

St Matthew's Newsletter

"Let Your Light Shine" – Matthew 5:16

26th March 2026



St Matthew's C of E Primary School NOW HAS A NURSERY!

Places available:

- Part time (15 hours)
- Full time (30 hours)

From 3 years old



0208 804 1666
South Street, Enfield EN3 4LA

APPLY TODAY



We are delighted that the Department of Education have agreed to give us funding to **open our own nursery from September 2026**. This will be in a separate space to our reception classroom, with a shared Early Years outdoor area and its own secure entrance. Please let your friends and neighbours know to come and sign up for a place if they have any children aged 3 and over!

Holiday Club

Blanco Activities will be running an Easter Club at St Matthew's from Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April and Tuesday 7th to Friday 10th April from 9am to 3pm – this is open to all pupils. There will be sports activities, archery, crafts and as well as a hot lunch each day, plenty of snacks and great prizes to be won... not forgetting a visit from the Easter Bunny! The cost for this will be £30 per day (discounts for siblings). No need to book...just turn up!

Summer term Parent Consultation Meetings

These will be held in school on Monday 27th April 3pm to 5.30pm (*please note school closes at 2.40pm for children on this day*) and Wednesday 29th April 3.40pm to 6.30pm (*normal 3.20pm close*). This will be available to book via SchoolCloud from Wednesday 15th April (*an email will be sent to all parents*).



New Lunch Menu

When we return from the Easter Holidays, we will be having a new lunch menu (copy attached). We would like all children to leave their packed lunches at home for the first week and try the delicious meals on offer.

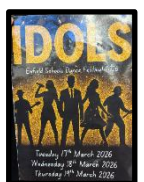
Respecting the School Toilets

Please can you speak to your children about using the toilets in school respectfully – children are leaving toilet paper on the floor; filling the toilets with paper to the brim so they block; not flushing the toilets and writing on the walls. This is not acceptable behaviour & I'm sure they do not do this in their homes. Thank you for your support in helping your children to improve this.

Dance Festival – United in Dance



On Wednesday, the dance club lit up the stage at the Millfield Theatre during the Dance Festival, joining performers from other schools for a memorable showcase. Facing a full audience, the girls showed remarkable bravery and confidence, embracing the spotlight with grace. Their performance was powerful and inspiring and captured their strong sense of togetherness and shared passion for dance. "I was nervous and excited at the same time." **Damilola**, "I felt proud!" **Leyla**



Wishing you all a very Happy Easter. Please join us tomorrow at 9am in St Matthew's Church for our Easter Service. Best wishes, Mrs Harris

EYFS

During Science Week, we linked our learning to our topic of travel and transport by becoming boat designers. The children explored which materials would make the best boats using recycled items such as boxes, bottles and fruit containers.

We discovered that cardboard was not a good material because it absorbed water, became soggy, and sank. Plastic worked much better as it is waterproof, although we had to make sure there were no holes in it.

The children tested their boats to see which floated the longest and which could hold a play person. This fun, hands-on investigation helped develop their understanding of materials, floating and sinking, and encouraged them to predict, test, and evaluate their ideas.



Year 1

On Thursday our class went on two different trains to visit the Ragged School Museum. It was exciting as it was our first trip on trains and escalators! When we got there, we had a lesson in the style of a Victorian class. We had to sit up straight on bench seats and listen to the teacher. The boys sat on one side and the girls on the other. She taught us writing that was cursive, to solve some Arithmetic problems and to repeat several chanted phrases. After the lesson we had lunch in the park, before a session about Victorian homes and how they survived with no running water in their houses for washing and cleaning. We finished the day with a small play in the park before returning on the trains.



Year 2 - DT: Dedicated Designers and Their Proud Purses

Year 2 have been having an *amazing* time putting their brand-new sewing skills to the test—and what a fantastic job they've done! With great focus and determination, the children carefully threaded their needles and stitched pieces of felt together to create their very own purses.

"We had to make sure not to sew the top otherwise it wouldn't open!" - Levi

"I found it hard but I am proud that I did it in the end." - Leo

To make their creations even more special, the children designed their purses as thoughtful gifts for Mother's Day—adding a personal touch that we're sure brought lots of smiles at home.

Well done, Year 2, for your creativity, resilience, and brilliant sewing skills—you are all super stitchers!



