

St Matthew's Newsletter

Witnessing to Christ with our lives and learning

2nd May 2025



Headteacher's News

I have been delighted that the children across the school have been working really hard to improve the quality of their writing.

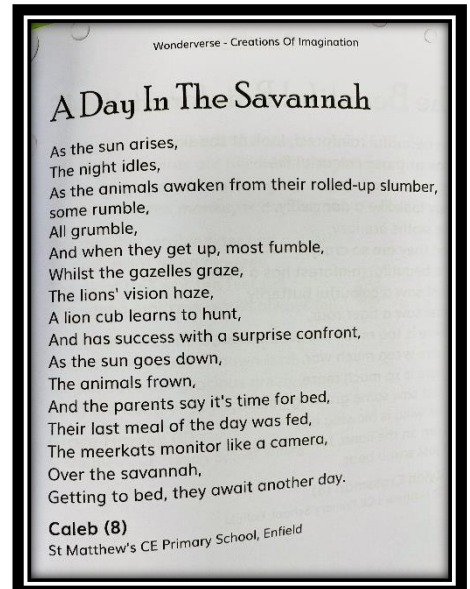
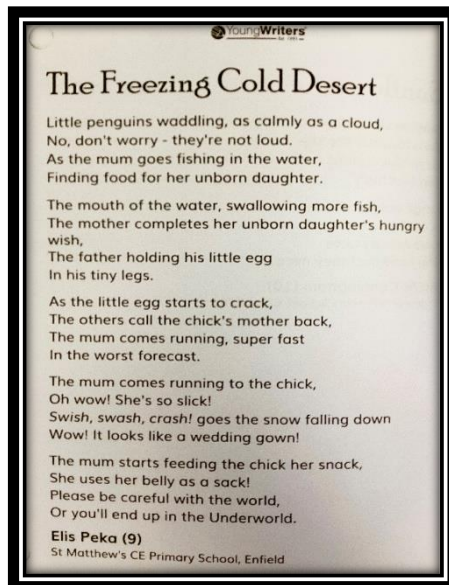
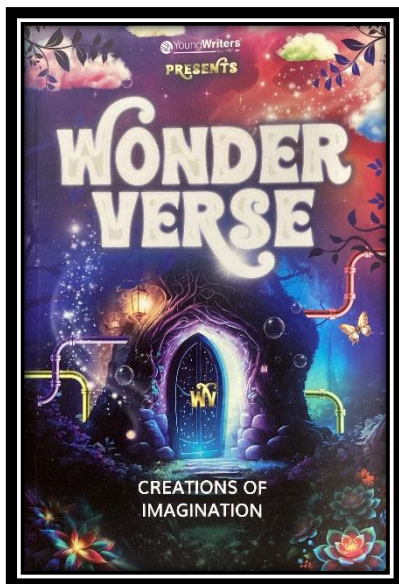
However, today I have been blown away by some of their achievements. I am unbelievably honoured to announce that a number of our **Year 4 pupils have had their poetry published** in the Young Writers poetry book, **Wonder Verse** – what a wonderful achievement!

AND on the same day, a **group of Year 5 & 6** pupils who have been participating in creative writing workshops

with the author & journalist, Toyin Owoseje, have just had **their own collaborative story published into a book!** St Matthew's pupils are really taking becoming writers / authors / poets seriously. Copies of both books will be available in school to read. I could not be prouder!



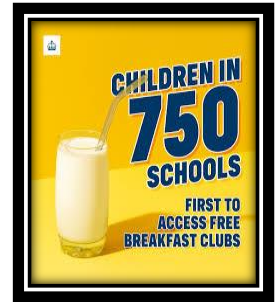
Year 5 & 6 Authors



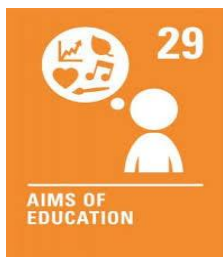
Poems by Year 4 from published poetry book "Wonder Verse – Creations of Imagination"

Thank you for attending your child's **Summer term Parent Consultation** meetings this week. Although I spoke to many of you following your meetings, I would very much appreciate your feedback via this link please: <https://forms.gle/Jgx98miWMyqcNZ296> Many thanks.

