

St Matthew's Newsletter

"Let Your Light Shine" – Matthew 5:16

19th December 2025



Dear St Matthew's Family,

As we come to the end of this fabulous term, I want to express my thanks to every one of you for supporting our Christmas celebrations. This term has been a wonderful reminder of the incredible talents your children possess—whether through music, drama, art, or simply the confidence to stand and speak with pride. As always, the singing voices of St Matthew's children have been truly outstanding, and I am so proud of every child for giving their very best. Each child has truly let their light shine, and as their Headteacher, I could not be more impressed with the effort, creativity, and joy they bring to our school every day.

I am also very grateful to our incredible staff team, who have worked tirelessly to create such a memorable programme of events, from the beautiful Nativities to today's uplifting Carol Concert... and not forgetting our entertaining Staff Pantomime to round off 2025 with joy and laughter!

A special thank you also goes to the Friends of St Matthew's (FOSM) for their fantastic organisation and the fun we've all enjoyed at the Christmas discos, the fair, and of course, our magical visit from Santa!

The staff and I would like to thank you all for all your kind and generous Christmas blessings, gifts and cards.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us remember the words of Matthew 5:16 *"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you and your families, and may the New Year bring blessings of health, happiness, and hope to all. With warmest wishes, Mrs Harris



THE PANTOMIME!!

On Thursday 11th December, Year 4, 5 & 6 went along to the Millfield Theatre. The pantomime was an unforgettable experience with vibrant colours and great storytelling. It was about Rapunzel and the Revengers. It was extremely funny and incredibly energetic.

Mary in Year 6 said *"It was a classic comedy!"*; Elis in Year 5 felt that it was *"A beautiful experience."*

Thank you to Platinum Performing Arts, for this mesmerising experience that we will never forget! **Reported by Precious Year 6**



TALES OF THE SHED

Last week, nursery, reception, Year 1, 2, & 3 had a visit from Chickenshed. We all went to the hall to watch the show. We played games and took part in lots of dancing, the actors had lots of amazing dance moves. The snowman shook his bottom which made all of us laugh. There was a puppet and whenever someone else spoke he interrupted and said "blaah" He was very naughty! They were juggling with colourful scarves and danced with Miss Logan. Santa came to visit us at the end, and some people hugged him! We all had a fun filled time!



FOSM EVENTS

A big thank you to the FOSM for organising and running three very successful and fun events for the children this half term. The FOSM Christmas Disco on Friday 5th December raised £340 and the FOSM Christmas Fair raised £700. Yesterday, they organised for Father Christmas to visit, which was also enjoyed by all the children who visited him.

SECURITY

As one of the few schools without a secure double-entrance system, we have taken steps to strengthen site security in line with Department for Education guidance for younger pupils. A security gate has now been installed at the main entrance, and CCTV has been fitted at both the front and rear access points. These measures are designed to enhance safeguarding and ensure the highest level of safety for all pupils, staff, and visitors.

Christmas Lunch

On Wednesday 17th December we had our Christmas lunch. It was a delicious! We had turkey, potatoes and gravy. Our dessert was Christmas cookies. We were all given a cracker to pull with friends. Inside was a joke and a paper crown in different colours. We had a fantastic time! It was a lot of fun.

"I have a fear of speed bumps... But I'm slowly getting over it."

"Why is the turkey never hungry at Christmas? Because it's stuffed."



"Two artists had an art contest It ended in a draw." **Emma & Natasha Year 6**

A big thank you to our wonderful kitchen staff – Alima, Lesley & Sandra, for cooking us such a delicious Christmas dinner and providing lots of decorations!

A big thank you also to Rachel (Mrs Hands' daughter) for providing us with Christmas Crackers which were donated by the Prince of Wales pub in Goffs Oak.

Reminders.....

Reception 2026 Applications (children born between 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022) need to be submitted by 15th January 2026 via [Enfield e-admissions](#)

Nursery 2026 Applications (children born between 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023) need to be submitted by 15th February 2026 via [a school application form](#)



Our **Time to Shine** certificates are awarded weekly to 2 pupils in each class who have been recognised as great role model for our school values & children's rights. This week's awards were given to:

- Class 1: Nikole & Calvary
- Class 2: Dolcie-May & Leo
- Class 3: Mikhail & Muhammed
- Class 4: Isabella & Shiloh
- Class 5: Noah & Elis
- Class 6: Mckenzie & Spaska

EYFS

December has been very exciting in our EYFS classroom, we have been finding out about the Nativity story and why Christians celebrate Christmas. We have had lots of fun making Christmas crafts, writing letters to Santa, learning songs for our performance and making decorations. This week both Nursery and Reception performed their nativity story to the parents and sung lots of Christmassy songs. They did amazingly well for their first time on stage – and showed great resilience carrying on singing when the music failed! The children even helped design their costumes. We have also enjoyed making 2026 calendars as gifts for our family.



