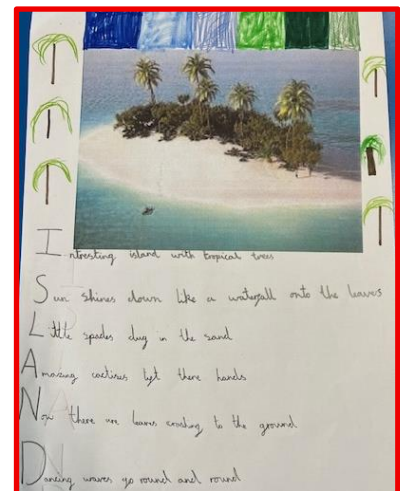
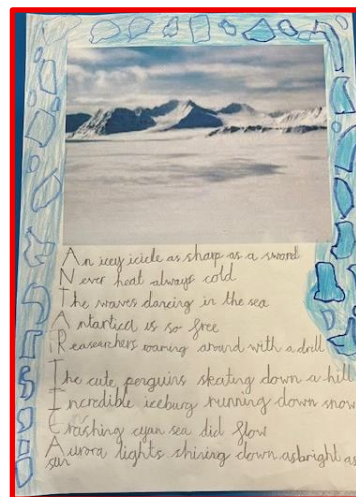
Team 4 are poets – an update

Following on from our previous newsletter article, Team 4 are happy to share some of our final pieces of poetry. As previously mentioned, we have been exploring the genre of poetry – successfully analysing different poetry styles and poetic techniques.

Poetry Styles:	Acrostic Poetry	List Poetry	Shape/Concrete Poetry	Performance Poetry	Rhyming Poetry
Poetic Techniques	Expanded Noun Phrases	Alliteration	Onomatopoeia	Similes/Metaphors	Personification

Our final pieces will be displayed and compiled to make a class poetry anthology.

Team 4 love poetry!



Whole School Attendance

Today's attendance was 91.9%

Our target attendance is 96.5% - please help us to achieve this!

Best attendance for last week was won by Year 5 with 98% and this week's winners are Year 6 with 98.3%.

For your children's benefit please make sure that you are getting your children to school every day and on time. Thank you

Year 5

In Year 5, we have been learning the features of a playscript. To do this we were given a playscript which contained no stage directions. In groups, we read through the script and annotated it with ideas of how we could act and add expression or emotions.

To check our learning, we acted them out for each other.

"We got a sheet of a paper and acted it out without stage directions. This was boring and bland. Then we added our own stage directions and made it exciting and interesting." **Grace and Sharon**

"We added stage directions to tell the actor how to speak and how to move." **Tony**

"You need to add stage directions so, when you are saying your speech, it doesn't sound boring." **Giovanna**

"Without stage directions, you would just say it. No actions or movement." **Iris**



Year 6 - Algebra

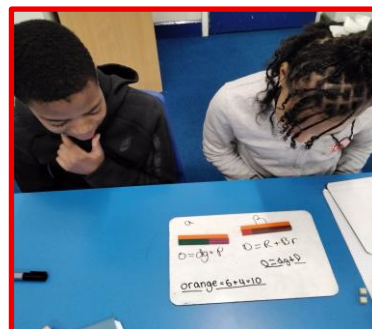
In Year 6, we are learning algebra. So far we have learned what the value of the Cuisenaire colours are equivalent to: orange= 10 ,Blue=9 ,Brown=8 ,Black=7, Dark green=6 ,Yellow=5, purple=4 ,Light green=3 , Red =2 , and white=1. We then used the Cuisenaires to solve worded problems and started to create equations:

$O = bl + w$ we had to find the values of the different

$$10 = 9 + 1 \quad O = dg + p$$

$$10 = 6 + 4 \quad O = br + r$$

$$10 = 8 + 2$$



ns.

Year 6 and Choir PP45 Music Workshop

On Wednesday 28th January 2026, years 4, 5 and 6 were learning about different cultures within music! We were taught about Noah's Ark when God protected Noah for having faith in him. We used different instruments and tried to make a story. All the children were fascinated by all the different sounds they made. Anu showed us her lovely Violin, Andrew demonstrated how to play his French horn and the conductor showed us "The king of instruments the Trumpet."

We all got into groups and did impressions of the rainfall, and when the rainbow appeared, showing that God would not do this again.

On behalf of every pupil who took part, we would like to thank our teachers for this amazing experience. A memory we won't forget!

By Ayman and I'Shan





FREE FOOD
Just bring bags!

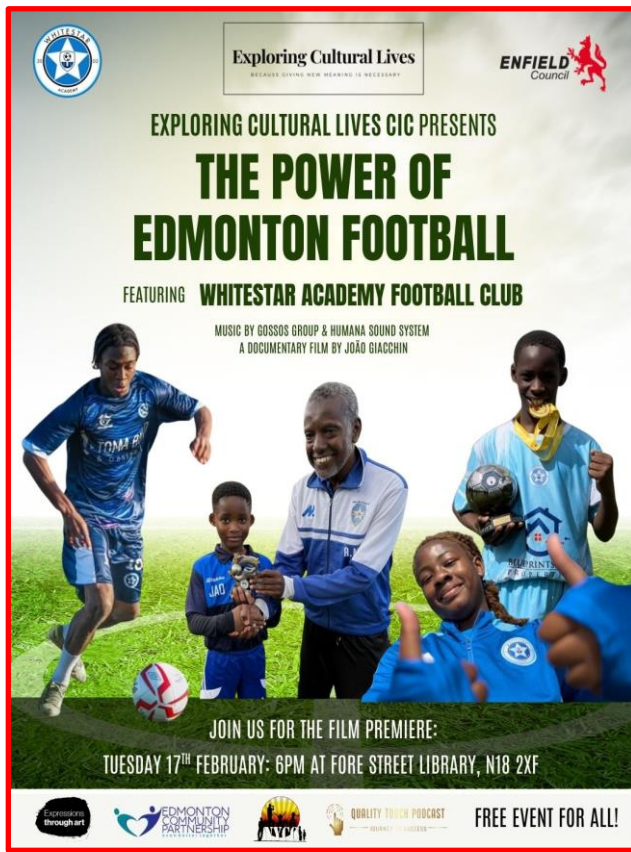
FELIX FRESH

The Felix Project, in partnership with BETTER, will be distributing free fresh fruit and vegetables.

