

St Matthew's Newsletter

"Let Your Light Shine" – Matthew 5:16

17th July 2026



Dear Parents & Carers,

As we come to the end of another great year at St Matthew's, we would like to thank our entire school community for supporting us to live out our new school motto **"Together we let our light shine BRIGHT"**. Thank you to our parents and families for your continued support, encouragement, generous gifts and kind words throughout the year. Your partnership is invaluable and really does help our children to thrive and let their light shine before others.

To our amazing **Year 6 leavers**, we are so proud of everything you have achieved. As you begin your secondary school journey, we wish you every success and happiness. Always remember to **let your light shine before others**, being brave, kind and confident in who you are.

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated **staff team, governors** and the **Friends of St Matthew's (FOSM)** for the time, care and commitment you give so generously. Together, your contributions help our school community to flourish and shine brightly.

We also send our very best wishes to our **retiring staff Mrs Tridgell, Mrs Hands, Mrs Ruggles and Mrs Roche**, who have given many years of service, care and support to the St Matthew's community, touching the lives of countless children, families and staff. They will be greatly missed, and we wish them every happiness, good health and many wonderful adventures in their retirement.

We also extend a warm welcome to those new staff joining our St Matthew's family in September.

Wishing everyone a happy, restful and well-deserved summer break. We look forward to seeing you in September, ready for another year of learning, growing and shining together. 🌞 ✨



St Matthew's participated in the CLPE (Centre for Literacy in Primary Education) Annual **CLIPPA Poetry Awards**, with children across the school choosing their favourite poems from a range of chosen anthologies. They then learnt the poems by heart and showed their bravery by performing in front of an audience.



Children from year 2 and year 5 filmed their performances and sent them into the CLIPPA shadowing competition for schools. We were incredibly proud to discover that our Year 5 entry *"Allow me to introduce myself"* by Charles R. Smith Jr., from Traci N. Dodd's anthology *"This is not a small voice"*, was chosen as **1 of 5 winning performances** – from a record breaking year of over 120,000 children having entered the competition! This amazing achievement was celebrated by a trip to the National Theatre to perform their poem on the big stage and to meet the CLIPPA poets! A **massive congratulations** to Iris and Giovanna on their fabulous performance – what an inspiration these young ladies are! We are incredibly proud of their achievements!



Summer Fair

A big thank you to everyone who supported our FOSM Summer Fair – we raised just over £800. The penalty shoot-out and soak the teacher were the highlights for the children - Mr Poxon particularly enjoyed having wet sponges thrown at him!

Wishing you all a lovely Summer Holiday. Best wishes, Mrs Harris

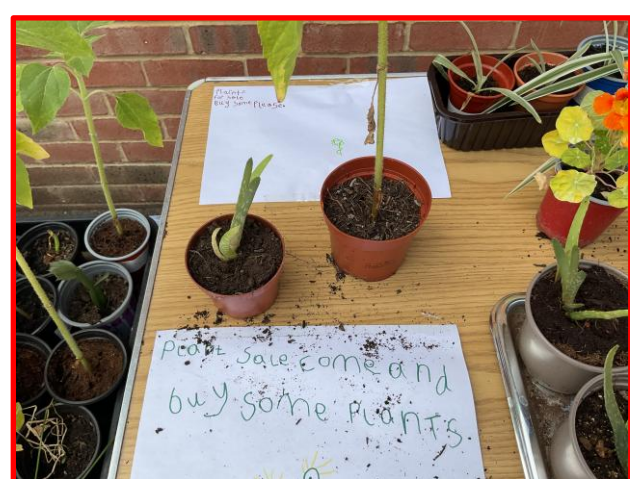
EYFS Plant Sale



Our EYFS children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in our recent plant sale project. They carefully planted seeds, watered them regularly and helped care for them as they grew into healthy young plants. As the plant sale approached, the children helped prepare for the event by creating colourful signs and posters to advertise the plants. They carefully labelled the different varieties and used their creative skills to design eye-catching displays. This gave them a sense of ownership and excitement as they prepared to share their hard work with others.