Year 3

Last week was World Science Week and to celebrate, we did some fun science experiments!

Jairus – "We poured the vinegar in the glass, with some red food colouring and bicarbonate of soda and when we poured more in, it exploded!"

Rohini - "We put vinegar and food colouring together and it created a massive explosion like a volcano!"

Alina – "I felt very excited because when some girls put the ingredients in the glass, it was like a lava explosion. It was so fun!"

Regis – "when some people put the things, the explosion happened really quickly"



Team 4 are Changemakers!

This half term, we have been learning about 'rivers'. We are lucky enough to have a river local to Ponders End named the River Lea. The River Lea should be a beautiful place for plants to flourish creating a wonderful habitat for a wide range of animals that live beneath, above and near the river. It should be a place where people are able to observe wildlife and enjoy the awe and wonderment of nature.

Unfortunately, we have learnt that our beloved River Lea is extremely polluted. Following on from our research, we have discovered the main causes of the pollution includes: drainage misconnections (where pipes in homes and industries are wrongly installed sending dirty water and even sometimes sewage into the river), runoff from roads and farms, sewage spills and littering. All this has devastating consequences to our wildlife and their homes.

We decided to take action by writing a formal persuasive letter to our local MP for Enfield North, Feryal Clark asking for her help to combat these problems. In order to do this, we have been learning about formal letter writing, formal language and tone, causal conjunctions and subordinate conjunctions. We learnt about the '4 tions' – Attention! Information! Emotion! Action! and have incorporated them into our letter writing. We have completed our planning, introduction, main body of the letter and are soon to write our concluding paragraph. In the half term, we shall send our letters to Feryal Clark, MP Enfield North.

We will keep you updated with our finished letters and any responses we may get.



Year 5

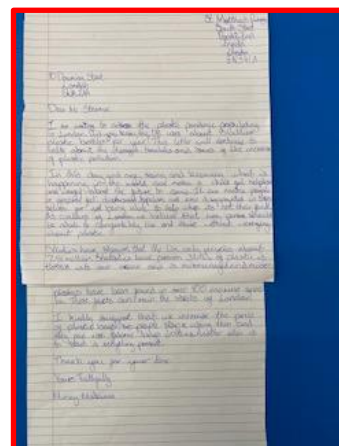
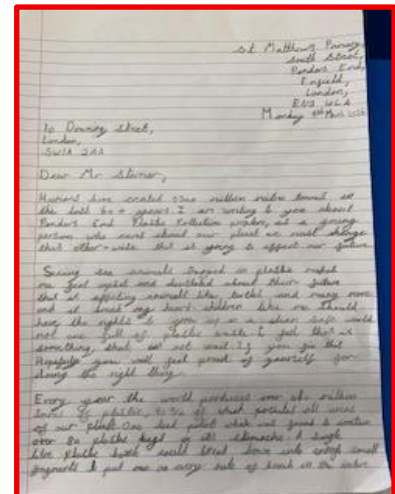
Over the course of the last two weeks, Year 5 have drafted and written letters to the Prime Minister, Keir Starmer all about the growing problem of plastic pollution in Ponders End. We used a persuasive writing structure to write the letter and had a grammar focus of modal verbs.

"Modal verbs are used to show likely something is done. They are; can, should, could, may, must, shall, will." **Alicia**

"The 4tions are Attention, Emotion, Information and Action and help us have a structure of what I am going to write." **Sharon**

"I think it's really important to speak up about these issues because if we don't act soon the whole world will struggle." **Elis**

Here are two of our letters from Noah and **Minay**.



Year 6 - 'We are Scientists'

During science week we investigated the effects of mixing different ingredients together to see the outcome and to understand the chemical reaction.

Steps for the Experiment:

- 1. Prepare the Balloon:** Use a funnel to fill the balloon about half-full with baking soda.
- 2. Add Vinegar:** Pour 1 – 2 inches of white vinegar into the plastic bottle.
- 3. Attach Balloon:** Carefully stretch the balloon neck over the bottle mouth, ensuring no baking soda spills into the bottle yet.
- 4. React:** Lift the balloon, allowing the baking soda to fall into the vinegar, causing immediate fizzing. When we combine the baking soda with vinegar in a bottle, it creates a chemical reaction that produces carbon dioxide (CO₂) gas. The gas expands to fill the container and the attached balloon. And the balloon inflates as if by magic.

