

St Matthew's Newsletter

"Let Your Light Shine" – Matthew 5:16

6th March 2026



World Book Day Celebrations

This week, we were delighted to celebrate World Book Day, and what a fantastic day it was! Our children and staff came dressed as much-loved characters from across the world of stories. The creativity, colour, and enthusiasm on display were brilliant, and we would like to say a big *well done* to everyone for their incredible effort.

Throughout the day, classes spent time sharing stories, celebrating their favourite books, and taking part in a joyful costume parade in the playground. It was wonderful to see such excitement and pride as each class showcased their imaginative outfits.

We were also thrilled to welcome author Alexandra Page to our school. She spoke to the children about her journey to becoming an author and shared some of her wonderful books. Pupils took part in a special workshop with her, exploring storytelling techniques and developing their own creativity as budding authors.

A huge thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support. With this being The Year of Reading, we look forward to many more exciting opportunities to celebrate books, stories, and the joy of reading together.

Year 4 Residential at Cuffley Camp

This week, our Year 4 children have been enjoying an exciting and memorable residential trip to **Cuffley Camp**. Throughout their stay, pupils took part in a wide range of outdoor activities, including a campfire evening, climbing high-ropes, archery, and zip lining. They embraced each challenge with enthusiasm and teamwork, showing great resilience and confidence.

The children had a wonderful time exploring the outdoors, building new skills, and creating lasting memories with their friends. We are incredibly proud of how well they represented our school and hope they will treasure these experiences for years to come.



Best wishes, Mrs Harris

EYFS

On Tuesday 3rd March, our EYFS children enjoyed a truly magical celebration of World Book Day, filled with stories, imagination and plenty of excitement. The children arrived dressed as their favourite book characters, filling our setting with colour and creativity. From classic storybook heroes to magical princesses, it was wonderful to see their enthusiasm for reading shine through their fantastic costumes.

We were incredibly lucky to welcome author Alexandra Page, who visited to share her wonderful book *The Worry Tiger*. The children listened beautifully as she brought her story to life, inspiring conversations about feelings, bravery and the power of storytelling. It was a fantastic opportunity for our young learners to meet a real-life author and experience the joy of books in a very special way.

To make the day even more memorable, everyone enjoyed a special World Book Day lunch of burgers, burritos and wedges, followed by delicious desserts — the perfect treat after a morning of literary adventures! Experiences like these help nurture a lifelong love of books, and we look forward to many more story-filled adventures ahead.



Year 1

On the second-to-last day of term, our Year 1 class took part in an exciting Multi-Sports event at the Lee Valley Athletics Centre. We began our adventure with a walk from school over Ponders End station, arriving full of energy and ready for the day ahead. After taking our seats in the stands and waiting for the other schools to arrive, we split into two groups to try out a range of different sporting activities.

In total, there were ten activities on offer, some of which were led by trained sports leaders. The children enjoyed running challenges, hoop-throwing, boccia, target practice, boules, and many more fun stations designed to get everyone moving!

We were also lucky to have four of our fantastic Year 6 pupils join us as Sports Leaders. They were outstanding in explaining, demonstrating, and supporting the activities. A huge thank-you to **Tamina, John, Mackenzie, and Emma for being such excellent role models!**

After completing all the activities, we sat down together for a well-earned lunch before the walk back to school. Everyone had a wonderful time—and we were definitely ready for a rest by the time we returned!

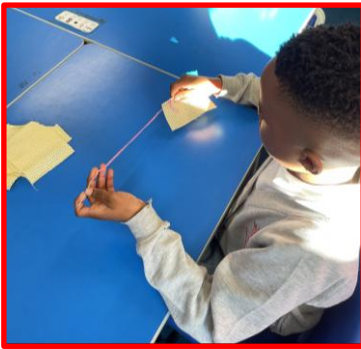


Year 2 Stitching Success in Design Technology

This term in Design Technology, our classroom has been busy with needles, thread, and lots of determination! We began by learning the essential skill of threading a needle. The children showed great patience and perseverance as they carefully twisted the end of the cotton and guided it through the tiny eye of the needle. We also focused on how to hold the needle correctly and safely, building confidence and control while working.

