

St Matthew's Newsletter

"Let Your Light Shine" – Matthew 5:16

22nd May 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you to everyone in our school community who joined us on Wednesday to celebrate our annual Cultural day – it was truly amazing! The day started with all the children arriving in their cultural costumes, colours and flags. Years 3-6 all participated in Steel Pan workshops – the sound was incredible!



Years 1 & 2 also had their own workshops learning cultural dances – and sharing their great moves!

In the afternoon, the whole school gathered in the playground parading our outfits for everyone to admire, followed by each year group performing a wonderful array of singing, poetry, dancing and playing musical instruments – showing off their fabulous talents.



Every child really let their light shine! Thank you to all of the parents who came to celebrate with us, bringing their delicious cultural dishes to share with our community. Thank you also to The Friends of St Matthew's and the school staff for making this such a spectacular event.....it really is one of our days of the year!

CLIPPA Poetry Competition



Year 5

Over this half term all classes across the school have been learning poems off by heart, acting them out and performing them to an audience! Two groups have also entered their performances into the national CLIPPA poetry competition. Scan the QR codes to watch their fantastic performances.



Year 2

Oliver Twist Production



We are excited to have the opportunity to bring a professional theatre company into school on Friday 5th June for a production of "Oliver Twist" along with a workshop. For this to be able to take place, we are asking for a payment of £3.60 per child payable via ParentPay. If you have not already made a payment, please can you make your payment by Monday 1st June 2026. Many thanks.

Autumn Term Instrumental Lessons

Is your child interested in learning (or continuing to learn) an instrument?

We will continue to have Enfield Music Service Tutors for Piano, Keyboard, Violin and Trumpet Lessons. Piano, Keyboard and Violin lessons are suitable for children in Y2 and above. Trumpet lessons are suitable for children in Y3 and above. Please see Google Classroom for more information.



Wishing you all a lovely half term week. Best wishes, Mrs Harris

EYFS – Reception Visit to St Matthew's Church

Reception had a lovely visit to **St Matthew's Church**, where they were warmly welcomed by **Reverend Jeremy**. The visit provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to explore a special place of worship and deepen their understanding of features they might find in a church. The children saw the **baptism font, altar, and pulpit**, and admired the colourful **stained glass windows**. They also spotted **crosses** and **paintings of Jesus**. The children behaved beautifully, and we thank Reverend Jeremy for a warm and informative visit. Back in school the children made their own stained glass windows at our creative area. We are looking forward to visiting different places of worship soon to continue our RE learning on places of worship.



Year 1

This term Year 1 have been learning about plants. Last week we spent time in the Nature Zone planting beetroot, carrots, radish and mixed salad.

We also have been experimenting with growing a range of plants in the classroom. Cress seeds that don't need soil to grow, Sunflower seeds that will grow very tall as well as Runner beans. We are watching the runner beans in the window as their shoots and roots start. We have been making a cress seed diary to observe the changes that happen. We are looking forward to seeing our cress big enough to eat!



Year 2

In Science, Year 2 have been exploring food chains in different habitats. We have been learning to use scientific vocabulary such as *producer* and *consumer* to describe how living things depend on one another for food. Using creativity and teamwork, the children designed their own habitat boxes by painting backgrounds and adding carefully chosen pictures of plants and animals.

"We made the habitat by painting and sticking pictures to our boxes – I made a woodland habitat" - **Sarah**

"In my desert habitat the producer is the cactus which gets eaten by the lizard which is the secondary consumer." - **Savannah**

"It was really fun and I enjoyed painting it" – **Leo**

"The arrows represent 'eaten by' – **Karis**



Year 3

In RSHE this term, we have been looking at different relationships we have in society. This week, we focused on the differences we have with children around the world.

The key vocab we had is what a 'need' is and what a 'want' is and we looked at different statements and sorted it out.

Children's comments:

Isaiah: "A need is something that is really important so you can help with growth in your life"

Shaniya: "an example of a need is, water, shelter and food."

Latoya: "for example, a want is you saying 'I want X-box' but you do not need to have it."

Damilola: "A need is something you need in life to survive in life, like your rights – for example a right to education".