Why it Works:

The baking soda (a base) and vinegar (an acid) undergo a chemical reaction to create carbon dioxide gas. Because the gas cannot escape, it travels upward, creating pressure that inflates the balloon.



Whole School Attendance

Today's attendance was 92.5%

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

Best attendance for week ending 13th March was won by Year 6 with 99.7%; week ending 20th March was won by Year 1 with 95.2% and this week's winner were Year 2 with 100%. Well done Year 2!

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 £728!

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

BLANCO EASTER CAMP



RUNNING FOR TWO WEEKS
 Week 1 - 30th Mar - 2nd Apr
 Week 2 - 7th - 10th April

LOCATION:
ST MATTHEW'S C of E SCHOOL
SOUTH STREET, ENFIELD,
EN3 4LA

HOURS:
9.00AM - 3.00PM
| STELLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE!

MULTI SPORTS:
FOOTBALL -
FUN GAMES,
ARTS&CRAFTS
MUSIC,
ALL DAY!



Contact coach Aliasha to book your child in!

Family Based Solutions
Moving Forward Together

Join Our Free Online Parent Support Group
Once a week for 4 weeks

Introducing our virtual Parent Support Group
 Facilitated by Family Based Solutions
 Supporting families since 2012

Join us every week for a month to connect with other parents, share experiences, and gain valuable insights. This online group is designed to provide a safe space for parents to discuss challenges, seek advice, and build a supportive community.

Suitable for parents/carers/grandparents looking for ways to improve their current situation when faced with conflict and challenging behaviours. Let's navigate the ups and downs of parenting together.

GROUP 2 Thursday's	GROUP 3 Tuesday's	GROUP 4 Thursday's
1230pm-2pm	1230pm-2pm	630pm-8pm
19th March 2026	28th April 2026	30th April 2026
26th March 2026	5th May 2026	7th May 2026
16th April 2026	12th May 2026	14th May 2026
23rd April 2026	19th May 2026	21st May 2026

Switching groups is not permitted.
 Due to sensitive discussions children should not be present during the weekly sessions.

Sign up confidentially for this 4-week journey:
CONTACT DETAILS admin@familybasedsolutions.org.uk
 Tel: 020 8363 6262

www.familybasedsolutions.org.uk
www.facebook.com/familybasedsolutions
 Family Based Solutions (FBS) Charity No. 1149383

Community News

Expressive Arts for Health

A gentle 10-week programme using drawing and watercolour painting to support emotional wellbeing and connection.

For adults in Edmonton experiencing:

- Isolation or loneliness
- Anxiety or low mood
- Looking for positive weekly routine
- Wanting to try something creative

FREE WORKSHOPS

Thursdays 10:30 am - 12:30 pm | 16th April - 18th June 2026



Scan to register
Sessions limited to 12 participants




FREE



EcoPark House

FAMILY DAY

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Fixing Factory - repair your stuff and learn new skills
- Reducing Waste LEGO® brick challenge
- Resource Recovery Facility tours
- And many more...

BOOK YOUR SPOT NOW!

SATURDAY
18 April, 2026

TIME
11:00am - 1:30pm

EDMONTON ECOPARK



Time to Shine Awards

Congratulations to:

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: Elissa & Shekinah	Luca
Class 2: Anaiya & Levi	Asya & Aleenah
Class 3: Ava & Jairus	Mikhail & Calista
Class 4: Amreen & Annabelle	Kalena & Nazif
Class 5: Noah & Halle	Sharon & Halle
Class 6: Spaska & John B	Goshen & I'Shan



Wishing our school community a very Happy Easter

As we celebrate Easter, we are reminded of the hope, joy, and new beginnings that the resurrection brings. This season encourages us to look for light in our world, to show kindness to others, and to trust that love is stronger than anything we face.

May this Easter fill your homes with peace, laughter, and moments of togetherness. We are grateful for our whole school family and pray that each of you feels God's love surrounding you during this special time.

St Matthew's C of E Primary School Diary Dates

March

Friday 27th March – Easter Service at St Matthew's Church @ 9am. School closes at 2pm – NO ASC

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

April

Monday 13th April school opens for all children

Monday 13th to Friday 17th April – Year 5 Bikeability Week

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

Tuesday 11th June – Class Photos

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)