WHEN	WHERE
Tuesday 3rd February 12-2pm	Southbury Leisure Centre, 192 Southbury Rd, Enfield, EN1 1YP W3W ///hosts.noted.logo

BRING YOUR BAGS, BOXES, TROLLEYS AND STRONG ARMS, AND TAKE HOME WITH YOU A VARIETY OF DELICIOUS, FRESH FOOD!

Felix | THE FELIX PROJECT | **BETTER**



Exploring Cultural Lives
BECAUSE GIVING NEW HEARING IS NECESSARY

ENFIELD Council

EXPLORING CULTURAL LIVES CIC PRESENTS
THE POWER OF EDMONTON FOOTBALL

FEATURING **WHITESTAR ACADEMY FOOTBALL CLUB**

MUSIC BY GOSSDS GROUP & HUMANA SOUND SYSTEM
A DOCUMENTARY FILM BY JOAO GIACCHIN

JOIN US FOR THE FILM PREMIERE:
TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY: 6PM AT FORE STREET LIBRARY, N18 2XF

Free event for all!

Community News



STAY AND PLAY FOR TURKISH SPEAKING FAMILIES
*For children aged 0-4 years

Address: The Craig Park Youth and Family Hub
2 Lawrence Road,
Edmonton, London, N18 2HN

For more information and reservations, please contact:
Özge: 07384692566
Zeynep: 07855129760

Feb 2
10am-12pm
Creative playtime with fun activities awaits!

Feb 9
10am-12pm
Join us for crafts and messy play activities!

Feb 23
10am-12pm
Enjoy music and movement for all kids!

Logos: YOUTH FAMILY CLUB, ENFIELD Council, COMMUNITY



FREE OPEN TASTER SESSION

MIEB IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BETTER
CELEBRATING 'LET'S TALK' WEEK

FEBRUARY 4TH, 2026
11:00AM – 4:00PM

@ EDMONTON LEISURE CENTRE
2 THE BROADWAY, LONDON N9 0TR

mind in Enfield and Barnet

BETTER

UCAN ENFIELD

JOIN US FOR:

- GENTLE MOBILITY & STRETCH
- CHAIR-BASED FITNESS
- PILATES
- GYM INDUCTION
- TASTER SESSIONS
- EDUCATION ON PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & MENTAL HEALTH
- HEALTHY COOKING
- FREE REFRESHMENTS AND MORE!

NO BOOKING REQUIRED!
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
MIND IN ENFIELD & BARNET
0208 906 7506
✉ : WELLBEINGACTIVITIES@MINDEB.ORG.UK



Our **Time to Shine** certificates are awarded weekly to 2 pupils in each class who have been recognised as great role models for our school values & children's rights. The last two week's awards were given to:

Class 1:	Elijah & Amarachi	Nana Yaa & Jack
Class 2:	Cruz & Artuhan	Andrew & Beverley
Class 3:	Melek & Mikhail	Latoya & Joel
Class 4:	Rudra & Temi	Emmanuella & Zan'Iyah
Class 5:	Memphis & Jelorna	Nezhdet & Juliana
Class 6:	Maliyaah & Izabela	Rubie & Natasha

St Matthew's C of E Primary School Diary Dates

February

Wednesday 4th February – Year 6 SATs Meeting @ 3.30pm

Friday 6th February – Year 5 Class Assembly @ 9am

Wednesday 11th February – FOSM Valentines Disco

Thursday 12th February – LDBS Service at St Paul's Cathedral

Friday 13th February – Happy School Bag Collection

Half Term - Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026

Wednesday 25th February – Y1 Phonics Screener Meeting for Parents

Thursday 26th February – Choir to All Soul's Place

Friday 27th February – Year 3 visit to The British Museum

March

Wednesday 4th March to Friday 6th March – Year 4 two night Residential

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Monday 9th March – Year 3 Music Partnership Festival

Thursday 12th March – FOSM Mother's Day Tea – 2.30pm to 3.20pm

Tuesday 17th March – Choir to Proms Praise

Friday 20th March – Year 2 Class Assembly @ 9am

Monday 23rd – Year 5 trip to The Royal Festival Hall

Wednesday 25th March – FOSM Easter Fair – 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Friday 27th March – Easter Service at St Matthew's Church @ 9am

Easter Break – Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026

April

Monday 13th April school opens for all children

Friday 17th April – FOSM Yrs 5 & 6 Bingo Night – 5pm to 7pm

Friday 24th April – Year 3 commence weekly swimming programme

May

Monday 4th May – May Bank Holiday (No pupils)

Saturday 9th May – Joint FOSM & St Matthew's Church Family Fun Day "Picnic In The Park"

Friday 15th May – FOSM Movie Night – 3.30pm to 5pm

Wednesday 20th May – Cultural Day – 2.30pm to 5pm

Half Term - Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026

June

Friday 19th June – FOSM Father's Day Games Day- 2.30pm to 3.20pm

Friday 26th June – FOSM Summer Fair - 3.30pm to 5pm

July

Monday 13th July – FOSM Year 6 Leavers Disco - 5pm to 7pm

Monday 20th July - INSET Day (No pupils)