

# St Matthias CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 14th February  
2025



## News from this week:



### School lunches

We are a healthy eating school and are having a big push on encouraging our children to eat all of the meals at lunch that have lots of fresh ingredients and fruit/vegetables in them. We have seen a good improvement this week in children trying new foods and having fruit and vegetables with their meals.

### Spring School Menu:

<https://www.st-matthias.hackney.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2025/01/STM-Spring-Term-Menus.docx-2.pdf>



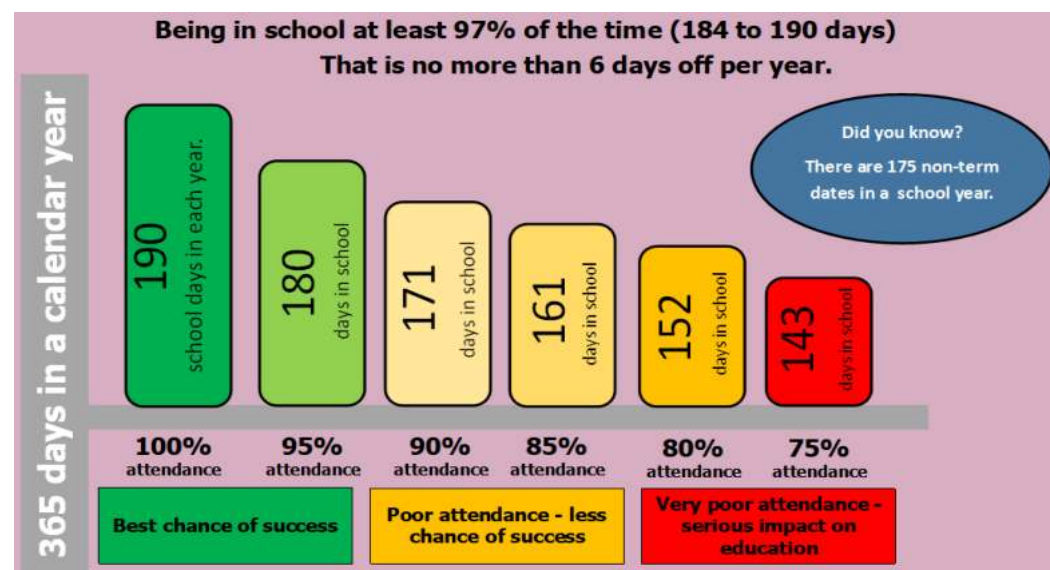
### Packed lunches

These need to be healthy too! Water is the only drink allowed. No juices, fizzy drinks or chocolate is allowed. We know that healthy lunches lead to good learning and focus.

### Reminder:

**Gates open at 8:30 (close at 8:45am)**  
**Your child must have attendance of >97%**  
**Any holidays in term time will result in a fine from Hackney.**

If you have any questions or concerns please come and speak to us.



## Important dates:

**Monday 17th February**  
Hackney Run 2025  
Registration opens!  
(Miss Frohock will send details on how to enter)



**Monday 17th - Friday 21st February**  
Half Term Holidays



**Monday 24th February**  
Start of Spring 2  
All children back at school



Deadline for Y4 Residential  
Sign-up and food choices



**World Book Day 2025**  
Non-Uniform



**Wednesday 12th - Friday 14th March**  
Year 4 Residential to YHA Truleigh Hill

# HACKNEY CHORAL



The fabulous choir performed at St Matthias Church this week as part of their 'Let the River Run' show. We are proud of our children for showcasing their hard work!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tuesday 4th March**  
Evensong at St Paul's cathedral

**Sunday 30th March**  
Mothering Sunday Service at St Paul's West Hackney

**Monday 31st March**  
End of term concert at St Paul's West Hackney

**Saturday 14th June**  
Visit to Magdalen College Oxford

**Monday 28th July - Friday 1st August**  
Summer Choral Course



Year 2 Trip to Guildhall

Year 2 had a big adventure into central London this week! The class visited The Tate Modern to look at some art and also saw some amazing sites along the way! A huge thank you to all our adult volunteers!



**Monday 7th - Monday 21st April**  
Easter Holidays



**Tuesday 22nd April**  
Start of Summer 1  
All children back at school



**Monday 12th May- Thursday 15th May**  
Year 6 SATs Assessment Week



**Saturday 17th May**  
Hackney Run 2025!!



**Monday 26th - Friday 30th May**  
Half Term Holidays



**Monday 2nd June**  
Start of Summer 2  
All children back at school



**Monday 3rd - Friday 7th June**  
Year 4 Multiplication Check Assessment



**Monday 9th - Friday 13th**  
**June**  
 Year 1 Phonics Screen Check



**Monday 14th - Wednesday**  
**16th July**  
 Year 6 Ufton Court  
 Residential



**Friday 18th July - tbc**  
 Summer Holidays







**Lots of children took part in the final wheelchair basketball club!  
It has been wonderful seeing the children's confidence and skills in their sport grow.**