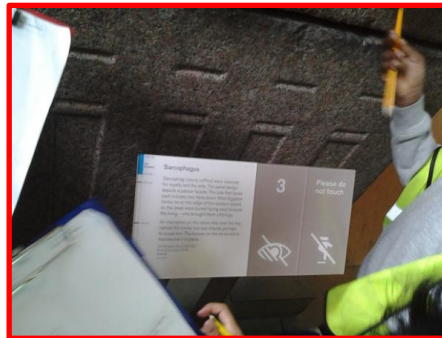
"Hold the needle with your thumb and finger and hold the cotton so it doesn't slip out" - Summer

Once we had **learned** these important basics, we progressed to creating a running stitch. The children carefully pushed the needle up and down through the fabric, concentrating on keeping their stitches neat and even. Through this activity, they developed resilience, focus, and fine motor skills.



Year 3

Last Friday, Year 3 went on a trip to visit the British Museum to consolidate their learning on our history topic on Ancient Egypt.



Melissa "It felt great because I got see real mummies, Egyptian jewelry and weapons. "

Rhys "I saw something inside a coffin and saw items inside of it. I read information Egyptians carrying things from the pyramids."

Calista "We saw the mummies, different pharaoh's masks and different types of games that they played. Also, a chair that Pharoah's sat on before they died."

Team 4 are Artists and Food Technicians

On Thursday, Team 4 constructed origami creatures based on Global Goals: 14 Life Below Water and 15 Life On Land. Origami is a traditional Japanese paper art- 'ori' means fold and 'gami' means paper. We each produced a fish, a dog and a fox.

In the morning, we made delicious pancakes, starting with making the batter out of eggs, flour and milk. We mixed the ingredients together and cooked them in a pan. Finally, we added toppings including sugar, syrup and/or chocolate sprinkles. **DELICIOUS!! Taste Test rating: 10 out of 10.**
Reporters: Team 4 Remainers (Group Write)



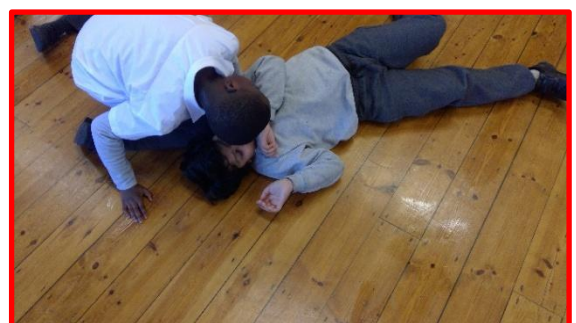
Year 5

In RSHE, we have looked at emergency first aid and what may need to be done in case of a severe emergency. We are very aware that no matter what emergency we must call 999 and wait for assistance.

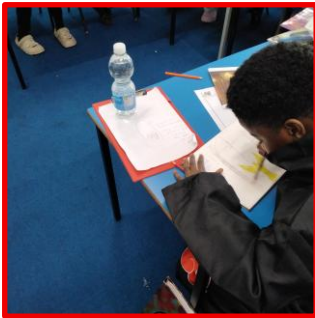
We introduced CPR (which we will look at in more depth later in the year) and we also looked at the recovery position.

The children watched a demonstration and then had the opportunity to practice it themselves. We focused on checking our surroundings, then doing the checks on the person, checking the airways and then putting them into the recovery position.

Amariah "We use the recovery position when someone is unconscious but breathing."



Year 6 celebrate World Book Day

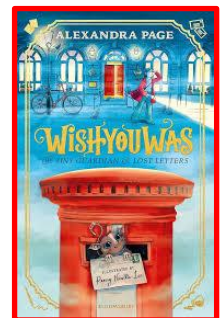


We brought words to life by drawing pictures of *The Nowhere Emporium*, by Ross MacKenzie.

