

St Matthew's Newsletter

Witnessing to Christ with our lives and learning

14th February 2025



Headteacher's Update



As we continue to learn about Children's Rights (UNCRC) and being a Rights Respecting School, I'm delighted to announce our latest group of successful candidates who have been elected to become our first **Rights Ambassadors!**

Rights Ambassadors

Year 3	Grace & Temi
Year 4	Minay & Nevaeh
Year 5	Natasha & Goshen
Year 6	Madelaine & Michael-Jordan

Congratulations to the following children, who made a fantastic start to their new roles at our first meeting, sharing their thoughts and ideas freely (article 13), about how they can promote children's rights across the school.



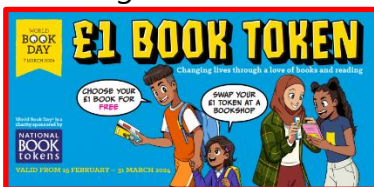
A very big thank you to our wonderful **FOSM** team, who this half term have organised a Book Sale raising £86 and a Uniform Sale raising £125! In addition, over 110 children had an amazing time at our FOSM Valentine's Disco this evening (*photos & fundraising to come in next newsletter*)



St Matthew's will be celebrating **World Book Day on Thursday 6th March**, Children are invited to come to school **dressed up as their favourite book character** or if they prefer they can wear their pyjamas. We are very grateful to the FOSM who have successfully acquired 50 World Book Day Costumes which children may ask to borrow.

Children can also bring in a book from home to share with their class. On that day, if you, as a parent/carer, would like to come into school and read a book/short story to your child's class, please let their class teacher know.

We will also be **celebrating the importance of reading** in the weeks before and afterwards, including an Usborne Book Fair on 10th March.



Please make the most of the **£1 book tokens** which were sent home with all children today. You can redeem these to get a **free book** for your child or use it against the price of any other book at the



following locations: WHSmiths, Waterstones, The Works, Blackwells & some supermarkets.

There will also be an exciting opportunity to **win a Golden Ticket!** **Yes, Wonka Bars are coming to St Matthews!** They will be on sale from after half term at £2 per bar, with fabulous prizes to be won by those who are lucky enough to find a golden ticket! I will share more about this in our Collective Worship after half term.



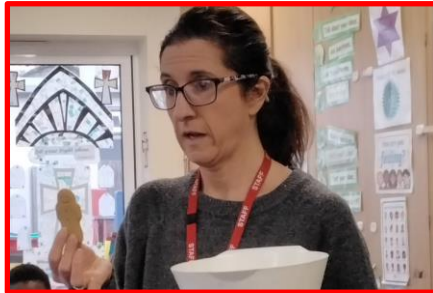
Wishing you all a happy half term and some lovely family time.

Please find some time to enjoy reading a book or 2 with your children.

Best wishes, *Mrs Harris*

Reception

Reception have continued learning about 'Traditional Tales'. Last week we were very excited to find out that the Gingerbread Man visited our school. We watched a video of him running into Mrs Michael's office and causing mischief, this led us on a Gingerbread Man hunt. We made posters looking for him and asked everyone we saw to keep a look out. In the story the Gingerbread Man had a dilemma, should he swim across the river or stay and be eaten? We investigated if the Gingerbread man would sink or swim. We talked about what would happen to our gingerbread man in the water. We predicted that he would get very wet and soggy. We put our Gingerbread Man in a bowl of water and his head sunk to the bottom but his feet floated, after a few minutes he sunk completely and after a few hours he absorbed water and became larger and lost his colour. When we poured the water out he was very "soggy" and "wet".



Year 1

In maths, Year 1 have been learning about 3D shapes. We learnt to recognise a cone, cylinder, sphere, cube, cuboid and pyramid. We had to match objects and shapes that were similar and then compare shapes. We also found similar shapes in the classroom.



Year 2

In Year 2 History, we used our knowledge of the two explorers we have been learning about; Mae Jemison and Neil Armstrong, to debate which one we thought it was easiest for to become an astronaut. **Debate statement: It was easier for Mae Jemison to be an astronaut than it was for Neil Armstrong.**

We split into groups to have a chance to jot down our ideas and discuss together. Here are some of the ideas that came out of our class discussion:

I think it was easier for Neil Armstrong to become an astronaut because he flew fighter planes and I think that is similar to flying a rocket.

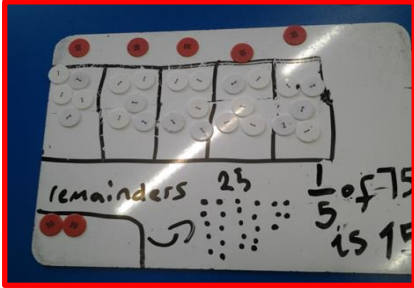
I think it was harder for Neil Armstrong because he was in the space race which means he was under pressure and nervous.

I disagree and I think it was easier for Mae Jemison because she stayed in the rocket in space but Neil Armstrong had to get out and walk on the moon.

I think Mae Jemison was under pressure as well to be the first black woman in space.

Year 3

This week, Year 3 have been creating appropriate subheadings to structure information clearly. In Maths, they have been exploring unit fractions of amounts.



Team 4's Jubilant Gymnasts

This half term in PE, Team 4 have been improving their gymnastics. We have been learning about travelling, balancing, jumping and landing. In our floor work, we explored using different parts of our body to travel. We also explored how to balance with one, two, three and four parts of our bodies. This is called point balances. We then combined our ideas and worked in groups to perform balances.

