St Matthew's Newsletter

Witnessing to Christ with our lives and learning

23rd May 2025

Headteacher's News

The sign of a fun learning week is when the children are all asking for it to be repeated! This week's events of Safari Pete & his animals visiting, alongside celebrating our wonderfully diverse cultures within St Matthew's, for World Cultural Diversity day, has been a truly great end to this half term.

Safari Pete's Amazing Animal Visit!

We were thrilled to welcome Safari Pete to our school for a wild and wonderful animal experience! Children in Years R to 3 had the exciting opportunity to meet an incredible variety of creatures up close. Safari Pete brought with him a fascinating collection of animals, including a ferret, a meerkat, a slithery snake, a creepy-crawly spider, two small lizards, a frog, a large lizard, and even a majestic barn owl!

"*I liked holding the Owl* "- Dolcie "*It was so much fun*" -Seline; "*I liked holding the lizard*" - Madison

World Cultural Diversity Day

Our school celebrations for World Cultural Diversity day were summed up by Precious in Yr 5 "*Today is the most fun I've ever had*!" The children looked amazing in their cultural costumes and colours, with lots of flags on display.

We all clapped and celebrated by dancing our way up and down the playground at our cultural parade, compered by Mr Poxon. The children took part in African drumming workshops, art and geography activities related to the countries represented within their classes. In the afternoon, the whole school and many parents joined us in the church to watch each class perform a range of songs and dances from around the world – it such an impressive performance! A huge thank you to all the parents who later brought in a wonderful array of foods for our community to taste – which I thoroughly enjoyed! It was a truly great day celebrating our school community – many thanks to everyone involved!

Drumming comments: Karis *" I liked going loud then soft and making the snake sound.";* Ava "*I liked it when we went fast and slow"*

Other Cultural Day quotes from the children: Artuhan " *It was fun*." Cruz "*It was really good,, the best part was the Bouncy Castle*"; "*My favourite part was the photo booth with the whole family*." Levi

To top it off, FOSM raised £886 from the day, in an addition to £905 from the Easter Fair – this will all make a difference, being spent on learning resources for your children. Thank you!

Wishing you all a lovely and restful half term. Best wishes, *Mrs Harris*

Reception

During the last few weeks, Reception have been learning about growing. We read the stories of 'Oliver's Vegetables', 'Errol's Garden' and 'Sam Plants a Sunflower'. We planted carrots, lettuce, courgettes, tomatoes and radish in our edible garden. We also planted sunflower seeds so that we can all take a sunflower plant home and care for it. We learnt about the different things that plants need to grow and have written a list using our phonic knowledge. We have enjoyed watering our plants and caring for them. We hope to harvest our salad and vegetables in July and September and enjoy tasting some of the delicious salad and veg.

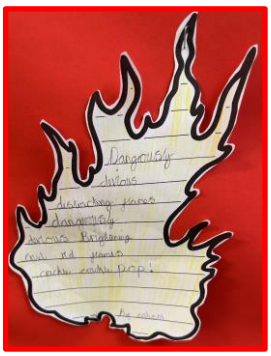
Year 1

This week Year 1 have been practising their addition skills. We played some games in pairs. We had to decide who goes first. We both rolled the dice and the person with the highest number started. We had to show our sums as we played the game. If you didn't get the sums right, you had to correct them. It was fun learning and playing at the same time.

Year 2

Year 2 have been busy learning about the Great Fire of London in History and have enjoyed sequencing the events as well as finding out key facts. "Did you know that the fire burnt for 4 days?"

In English, we created shape poems about fire where we included poetic features like alliteration, onomatopoeia, rhyme and repetition.



Year 3

Year 3 enthusiastically took part in a variety of PE activities at Jubilee Park Sports Event, showing great sporting spirit and determination. It was a fantastic day of teamwork!

On Friday 9th May, Year 3 went on a trip to Jubilee Park doing fun activities and sports. There was activities, football, archery, dance and golf. The class was halved into two groups. Each group had a turn at all the activities. Year 3 had a lovely time.

Written by Isabella and Shiloh

Year 4

This week in Science, our Year 4 class had an exciting hands-on project where they made their own harmonicas! As post of our topic on sound, the children explored how vibrations create sound waves that travel through the air. Using simple materials like lolly sticks and straws, each student created a basic harmonica and experimented with how changing the spacing and positioning affected the pitch.

The room was filled with laughter, curiosity and plenty of music as the children tested their instruments. It was a fun and engaging way to reinforce their understanding of how sound is produced and changed. The activity sparked great discussion and allowed pupils to apply scientific knowledge in a creative, memorable way.

Year 5

In Year 5, this half term in science, we have been learning about living things and their life cycles. To show the life cycle of a frog we used fruits such as apples, blueberries and grapes, Jelly and some leaves to make the life-cycle of an amphibian. Here are our attempts at making the life-cycle of a frog.

Year 5 & 6 Country Lines Assembly

The children in Years 5 and 6 were given a talk about the importance of keeping themselves safe and being aware of County Lines and what it means. Two children shared what they had learnt and how they felt.

Amari Year 6: *'We learnt about how to keep safe on the street, if for example a child after school is hungry and they go to a shop to get some food, go to different shops instead of the same ones otherwise members of these gangs will try and find you. If someone offers to buy you something don't accept anything from them. They are trying to make a fake friendship and could result in you being taken from Enfield to Southend, for example. The gangs may take someone to an area they don't know and make them become involved in drugs. I felt quite sad that children are exploited and taken away from their home. They're being taken to bandors where drug addicts live, and just left there until the police or somebody finds them.'*

Ayman Year 5: *'A bando is a trap house where the gangs sell the drugs it can be very messy because the owner is addicted to drugs and it is not a healthy environment. Children are lured there to place the drugs in different places. They are given a bag and told not to look inside but just given a location to put the bag there. These are missing children! I felt like I didn't ever want to be in that position and I realised how easy it would be to get caught up in that. It makes me feel frightened at how it spreads'.*

EMS Music Lessons

Parents are now able to renew and book music lessons and activities for Autumn 2025 from the Music store:

https://traded.enfield.gov.uk/musicstore

Thank you to all our families who supported the Happy School Bag collection earlier this week, we raised £137.25 for our school.

This Week's Attendance Winners

Best attendance for week ending 9th May was won by Years 2 & 3 with 99%, last week's winners were Years 3 & 6 with 100% and this week's winners were Year 3 with 99.3%.

AMAZING!!

Diary Dates for 2024-25

May 2025

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 - RSHE Information Meeting 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

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