"What we did on world book day was, AWESOME! World Book Day is a very good event for learning new words and being inspired by a book of your choice. The best part of World Book Day, which we celebrated on Tuesday 3rd March, was when an AUTHOR came to our school. Her name was Alexandra Page, she inspired us to never give up on what we like to do. When we met Alexandra, she told us a bit about her life, she said, "I spent my early childhood being airmailed between England and Zimbabwe and making up stories to entertain my younger sisters and brother." One of her books that she shared with us was called "Wish You Was".

"World Book Day isn't all about costumes; it's about having a wild adventure through stories!"

"World Book Day was SOOOOOO MUCH FUN!! May World Book Day always inspire us all!"



Alimamy & Aleenah



Whole School Attendance

Today's attendance was 94 %

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

Best attendance for the past two weeks was won by Year 4 with 99.3%. Well done Year 4!

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

Maintenance Fund

We pay an annual charge, per pupil, into the Maintenance Fund. **Our School, like all VA schools, depends on contributions from parents to meet this cost.** We have to make up any shortfall by using the Government funding we receive for teaching staff, learning materials or activities to support classroom learning. We want to avoid having to do that and we hope you would too. So we are asking for a contribution of **£35 per child** from parents to enable us to meet the costs of remaining in the Diocese's scheme without taking away from our teaching and learning activities. So far this year we have collected £663!

Many thanks to those you have contributed so far – **please remember it is for the benefit of your children!**



Reception to Year 11

30th March - 10th April

HAF Enfield Easter 2026

FREE* places available on Enfield's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme this Easter. For more information visit www.enfield.gov.uk/haf

*Free for those in receipt of benefits related free school meals

Funded by
Department for Education

ENFIELD Council



THE ROYAL MINT MUSEUM

SHORT STORY COMPETITION

A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG WRITERS!

We are asking **7-11-year-olds** to write a story about **GOLD** using no more than **500-words**. The winner will receive a **gold coin, £5,000** for their school or local library, and their **story illustrated** by an artist.

Stories can be submitted between 16 February - 17 April 2026.

www.royalmintmuseum.org.uk
storycompetition@royalmintmuseum.org.uk

Community News



St Matthew's
C of E Primary school

Free Breakfast club

Start the day the best way!
Everyday from 8.15am-8.30am

All children from Reception to Year 6 are invited to join us for a tasty, energising start to the day!

- ★ Drop your child off and let them enjoy a delicious, healthy breakfast with friends before school.
- ★ The perfect way to fuel their bodies and minds ready for a day full of learning and fun!

Just drop off at the Breakfast club entrance on South Street. There's no need to book.



St Matthew's C of E Primary School

📷 Follow Our School on Instagram! 📷

See what we've been learning about and celebrating each week!

Regular updates and photos will be uploaded so parents can enjoy special moments, achievements and school events.



@ST_MATTHEWS_SCHOOL

Scan the QR code to follow us today!



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. This week's awards were given to:

Class 1:	Israel & Sapphire	Gideon & Nailah
Class 2:	Josiah & Praise	Seline & Aiden
Class 3:	Damilola & Rhys	Shaniya & Nana
Class 4:	Daniyal & Temi	Dawid & Zan'Iyah
Class 5:	Jeriel & Grace	Tony & Minay
Class 6:	Tamina & Nabhan	Ayman & McKenzie

St Matthew's C of E Primary School Diary Dates

March

- 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 Prom Praise
- Thursday 19th March – Year 1 out on a Trip
- Friday 20th March – Year 1 Class Assembly @ 9am
- Monday 23rd March – Year 5 out on a Trip
- Tuesday 24th March – Year R out on a Trip
- Wednesday 25th March – Internet Safety Meeting for Parents at 9am
- 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
- Monday 27th April – Parent Consultations – 3pm to 5.30pm
- Wednesday 29th April – Parent Consultations – 3.30pm to 6.30pm

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
- Thursday 21st May – Year 4 out on a trip
- Friday 22nd May – Happy School Bag Collection
- 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

- Friday 10th July – Year 2 Class Assembly
- Monday 13th July – FOSM Year 6 Leavers Disco - 5pm to 7pm
- Monday 20th July - INSET Day (No pupils)**