For our final few sessions, we moved from floor work to using the apparatus. We were challenged to transfer our newly acquired knowledge onto the apparatus. We had to be extremely creative, thinking logically and using our problem-solving skills, as well as acknowledging our role as gymnasts.

The climbing, rope and ladder apparatus was quite high, so safety was also high on our list to consider when we creatively explored our circuit of gymnastic equipment. "I was nervous to climb so high at first. But now the climbing apparatus is my favourite," one pupil said.

Team 4 love being gymnasts. A big thank you to Mr Demani!



Year 5

To end our Topic on Sikhism, we experienced a Langar within our classroom. A Langar is a community kitchen which serves food free to all. It shows equality and Sewa (service). Whilst partaking in the Langar we answered some questions about our topic, such as; *What values did the first 5 Guru's teach?* We had a fantastic time, inviting staff from all over the school, to join us, really developing our understanding of equality and service through this Sikh ritual.



Year 6 – Art and Mindfulness

During Children's Mental Health Week Year 6 participated in a fun filled, creative workshop. They were encouraged to think about their goals, dreams and aspirations and to create a piece of art linked to the type of businesses they would aspire to have in the future. They had so much fun that they asked the artist if he could come back!



Music Workshop

On Wednesday 12th February, we had a workshop in the church with Yara, Jonathan and Lawrence. They taught us some new songs; the first song we learned was The King of Enfield. Later on, we were taught our next song which was The Moon.

In the afternoon, Years 3, 4 and 5 united together in the church. Year 4 and 5 taught Year 3 The Moon slowly. We sang it first and they copied us; we sang quietly for extra support. On the 26th of February we are going to meet again to prepare for a concert. We are really excited!!

Ayeyi and Sydelle Y5



Maintenance Fund Reminder

So far this year, we have received £1195 of parental contributions towards the Maintenance Fund. This is only **15% of the potential amount**. This fund is a part of deciding to send your child to a Church school and goes towards the maintenance of the building, which has recently included improving our drains and repairing our hot water supply to the toilets.

What parents don't pay has to be taken out of the curriculum resources budget, so please kindly contribute what you can, as this makes a difference for your children.

Many thanks for your support.

Reminders!

FOODBANK

Please remember we have a **school uniform and food bank**. If you require any support, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Michael in the school office, in confidence. She can prepare you a bag of store cupboard foods and/or school uniform.



This Week's Attendance Winners

Best attendance for the last two weeks was won by Year 3 with 97.8% each time! This means, that Year 3 have won best attendance for the last four weeks!

AMAZING!!

"My mummy saved my life"

You can save a life too!

Free first aid courses for families

- Gain life saving skills
- Learn about child health
- Get to know us and more services in your area
- Free childcare during sessions too!



ABC Parents
Haringey & Enfield

"Practising on the dolls was great!
I feel much more confident now"



Follow us on



Scan QR code or contact us:

Telephone: 07977 076099

Email: northmid.abcparents@nhs.net

Website: www.northmid.nhs.uk/abcparents



Does your child find it difficult to attend school for emotional reasons?

Join the Educational Psychology Service for a new interactive online workshop designed for parents and carers.

This year, we are introducing case discussions to provide practical, solution-focused support for families experiencing challenges with emotionally based school non-attendance (EBSNA).

- In this session, we will:
- Collaboratively reflect on current challenges with other parents and carers.
 - Explore practical, solution-focused ways to support children and young people experiencing EBSNA.
 - Share strategies that have worked well for families.
 - Consider how to engage effectively with schools to support your child.
 - Identify what help and support are available.
 - Connect with others in a safe and supportive space.

SESSION 1
Monday 17th March 2025
1.30pm-2.30pm

SESSION 2
Monday 31st March 2025
1.30pm-2.30pm

[Sign up here](#)

For more information, please email eps@enfield.gov.uk

www.enfield.gov.uk



ANXIETY

A special service at St Matthew's church thinking about stress

Sunday 16th February at 11am
with a question time and a free lunch afterwards

St Matthew's Church
South Street, EN3 4LA
Contact: 07310 279153



'the hope of Christ in the messiness of life'
www.pondersend.church

Diary Dates for 2024-25

February 2025

17th – 21st February – HALF TERM - School closed

Wednesday 26th February – 3.20pm - Y1 Phonics Screener Meeting for Parents

March 2025

Monday 3rd to Wednesday 5th March – Yrs 4 & 5 Residential

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day

Friday 7th March – St David's Day

Saturday 8th March – St Matthew's Church Family Fun Day – 11am to 3pm

Monday 10th March – Usborne Book Fair in school all day

Wednesday 12th March – 3.30pm - Yr 4 Residential 2026 meeting for Parents

Wednesday 12th March – 5pm to 7pm - FOSM Bingo Night for Yrs 5 & 6 and Parents

Thursday 13th March – 9am – Parent Reps Meeting

Friday 14th March – St Patrick's Day

Friday 21st March 9am – Year 2 Class Assembly – *Y2 Parents Invited*

Monday 24th March – Year 3 School Trip

Wednesday 26th March – School Racial Equity Review – *Parents welcome 9am*

Wednesday 26th March – Governing Board meeting 7pm – *FGB members only*

Wednesday 26th March 3.30pm – Yr 6 Residential 2026 Meeting for Parents

Friday 28th March 2.30pm to 3.15pm – FOSM Mother's Day Tea

April 2025

Wednesday 2nd April 3.30pm to 5.30pm – Easter Fair

Friday 4th April – 9am – Easter Service at St Matthew's Church

Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April – EASTER HOLIDAYS – School Closed

May 2025

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

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

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

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

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

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th June – Year 6 Residential

July 2025

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

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