**Thank you to Sports Inspired and Amir the coach for providing our children with this opportunity! 🙏🙏**



## Reading Records

Reading Record	
Date, book and the page you read to	Comments (Give a score out of 10 to show how much you enjoyed it)
18.11.24 The Boy at the Back of the Class	I really enjoyed the book trying to convey the story
19.11.24 The Boy at the Back of the Class	I'm really proud of the book as the class
20.11.24	I really enjoyed

We are so proud of how much reading our pupils are doing! Please remember to write in their reading records or encourage them to do it after they read. For younger children, you might want to write what they have enjoyed or whether it is the appropriate level. For older children, they might want to write what they liked or disliked and why.

Please also continue to share any photos of your child reading for a school display - we love seeing them!

### Book Recommendation of the Week!

Joel from Y5 thinks everyone should read the 'Harry Potter' series by J.K Rowling because they're full of adventure!



## Sustainability

Year 3 has been eco-warriors this week! The class has gathered 11 brand new water bottles that they would like to donate to children who do not have a water bottle that they can reuse.

What a great commitment to sustainability!



Label  
It



As it gets colder, we are all wearing more layers to keep warm. Our teachers work hard to remind the children to put all of their coats/jumpers on their pegs and their scarves/gloves in coat pockets/bags. Children sometimes leave these in other places and when all items are **labelled with their name**, it is easier to find them.

**Please label your child's school uniform with a name label or use a permanent marker pen.**



**Have a look at the St Matthias website and see what each class is learning about this half term!**

[EYFS Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 1 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 2 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 3 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 4 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 5 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 6 Spring 1 Curriculum Overview](#)



**PE next week - please ensure pupils are in the appropriate PE kit.**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		Year 6	Year 5	Year 4
		Year 3	Year 1 Year 2	EYFS

**Hot chocolate Friday!**

Pupils enjoyed hot chocolate this week. They have consistently displayed exemplary behaviour and learning.



EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Steve	Kameel	Ryaan and Buruk	Khalid	Kiarah	Jaheim	Cavai

**News from our classes: What has been the most memorable learning this week?**

**EYFS:**

This week we have had such a busy week with learning. I have been particularly impressed with their effort and focus during RWI and we have made so much progress with their reading, please continue to read ditty sheets with the children. We have been making Valentine's Day cards for our friends and family and looking at different habitats that animals belong too. We've made friendship bracelets and really enjoyed clingfilm painting This week.

**Year 1:**

We have had a great last week of school this half term. In maths we practised showing numbers using "five and a bit" using number lines and beads. In English we received a special letter and enjoyed reading it and answering with our own! We enjoyed a computing day where we used bee bots and practised programming and giving directions! Finally for Valentines day we created some crafts for people we love at home.

**Year 2:**

We have had such a lovely end to our half term. We started with a trip on Monday to the Tate Modern, we did some sketching and even found some secret art outside! We have also been working really hard on perfecting our 2 and ten times tables by answering word questions and finding different ways of representing them. We finished out RE work by writing about the similarities and differences we could see between Jewish festivals and those that we celebrate in our own lives and we also tried a team building task in PSHE.

**Year 3:**

This week year 3 have continued to focus on column addition specifically using regrouping of numbers. Year 3 have also begun to add three numbers together using column addition. In writing we have written information leaflets based on either waterfalls and rivers year 3 have been absolutely amazing

**Year 4:**

We have had a great final week of the half term. In writing we have finished creating our information report on how to capture a deadly mythical creature. In humanities we researched what Anglo-Saxons believed in

**Year 5:**

**This week year 4 have continued short division using representations. Within writing year 5 have come to the end of their writing outcome cliffhanger narrative, planning for their big write, using sentence accuracy focuses and amazing vocabulary! In PSHE, they pitched their fundraising idea well done the**



at this, conducting their own research independently to fuel their writing process. Well done everyone!

and discovered how Christianity came to Britain. In science we asked ourselves the question of what would we do without electricity and created some fantastic role plays showing this.

**winning group! Within science, year 5 looked at the life cycle of plants, learning about the cycle to prepare for their experiment after half term! In their reading lessons, year 5 showed amazing enthusiasm and decoding skills, using their inference and clarifying skills, they did amazing! Year 5 have shown great dedication this week and I am very proud of another amazing term. Well done everyone!**

**Year 6:** This week, Year 6 has been incredibly busy. We conducted a final science experiment on shadows at the beginning of the week. On Thursday, we had a Young Hackney workshop on bullying. We worked incredibly hard on writing our explanation pieces. We also learnt about volume in maths and challenged ourselves with problem solving.