The plant sale was a great success, and the children were incredibly proud to share their hard work with our school community. Through this project, they learned about caring for living things, teamwork and the rewards of patience and responsibility.

Thank you to everyone who supported our plant sale! 🌻 🌱



Year 1 & 2's trip to the beach

Today both year 1 and 2 went on a trip to the seaside. We have been learning about different places in the United Kingdom and geographical features of the seaside. We travelled by double decker coach to Frinton. When we arrived, we went straight onto the beach. We loved taking our shoes off and feeling the sand under our feet! We dug holes with our spades, made sandcastles with our buckets and collected some beautiful shells and stones. We also really enjoyed taking turns in jumping over the waves as they came up the beach. When the tide came in, we had a picnic lunch on the grass. Afterwards we had a small drive down to Walton-on-the-Naze to see the pier and play in the large playground. It was a long journey, but we had a really great day out.

"When we jumped the waves!" Leroy "I liked playing in the park" Clive

"My favourite part was when I splashed my feet in the sea" Savannah

"I want to go back to the beach" Aleenah



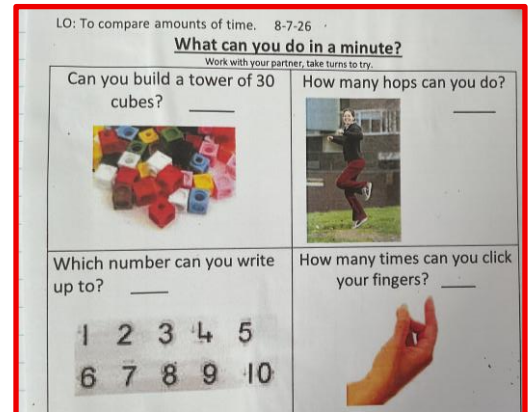
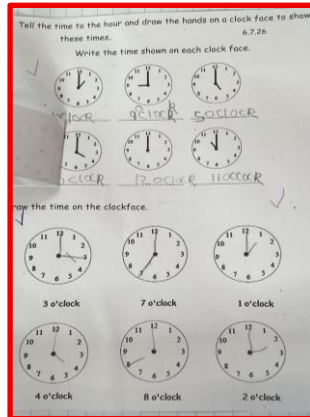
"I made a sand volcano" Kaiyen

"I like going on the sand" Elissa

"My favourite part was the beach" Elijah

Year 1 – Reading the Clock

Last week we were practicing reading time on an analogue clock. First, we reviewed o'clock-remembering that when it is o'clock the minute hand points to the 12, and the hour hand points to the hour it is. Then we practiced reading half past – remembering that when it's half past the hour the minute hand points to the 6. We also had the challenge of how many of each task we could complete in a minute.



Year 2 are staying clean!

In Year 2 Science, we have been learning about hygiene and how important it is to keep clean and especially wash our hands. **“If we don’t wash our hands, the germs can make us sick if we put them in our mouth.” - Summer.**

We did a glitter experiment where the glitter represented all the germs. Some of us washed our hands with only water for 5 seconds and the rest of us washed it with soap and water for 15 seconds. **“You need to make sure you are washing in between your fingers too!” - Beverley.**



Year 3

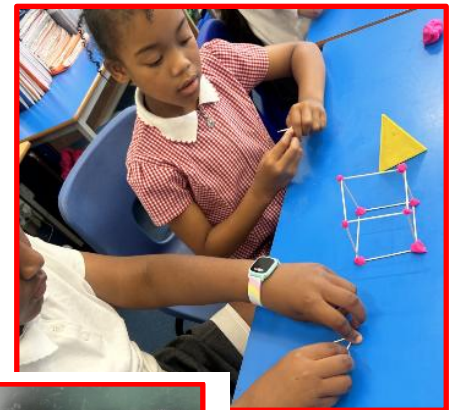
To consolidate what Year 3 have learnt we incorporated many activities into our last week of the year.