Team 4

Yesterday, Team 4 travelled by tube to Tower Hill which is on the eastern edge of central London, nearby the historic Tower of London. We proceeded to walk across Tower Bridge - which provides a routeway over the River Thames – to the engine rooms. This began our journey as engineers.

Tower Bridge is an especially important bridge as it uses three different types of bridge structures. It has two suspension bridges either side connecting the bridge to the banks, a beam bridge at the top and finally and possibly most impressively a bascule bridge in the centre. The bascule bridge opens up to enable boats and ships that are taller than 9 metres to pass through. We had the opportunity of touring inside Tower Bridge. What an absolute privilege!

We began our journey in the engine rooms, where the old system and mechanisms for operating the bascule bridge had been carefully preserved. This part is no longer functional but shows us how the bridge was powered in the Victorian era by burning coal and using the steam as the energy source. Since then, technology has changed; it now operates using electricity. However, the mechanism hasn't had great change only the way it is powered.

Deep within the bridge, we saw life sized sculptures of construction workers high into the structure of the bridge. This gave us an idea of how the bridge was built. It seems health and safety were not prioritised. Nowadays, safety equipment including harnesses would be used. Those construction workers were extremely brave.

We then were treated to a walk along the beam bridge at the very top of Tower Bridge. We looked out at the spectacular views alongside the River Thames. We observed a number of London's iconic buildings and structures like: the Tower of London, the Shard, St. Paul's Cathedral, The Walkie Talkie, The Gherkin, Canary Wharf and HMS Belfast. We walked across the glass walkway which shows the views below. This is when we realised how high up we were.

Finally, as engineers, we constructed our own bridges from meccano as prototypes for the new proposed bridge at Thamesmead. All of our structures fulfilled the design criteria. What a wonderfully exciting and busy day for Team 4 future engineers.

Year 5

In Year 5, we have studied angles in Maths! Our first lesson helped us recap learning from previous years as well as allowing us to explore new questions which we had.

We measured angles using protractors and labelled the type of angle it was.

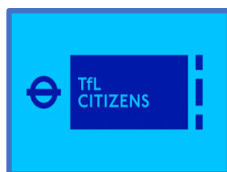
We noticed that around one point, all angles equalled 360 degrees.

The types of angles are: Acute angle – less than 90 degrees; Obtuse angle – more than 90 degrees and less than 180 degrees; Right angle – always 90 degrees; Reflex angle – greater than 180 degrees, less than 360 degrees.



Year 6

Year 6 Junior Citizenship Programme



Friday 22nd of May was a big day for year 6 to learn about their safety and their transition to secondary school.



Hope UK taught us how dangerous vaping, smoking and harmful substances can damage our lives.

The London Fire Brigade gave us a talk about how dangerous fires are and how to evacuate your home if it's on fire.

The Metropolitan Police Service taught us not to follow anyone you don't know. They also said if you're in danger find someone on a busy street that you can trust and do not take a short cut through an alleyway, even if its quicker to go home because if someone does something to you, no one will be able to see you, but if you are in a busy street on the pavement, you will be noticeable .

It also taught us about being independent going to and from secondary school by bus or train.

Sydelle and Hasan



Whole School Attendance

Today's attendance was 94.5%

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

Best attendance for week ending 15th May was won by Year 6 with 99.3% and this week's winner were Year 4 with 100% - WELL DONE Y4!

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



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 & Nana Yaa**

Class 2: **Whole Class**

Class 3: **Harlie & Regis**

Class 4: **Whole Class**

Class 5: **Kylan & Memphis**

Class 6: **Whole Class**



Join us to play & learn at St Matthew's C of E Primary School! Nursery and Reception places available

Give your child a bright beginning to their education: St Matthew's Early Years is a place where every child's light shines through curiosity, communication and exploration.

For children aged 3–5 years

- 15 and 30 hours available
- Happy confident learners
- New EYFS outdoor area
- New Nursery Classroom

More information office@st-matthews.enfield.sch.uk

Our Contact 0208 804 1666

St Matthew's C of E Primary School, South Street, Enfield, EN3 4LA



FBS PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

X4 WEEKS FOR 1.5 HRS PER SESSION

YOU DON'T HAVE TO NAVIGATE IT ALONE.
CONNECT. SHARE. GROW. TOGETHER.

Stronger together. Better every day.