A reminder that we are running the DfE Early Adopters **free breakfast club** every day. All of our pupils are invited to join us for a **free breakfast between 8.15-8.45am, entering through the BASC entrance**. A reminder that if you haven't already signed up, please contact the office so that we do not have food waste. Please also remember that your child should arrive by 8.30am to ensure they are on time for their first lesson. I hope to see more of you joining us next week!



It's only 2 ½ weeks until this year's **World Cultural Day** – please make sure **Wednesday 21st May from 2pm** is in your diary. Last's year's event was a fabulous community day with pupils and adults wearing their cultural outfits / colours, performing and sharing homemade food. This year we'd like an even bigger event to celebrate our wonderful diverse community. The letter for signing up to perform and bring food will be out next week.



Right of the Month for May: Article 29

Children's education should help them fully develop their personalities, talents and abilities. It should teach them to understand their own rights, and to respect other people's rights, cultures and differences. It should help them to live peacefully and protect the environment. **We are working really hard to respect this right for every pupil at St Matthew's.**

Monday is a bank holiday – enjoy the long weekend! Best wishes, *Mrs Harris*

Mini London Marathon 2025

Classes R-6 went to the Mini London Marathon at Horse Guards Parade. Children had an option to do 1 mile (1.6km) or 2.6km, which was very challenging yet also exciting. We did a warm-up-which consisted of stretching, jogging on the spot and screaming etc. We got into our positions and set off to do our marathon!



Overall, we enjoyed the experience and hope to do more in the future! It was very nice to take part in this very exhilarating opportunity!



Reported by Claria, Isabella & Aisha

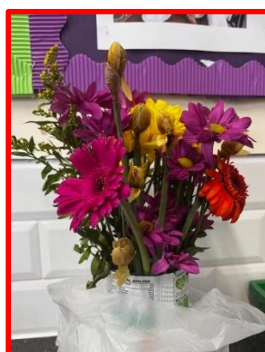
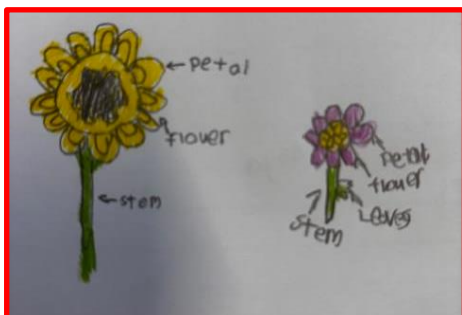
Reception

In Maths, this week Reception developed their subitising skills (seeing the quantity without counting) in increasingly complex arrangements. We focused on developing our understanding of doubles to support our subitising skills. We explored different ways of making six using physical objects that could be moved (manipulatives) and Numicon number shapes. Shekinah said: "three add three is six" and was able to show the answer on her fingers. The children then moved on to odd and even numbers.



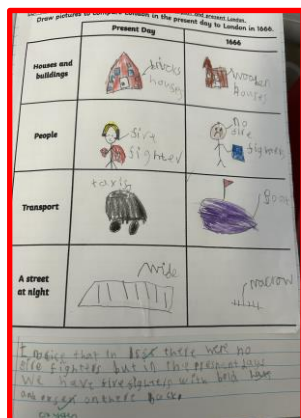
Year 1 – Science

This week we were looking at the different parts of plants. We closely looked at some flowers and made observational drawings before labelling them. We then discussed the function of each part. For example, the stem holds the plant/flower and allows nutrients to travel from the root to various parts of the plants. "We have been learning how to plant. First you add soil, then make a hole, then add seeds and water it" - Karis



Year 2

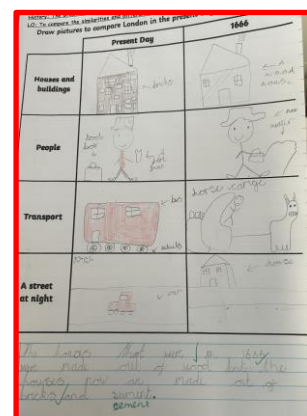
In Year 2 History, we have begun learning about the Great Fire of London, comparing the life in 1666 to present day. This has helped us to make clear differences in history and to start understanding how the lifestyle of that time contributed to the Great Fire of London.