In Maths, we recapped our knowledge on 3D shapes through hand on experiences, including creating 3D shapes using playdough and cocktail sticks.

In RSHE, we recapped on what is meant by stereotypes and the importance of what to do if someone challenges our ideas.

Nana – “we used playdough to make 3D shapes. It was hard!”

Hamza – “The boys made bed sheets for the girls and the girls made bed sheets for the boys”



Year 5



As a part of our final week, we had many celebrations. However, on Thursday we held a fantastic talent showcase. Children showed immense bravery, inspiration and respect towards each other. We had comedians, gymnastics, dance groups, singers and pianists.

Kylan came in 2nd place with a great Michael Jackson tribute.

Sharon won with a fantastic piece on the piano!!



What a way to end the year! Well done Year 5

Team 4 are engineers – A final update

As you are probably aware from our previous newsletter articles, Team 4 have been busy creating Truss Bridges as part of our 'structures' project in Design Technology. We were given two materials – spaghetti and masking tape and one tool – scissors. This equipment together with our knowledge and experience from our trip to Tower Bridge and other focused practical task activities were the basis for our bridge building.

Here are some of our finished products:



When complete, we tested our bridges to see which design and construction was the strongest. For this, we used weighted graphite pencils



All our engineers did an amazing job, but some designs and construction fared better than others. We learnt that combining bundles of spaghetti as opposed to one length provided strength, that materials need to be bound and bonded together, that materials needed to be attached carefully and that triangulation was key to building strength.

Well done Team 4 engineers!

Year 6

WOW! What a week this has been. The week started off with the disco where the children had a fantastic time showing off their dance moves. Then came the fantastic production of Joseph where all the children shone BRIGHTly. Such a talented group of children sharing their fabulous singing, dancing and acting – and filling in parts at the last minute. A super class!

Some of the children's thoughts:

“The disco was so much fun” Simeon

“I enjoyed singing at the performance, and I enjoyed the disco where everybody was together and we all danced together” Luenna

“I think the production was really memorable because I gained experience of acting with all my friends. It was so amazing having our last week with everyone” Sydelle

“My favourite memories were everything! - even when we were doing work, it was still fun because of the people in our class” Rubie



Good Luck Year 6!

Remember to let your light shine before others!

We wish our Year 6 children all the very best as they move onto Secondary School.

We will miss you and look forward to having you back to visit!



The importance of Reading.....



The Cooking Champions, situated in St Matthew's Church Hall, are holding a Book Nook every Thursday between 10.30am to 1pm. Families will be able to choose from 100 books to borrow and read at home. Caroline and her team are looking forward to being your go to librarian. Please visit and take a book!



Whole School Attendance

Today's attendance was 85.3%

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

Best attendance for last two weeks was won by Year 4 with 99.3% and 97.4% - 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



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: **Shekinah & Gideon**
- Class 2: **Amira & Seline**
- Class 3: **Melek & Muhammed**
- Class 4: **Naomi & Emmanuella**
- Class 5: **Giovanna & Iris**
- Class 6: **Whole Class**

Does your child experience anxiety linked to school attendance or are you worried about barriers to school attendance?

Join The Educational Psychology Service and Family Hubs to help shape support that works for families

This session will be a warm, welcoming space to share your views, connect with other parents and tell us what support would feel most helpful for families of children who experience anxiety linked to school attendance.