SPECIFICALLY FOR PARENTING WITH CHILDREN AGED 6–18 THAT ARE DISPLAYING CHALLENGING BEHAVIOURS

THE BENEFITS

- CONNECTION**: Build supportive relationships with other parents who understand.
- EMOTIONAL SUPPORT**: Feel heard, validated and supported in a safe, caring environment.
- PRACTICAL STRATEGIES**: Learn proven tools and approaches to support your child and strengthen family life.
- PERSONAL GROWTH**: Gain confidence, insight and a renewed sense of empowerment in your parenting journey.
- STRONGER FAMILIES**: Create a positive, connected foundation for your family's well-being.

Next Support Group: STARTING 9TH JUNE

X 4 WEEKLY SESSIONS 1.5 HRS

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE EMAIL: admin@familybasedsolutions.org.uk

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: admin@familybasedsolutions.org.uk

Community News

strengthening families strengthening communities

Programme for Parents/Carers

Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities (SFSC) is a 13-week inclusive evidence-based parenting programme for all parents and carers of children aged 0–18.

The programme will help parents/carers think about how their experiences, culture, upbringing, and family background have influenced their parenting style.

It will also help parents/carers answer some important parenting questions, such as:

- How do I build a better relationship with my child?
- How can I motivate my child to try their best at school?
- How do I encourage my teenager to make better decisions?
- How do I put boundaries in place with my child?
- How do I connect with the wider communities and services in my area?

Who is it for? All parents/carers of any ethnic and faith background

How long? 13 weeks - each week you attend a 3-hour session in person

Programme ends with a certificate award ceremony

How to Book? [Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities Programme](#) or scan QR code



www.enfield.gov.uk

Race Equality Foundation

ENFIELD Council

Welcome to the Ponders End Youth & Family Hub

All families need support from time to time to help their babies and children thrive, whether that's from friends, family, volunteers, or professionals.

Ponders End Youth & Family Hub brings together lots of different services for children and families, making it easier for families to get the help they need at the right time. We offer help and support for families, from pregnancy up until age 19, or 25 for young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

Our Youth and Family Hub provide support for any family, child or young person living in Enfield who needs them. Our doors are open to everyone, ensuring that families get the help and support they need.

YOUTH & FAMILY HUB
HELPING CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES THRIVE

Who can I see, speak to & find out more / ask for help?

There is a Family Navigator at the hub to support families to access information, advice, and services.

To find out more:
Call – 0208 379 2002
Email – pondersendfamilyhub@enfield.gov.uk

Over the coming months extra activities will be added to the hub schedule; support for parents and carers through pregnancy and up until their child is 2 years old, and opportunities for families with children under 5, to learn, develop and have fun.

Where to find us

Ponders End Family & Youth Hub: 141 South Street, EN3 4PR
Next to Oasis Academy – what3words: /11w/11w/11w

Buses:

- 191 bus stop P2 from Edmonton Green towards Enfield Town / Watlington
- 191 bus stop P1 from Watlington / Enfield Town towards Edmonton Green

Ponders End Rail Station:
Greater Anglia Services between Liverpool Street and Hertford East.



Please see page 2, for the latest Ponders End Youth & Family Hub activity Schedule. As we continue to update the schedule with new services as and when they are introduced, please use the QR code to ensure you remain up to date with all the latest activity taking place from Ponders End Youth & Family Hub.



<https://www.enfield.gov.uk/council-and-representation/family-hub>

ENFIELD Council

St Matthew's C of E Primary School

Diary Dates

May

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

June

Friday 5th June – Stay & Play session for Reception 2026 -9am to 10am

Friday 5th June – Oliver Twist production for Years R to 6

Thursday 11th June – Class Photos

Thursday 11th June – RSHE Presentation to Parents at 3.30pm

Wednesday 17th June – KS2 Sports Day (AM)

Thursday 18th June – Reception & KS1 Sports Day (AM)

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

Wednesday 24th June – Stay & Play session for Reception 2026 Parents Meeting –

2pm to 3pm

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

Monday 29th to Friday 3rd July – Year 6 Residential

July

Monday 6th July - Yr 6 Music Partnership Festival

Tuesday 7th July- Year 4 out on a trip

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

Friday 17th July – Thanksgiving Service in St Matthew's Church at 9am

Monday 20th July - INSET Day (No pupils)