"The Great Fire of London happened in 1666" –
Geonte

The Great Fire of London killed all the Black Death and burnt some rats! - Isaiah

How do you think the wooden houses were affected by the fire?
I think that the wood made more fire and the fire bounced onto the narrow houses.



Year 3

This week in Computing, Year 3 have been diving into the world of programming by learning how to use loops in Scratch. They explored how loops can make their code more efficient and fun, whether repeating movements in animations or creating musical patterns.



Year 4

Year 4 took part in a very exciting and energy filled dance session on Monday led by Emily from The Lisa Gilbert Academy.

The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part and it was so interesting to see them learn a range of new vocabulary related to dance. They learnt about choreography, isolating moves and posture.

Emily taught them individual dance movements and then put it all together in a routine which flowed.



Year 5

Year 5 had a visit from Sandra who works for the London Fire Brigade. She delivered a workshop on Fire safety in the home. We became detectives about the sources of fires and took part in a quiz about the safest way to leave a house.



Year 6 use their oracy skills when making predictions about Alma

In English, the children having been using their oracy skills to talk about the book Alma and the predicament she finds herself in when she enters a shop full of dolls. They presented to the class.



School Dinners

On Thursday 3rd April the School Council met with Mr Henniker, the manager of the food team at Aspens who create our school dinner menus. He makes all the decisions about the food that is on the menu. We had all prepared lots of questions to ask him.

Mr Henniker talked a lot about having to work within a budget. He explained this to us. We asked about having a greater variety of fruit such as mango but he said that this is too expensive. There are also government guidelines about how much sugar can be in the food we eat. He told us that this is why we can't have sauce like BBQ sauce with our wedges. We also can't have processed food like nuggets.

There was a lot of discussion about the meals that are popular and what days we could have these. We also asked if we could have special food days such as Taco Tuesday! We were very pleased to hear that sausage and mash and lasagne will be going back on the menu as we had asked.

The main positive points that we agreed at the meeting are:

"We can now have custard with our cake";

"On one Friday out of three we can have battered fish instead of fish fingers";

"We can have a special Mexican Day of food. Mr Henniker said that the School Council can design the menu for this".

We enjoyed the School Council meeting. It was very successful and interesting.

By Grace and Alicia -Year 4 members

RE

During the Spring Term, as part of their RE learning, children in Y1, Y2 and Y3 learn about the Jewish faith. Southgate Progressive Synagogue is holding an open day on Saturday 10th May which families are welcome to attend. See attached flyer for more information about how to book.

hosted by:
BETTER COMMUNICATION FOR ALL ECASS

Successful Start to Secondary School





- Is your child in **Year 6**?
- Are you worried about their transition to secondary school?
- Would you like a space to talk or to learn how to help them, through support strategies?

Join us and representatives from Education, Health and Social Care to work together for a successful transition

 **Thursday 12th June 2025**
 Enfield Cineworld
 10am - 2:30pm

Limited Places!