Together we will think about:

- What makes school attendance a challenge for children and families
- What support parents and carers need
- How schools, services and Family Hubs can work together
- What future parent/carer sessions should include

Wednesday 9th September
12.30 - 1.00pm
Ponders End Youth & Families Hub
141 South Street, Enfield, EN3 4PX

[Sign up here](#)

For more information email eps@enfield.gov.uk

www.enfield.gov.uk

ENFIELD Council

Free Summer Cycling Fun for Children



No booking required

Free of charge

Join us this Summer at Pymmes Park Multi Use Games Area, Victoria Rd, London N18 2UG

On Wednesdays from 10-3pm:
22 July
29 July
5 August
12 August
19 August
26 August

Learn to ride, improve your cycling skills and join in cycling games.

www.enfield.gov.uk

ENFIELD Council

Community News

SUMMER HAF

AGES 5-11

SuccessClub
Be better in the next second than you were in the last

- ARTS & CRAFTS
- MULTISPORTS
- DRAMA
- MINDFULNESS
- HOT LUNCH
- DANCE

21ST JULY - 12TH AUGUST
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

SUFFOLKS PRIMARY SCHOOL
BRICK LANE
ENFIELD EN1 3PU

FREE for children receiving FSM benefit - A unique booking code will be sent by email to eligible parents.

Please contact your child's school or visit the Enfield Council HAF webpage for more information about how the vouchers work

WWW.SUCCESSCLUB.ORG.UK
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1180644

Department for Education

BLANCO ACTIVITIES SUMMER CAMP

9AM-3PM

LIMITED SPOTS! BOOK NOW!

ADVENTURE. LEARN. PLAY. GROW!

15 DAYS OF NON-STOP FUN!

WEEK 1: 27TH - 31ST JULY
WEEK 2: 3RD - 7TH AUGUST
WEEK 3: 10TH - 14TH AUGUST

A SUMMER THEY'LL NEVER FORGET!

ALL THE FUN ACTIVITIES!	AWESOME EXTRAS!	SAFE, FUN & SUPPORTIVE!
PLAY Football Basketball Dodgeball Benchball Water Sports Arts & Crafts Camouflage Games Target Throw Team Challenge Fun Games & More!	LEARN Daily Prizes Medals & Certificates Exciting Challenges Cool Giveaways Photo Moments New Skills Lots of Laughs! Memories for Life!	GROW Full Day of Activities Safe & Supervised Qualified Coaches Healthy Environment First Aid Available Hydration & Breaks Team Spirit Fun for Everyone!

EXPERT COACHES | SKILL BUILDING | FITNESS & FUN | CONFIDENCE BOOSTING

ST MATTHEWS SCHOOL EN3 4LA

SIGN UP TODAY & GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST SUMMER EXPERIENCE!

01BLANCOACTIVITIES 07377403377 BLANCOACTIVITIESLTD.COM

Online Course

**strengthening families
strengthening communities**

Want to get some new ideas to help you be the best parent you can be?
Enhance your relationship with your children?
Learning at a time that suits you?

6 online sessions | 6 group discussions | Certificate on completion

What to expect...

- Information on strategies and child development.
- Hear from other parents.
- Worksheets and hand-outs.
- Videos, quizzes and fun activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Expert help from a real person each week.
- Choose a course that suits your child's age.

Topics covered...

- Healthy relationships.
- Understanding and managing behaviour.
- Enhancing children's self-esteem.
- Emotions and empathy.
- What to expect for the age of your child.
- Being part of a community.

Group discussion...

- Speak to a course expert and get answers to any questions you might have.
- Talk about how the strategies are going at home and how to adjust them for you.
- Address other difficulties relating to parenting.
- Hear from others about what works for them.

Find out more or register for the course by scanning the QR code or emailing us at: sfscparent@racefound.org.uk

ENFIELD **YOUTH & FAMILY HUB**

Online Course

Stronger Relationships
For parents and other adult carers living together or apart

Do you want to get some new ideas to help you be an even better parent?
Would you like to reduce the arguments and disagreements in your family and cope better with stress?
Would you like to enhance your relationship with your current partner, or improve communication with your ex or the other people helping to raise your children?
How about learning at a time that suits you?