KS1 Nativity - Sparkle

On Tuesday, we had our dress rehearsal for the rest of the school. For the last 4 weeks we have been practicing our songs with Makaton signs. We have been very proud of the songs that we sang in parts. We had to learn our lines at home and use our loud voices so the audience could hear us. The children were very good at the signing to the songs, supported by Mrs McLoughlin.

"My favourite part was when I remembered my line in the solo." - Seline

"My favourite song was Glitter and Sparkle" - Safwan. "I liked my angel dress" - Sapphire



"I was incredibly impressed by the children's confidence & how well they remembered all of their lines & lyrics – they were amazing!" – Mrs Harris

Year 2

Year 2 have been busy sharpening their detective skills in English! The children had great fun re-arranging muddled instructions and working out what they were for. By spotting time conjunctions, they discovered important clues along the way.

"They tell you when!" – whole class

"The sentence with 'First' has to go at the beginning." - Praise

To put their learning into practice, the children followed instructions to make their very own raspberry jam sandwiches. This hands-on activity helped them understand just how useful clear commands are — and the results were delicious!

Aiden proudly said, *"The taste was 10 out of 10!"*



Year 3

In Year 3, our history topic was Prehistoric Britain. To round off our topic, we created our own Iron Age shields.



"It was a fun art and history lesson"- Regis "It was fun because I did it with my friends" -Shaniya

"It was fun making the shields because we got to paint and decorate them" Ayva J

"it was fun because everyone was taking turns" - Latoya

Art Day - Team 4 become Ceramists

Last week, Team 4 made coil pots out of air-drying clay. We were inspired by Ancient Greek masters who made pottery. We had a discussion about how to become a ceramist and what our job was.

After exploring and manipulating the clay by feeling it, we rolled the clay into a sphere. Then we made a circular base by flattening it with the palm of our hand. We used a yoghurt pot and cut away the excess. We used our yoghurt pot and partially filled it with water then added clay to make slip which is a clay glue. We used our cutting tool to cross hatch the clay. Also, the cutting tool helped us to smooth out the edges. We used the excess clay to make long coils and placed the first one around the base. After we integrated the coil into the base by smoothing it. We repeated the process to make our pots taller.

Here are some of our finished pots.

Reporters: Team 4 (Shared Writing)



Year 5

In Year 5, we have had a busy last couple of weeks of school. On Tuesday 9th December we went to the British Museum to look at the artefacts of Vikings and Anglo-Saxons which finished off our learning cycle of that topic. We then finished off our swimming lessons – where all children were awarded certificates for their swimming and water safety skills (These will be handed out in the first week of January). On Thursday 11th December, we went to watch the Millfield Pantomime with Year 4 & 6 and had a great time!! This week has been D&T week in our class; we have designed and made our very own toys which we have shared with Year 1. Here is some of our amazing work:



Year 6 - Drumming



Samuel was a great drumming teacher, and an inspirational person. He made us laugh and taught us lots of things: straight beat and paradiddle, triples, doubles and many more. We are really going to miss him.

Luenna said "I liked it when he played us some beats"; Richmond said "I liked him teaching us straight beats"; Emma commented "He has a nice personality, I loved when he taught me new beats".

May God bless you, Samuel. We really enjoyed drumming this half term.

A huge thank you to our past pupil, Femi Koleoso, drummer in Ezra Collective for arranging for Samuel to teach our pupils' the drums- we are very grateful! New pupils are looking forward to starting their lessons in January.

Emma & Precious



These amazing children all received a LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art) 'Distinction' (the highest grade!) for their exam in the Summer term. We are very proud! This Year's 3 have now started their sessions... so watch this space!



Whole School Attendance

Our whole school attendance this term is 93.9%

Today's attendance was 85%

Our target attendance is 96.5% - please help us to achieve this!
Best attendance for last week was won by Year 2 with 94.2% and this week's winners are Year 4 with 94.1%.

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



St Matthew's C of E Primary school

Free Breakfast club

Start the day the best way!

Everyday from 8.15am-8.30am

All children from Reception to Year 6 are invited to join us for a tasty, energising start to the day!

- Drop your child off and let them enjoy a delicious, healthy breakfast with friends before school.
- The perfect way to fuel their bodies and minds ready for a day full of learning and fun!

Just drop off at the Breakfast club entrance on South Street. There's no need to book.