- Face to face sessions delivered by professionals from the Enfield SEND Partnership
- Get practical tips and resources to support your child through transition
- Join us in meeting services and other parents/carers

SIGN UP! **SCAN ME**





VE DAY 80

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION AT PYMMES PARK

Thursday 8th May 2025
4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Pymmes Park Visitor Centre
Victoria Road, Edmonton, London N18 2UG

Welcome and Afternoon Tea
Live Music and Dance Performances
by **Candy Dance Stars**
Free gift for all participants aged 80+
All are welcome




What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MAKING FRIENDS ONLINE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- ONLINE GROOMING THREATS**
- EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
- PRIVACY AND DATA RISKS**
- COMPROMISED PERSONAL SAFETY**
- PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS**
- LONG-TERM REPERCUSSIONS**

26 FRIENDS ONLINE NOW

Advice for Parents & Educators

- TEACH SAFE ONLINE HABITS**
- ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS**
- KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN**
- USE PARENTAL CONTROLS**

Meet Our Expert: **WakeUp Wednesday** | **The National College**

Location: 34 The Market Square, Edmonton, N9 0TZ
07984450644

Marisa Spence
Community Support Advisor

Community Support

Our Services:

- Information Guidance and Advice
- Mini Foodbank
- Benefits, Housing, General paperwork/form filling, debt management
- Parent Support & Advocacy
- Referrals to other services
- Safeguarding Hub—safe space with trained staff to support anyone in danger or threat of harm



Opening times:
Tues-Thurs 10am-4pm
Fridays 10am-12pm
Walk-in and appointments

✉ marisa.spence@northsideyouth.co.uk
🌐 www.northsideyouth.co.uk



This Week's Attendance Winners

Best attendance for the last week was won by Year 5 with 97.8% and this week the winners were Year 2 with 100%.

AMAZING!!

Diary Dates for 2024-25

May 2025

Monday 5th May – No School – May Bank Holiday

Thursday 8th May – VE Day 80 years celebration assembly

Monday 12th- Thursday 15th May – KS2 SATS week for Year 6 pupils

Monday 12th May 2-3pm – Reception 2025/26 starters Stay & Play session 1

Wednesday 14th May 2.30pm – Parent Rep meeting with Mrs Harris

Friday 16th May – Year 3 Class Assembly – *Y3 Parents Invited*

Tuesday 20th May – Happy School Bag collection

Wednesday 21st May – World Cultural day pm – *All families invited*

Wednesday 21st May 9-10am – Reception 2025/26 starters Stay & Play session 2

Thursday 22nd May - Governing Board meeting 1-3pm – *FGB members only*

Monday 26th – Friday 29th May – May Half Term

June 2025

Monday 2nd – Friday 6th June – Multiplication Tables Check for Year 4 pupils

Tuesday 3rd June – NSPCC Assembly for all classes

Thursday 5th June 2-3pm – Reception 25/26 starters Stay & Play session 3

+ presentation to parents

Thursday 5th June 3.20pm - Online Safety session for parents

Monday 9th – Friday 13th June – Phonics Screener Tests for Year 1 pupils

Monday 9th June 3.20pm – Friendship Bracelet Sale for National Best Friends' Day

Wednesday 18th June – KS2 Sports Day 9am

Thursday 19th June – Rec & KS1 Sports Day 9am

Thursday 19th June – KS2 District Sports competition at Lea Valley (*for selected pupils*)

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th June – Year 6 Ferny Crofts Residential, New Forest

Wednesday 25th June 9-10am Nursery Stay & Play

July 2025

Tuesday 1st July – Year 3 taking LAMDA exam

Thursday 3rd July 9-10am – Reception & Nursery 2025/26 starters Stay & Play session

Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th July – Secondary Transfer Days for Year 6

Friday 11th July – Y1 Class Assembly – *Y1 Parents Invited*

Friday 11th July – Reports out to Parents

Friday 11th July 3.20 – 5.30pm – Summer Fair

Monday 14th July pm – Transition afternoon – all children visit new class & teacher

Monday 14th July 3.20-4pm Open Evening – Discuss reports /meet next year's teacher

Wednesday 16th July - Governing Board meeting 5-7pm – *FGB members only*

Thursday 17th July at 9am – End of Year Thanksgiving Service in St Matthew's Church

– *All Parents & Families Invited*

Friday 18th July 2pm finish – last day of 2024/2025 term