6 online sessions | 6 group discussions | Certificate on completion

What to expect...

- Information on strategies to identify and reduce arguments.
- Hear from other parents and carers.
- Downloadable worksheets and hand-outs.
- Videos, quizzes and interactive activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Weekly support from our course experts.

Topics covered...

- Healthy adult relationships.
- Identifying and managing disagreements.
- Understanding how conflict affects your children.
- Enhancing parent-child relationships.
- Managing stress, anger and emotions.
- Strategies to resolve conflict and create a parenting agreement.

Group discussion...

- Speak to a course expert and get answers to some of the questions you might have.
- Talk about how the strategies are going at home.
- Address other difficulties relating to your relationships.
- Hear from others about what works for them.

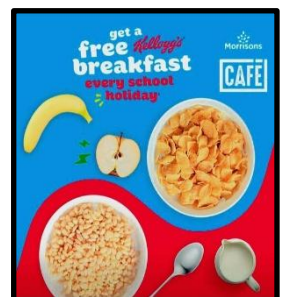
To find out more scan QR code or email: sfscparent@racefound.org.uk

ENFIELD **YOUTH & FAMILY HUB**

Support for Parent & Carers over the Summer

Morrisons Free Breakfast

Morrisons and Kellogg's have partnered to offer free breakfasts throughout the summer holidays in all Morrisons Cafés nationwide. Families can enjoy a complimentary Kellogg's breakfast every day from 29 June to 6 September 2026, helping to ease some of the financial pressures that can arise during the school break. This includes: a free bowl of Kellogg's cereal (Corn Flakes or Rice Krispies) with dairy or non-dairy milk and a piece of fruit (apple or banana). This is available for both children and adults – completely free of charge! It is available throughout the summer holidays at all Morrisons cafes. Families simply need to ask for a Morrisons breakfast



TOGETHERNESS
Bringing the Solihull Approach to the world

Enfield Access Code: PYMMES

Self-guided online learning resources for parents, carers and grandparents in different languages

TOGETHERNESS
Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager
Online learning to support emotional health and make a difference for children and families

- Understand more about child behaviour and the big feelings.
- Find ideas for connecting, talking and problem solving together.
- Help your child thrive through strong, connected relationships.
- Build your confidence in parenting.

togetherness.co.uk/enfield

Residents of ENFIELD

TOGETHERNESS
Understanding your child with additional needs
An online learning pathway to support emotional health and help you and your child thrive

- Understand more about childhood brain development.
- Reflect on differences related to neurodivergence, disability or other additional considerations.
- Find ideas for helping your child with emotional regulation.
- Build confidence in reading behaviour.
- Reflect on ways to look after your own wellbeing.

togetherness.co.uk/enfield

Residents of ENFIELD

ENFIELD **YOUTH & FAMILY HUB**

Enfield Parenting Directory

Our Directory has a range of evidence-based parenting resources to support parents & carers through their parenting journey

- Accessible and easy to use
- Available in different languages
- Direct links to Enfield Start for Life, Local Offer, Informed Families, My Life, EarlyHelp4All directory

Start for Life
0-2 years

Early Years
1-5 years

Primary Years
4-11 years

Tweens & Teens
10-18 years

ENFIELD **YOUTH & FAMILY HUB**

St Matthew's C of E Primary School

Diary Dates for 2026-2027

Autumn Term

Tuesday 1st September to Friday 18th December 2026

Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September INSET Days (No pupils)

Half Term - Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2026

Christmas Break – Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term

Monday 4th January to Thursday 25th March 2027

Half Term - Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027

Easter Break – Monday 30th March to Friday 9th April 2027

Monday 3rd May – May Bank Holiday (No pupils)

Summer Term

Monday 12th April to Wednesday 21st July 2027

May Bank Holiday - Monday 3rd May 2027

Half Term - Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027

Three further Inset Days to be Arranged