St Matthew's C of E Primary School

Let your light shine

We warmly invite the families of children born between September 2021 and August 2022 who are due to start primary school in September 2026, to join our headteacher, Mrs Harris for a talk and tour of our small, nurturing, family school.

Tours at 9.45am:

- Tuesday 4th November 2025
- Friday 14th November 2025
- Monday 24th November 2025
- Wednesday 10th December 2025
- Thursday 8th January 2026

Please call us on 0208 804 1666 or email office@st-matthews.enfield.sch.uk to book a place to visit us, or ask any questions.

We very much look forward to meeting you and your child.

www.stmatthews-enfield.co.uk




MUSIC TASTER SESSIONS!

Want to learn to sing or play an instrument? Come along and enjoy a **FREE TASTER SESSION!**

Using instruments or voice to make music, participants will learn to:

- Play a piece of music on their choice of instrument
- Play in an ensemble
- Experience music recording and production

All abilities are welcome!

MUSIC WORKSHOPS!

Following the taster session budding musicians will be offered the opportunity to take part in a **FREE 12 week** programme of music workshops, run by professional musicians, exploring music/song composition, musicianship and much more!

LIVE PERFORMANCE!

The **12 week course** will culminate in a live professional performance, recorded at Niburu London's studio. In addition to the performance, participants will gain experience in recording, lighting, interview techniques and social media.

Location: NYCC, 39 St James Chambers, Edmonton, London, N9 0UD
Date: Tuesdays starting January 2026
Time: 4:30pm - 6pm

The programme is funded by Youth Music, and held in collaboration with Niburu London, Exodus Youth Worx UK and Northside Youth & Community Connexions.

To sign up or more information, please contact:
tara.hanna@exodusyouthworx.london or WhatsApp 07903 972 453

Waiting Room

<https://londonwaitingroom.nhs.uk/>

- Your one-stop shop to finding support for your mental health.
- Use our trusted search to find vetted resources across London

The information provided by The Waiting Room is vital. The link available on The Waiting Room site allow families to know where to turn in the interim giving them more opportunities to find help, feel less alone and "wait well!"

Parent in Demand

Create an account today

Make the most of all the Waiting Room features by creating an account

- Journal your thoughts
- Set and track your goals
- Save your favourites
- Track your daily activities

Designed by You, for You

<https://londonwaitingroom.nhs.uk/contact-us>

Get in touch with us using the QR code or the link.

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?



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...

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



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



strengthening families
strengthening communities

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?



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...

1. Speak to a course expert and get answers to any questions you might have.
2. Talk about how the strategies are going at home and how to adjust them for you.
3. Address other difficulties relating to parenting.
4. 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



EN3RGY

PONDERS END



PONDERS END PARK, CHANGING ROOMS

FREE

22ND, 23RD, 24TH,
29TH, 30TH
DECEMBER

10.00AM
TO
1.00PM

2ND, 3RD
JANUARY

SAFESPACE, MULTI SPORTS, 1ST AID, EASY TASK SKILLS
EMAIL EN3RGYPE2025@GMAIL.COM OR WHATSAPP ROB ON 07950223446

AGES - 8 YEARS TO 18 YEARS

St Matthew's C of E Primary School Diary Dates

December

Christmas Break – Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January 2026

January - 2026

Monday 5th January – School opens for all children

Wednesday 7th January – KS2 SATs meeting for Y6 Parents

Thursday 8th January - Tour & Talk for Prospective Parents @9.45am – Reception 2026

Friday 16th January – FOSM Quiz Night

Tuesday 20th January – Year 2 Parents Maths Workshop @9am

Monday 26th to Friday 30th January – Mystery Reader Visits

Tuesday 27th January – Year 1 Parents Maths Workshop

Thursday 29th January – Year R Parents Maths Workshop

Friday 30th January – Book Sale @ 3.20pm

February

Friday 6th February – Year 5 Class Assembly @ 9am

Friday 13th February – Happy School Bag Collection

Friday 13th February – FOSM Valentines Disco

Half Term - Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026

Friday 27th February – Year 3 visit to The British Museum

March

Monday 2nd to Wednesday 4th March – Year 4 two night Residential

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Friday 20th March – Year 2 Class Assembly @ 9am

Wednesday 25th March – FOSM Easter Fair

Friday 27th March – Easter Service at St Matthew's Church @ 9am

April

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

Monday 13th April to Monday 20th July 2026

Friday 24th April – Year 3 commence weekly swimming programme

May

Monday 4th May – May Bank Holiday (No pupils)

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

Monday 20th July - INSET Day (No pupils)



Jack & the Beanstalk - St Matthew's Staff Pantomime 2025



*Merry
Christmas
everyone!*



*With very best wishes from
St Matthew's Staff*