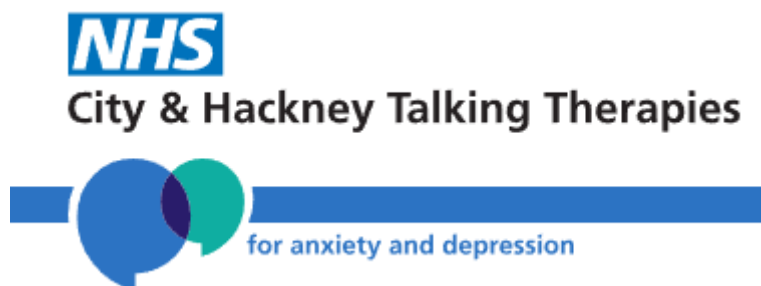
School value in focus this week: **Forgiveness**

Each week the class teacher nominates a pupil in their class who has shown the school value that was in focus.



The pupils who have shown excellent **forgiveness** are:

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Izrail		Luke	Jaciara	Joellianna	Lachlan	Yagmur



It is normal to feel low, sad or down sometimes but if this goes on for too long then talking therapies have been proven to help people make positive changes so that they feel better and stay better.



We are an NHS service offering free talking therapy to people registered with GPs in the City and Hackney area in London. These areas include Barbican, The City, Clapton, Clerkenwell, Dalston, London Fields, Shoreditch, Stamford Hill, Stoke Newington, Hackney, Hoxton and Homerton. We offer psychological therapy to help with issues ranging from Anxiety, Depression and Panic Attacks to Phobias, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Although you do need to be registered to a GP in the above areas, you do not need a GP referral to talk to us. You can refer yourself directly via the 'Get Help' buttons on this website.

The types of therapies that we can offer include Cognitive Behavioral Therapies (CBT), Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy, Behavioural Couples Therapy, Interpersonal Therapy and Counselling for Depression

<https://cityandhackneytalkingtherapies.homerton.nhs.uk/>

## Services and support in Education

### **Hackney SENDIAGS** (Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice, Guidance and Support)

[0-25 SEND Local Offer | Family Information Service | Hackney SENDIAGS \(SEND Information, Advice and Guidance Service\)](#)

If you are looking for information, advice and support (IAS) about your child (or yourself if you are a young person under 25 with additional needs and or a disability) you can contact Hackney free impartial service SENDIAGS.

Telephone 020 7275 6036 (Advice Line)

E-mail [sendiags@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:sendiags@hackney.gov.uk)

Web [www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/sendiags](http://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/sendiags)

and Advice to disabled people on; Benefits, Housing, Health, Social Care, and other independent living services.

Phone 020 7613 3206

Text phone: 020 7613 3208

Email [info@choiceinhackney.org](mailto:info@choiceinhackney.org)

Website <https://choiceinhackney.org/>

[Hackney SEND Parent Carer Forum - Housing focussed forum meeting.](#)

Hear from staff working in SEND relevant areas of housing. Find out more about processes and ask questions relevant to you.

**Thursday 13 February 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.**

**Marie Lloyd Centre, Queensbridge Road, E8 3LA**

## **Hackney Ark Children's Occupational Therapy - Talk to us 1:1 advice session 2025**

Monthly bookable slots to get advice from an NHS Occupational Therapy service who assess children under 18 experiencing functional difficulties with everyday tasks due to a physical and or neurological disability.

**Monthly last Wednesday of the month 1 pm to 4 pm**

**Booking required.**

**In-person, phone and online options available.**

## **Hackney Ark - Key Work drop in sessions for parents and carers** (New venue)

If you have a child that receives any support from Hackney Ark and you would like information and advice in relation to services or benefits that you may be entitled to. OR you would simply like the opportunity to meet with, learn from and share your experiences with other parents who also have children with health and or developmental issues you are welcome to attend a weekly drop in session at Comet facilitated by a member of the Hackney Ark Key Work team.

**Wednesday mornings from 9:30 am to 11:30 am during term time only.**

**Thomas Fairchild Community School Forston St. N1 7HA**

## **Mind The Gap - Drop-In Social Group 2025**

Are you looking to learn more about Autism from professionals and peers?

Or maybe you are searching for a fun, Autism-friendly social space?

If so check out our Mind the Gap drop-in sessions!

These drop-in sessions are a space for Autistic young people to get together and socialise in a welcoming and supportive environment.

Parents or carers and young people over the age of 16 will be able to self-refer by emailing us on [huh-tr.mindthegap@nhs.net](mailto:huh-tr.mindthegap@nhs.net)

After confirming a few details, they will receive a call from one of our facilitators to get a little more information to make sure that the offer is suitable for the young person and answer any questions they might have.

**5 pm to 6:30 pm every second Thursday of the month.**

**Next date Thursday March 13**

## Family Coach (SEND) Make screen time work for you

Across the 2 hour workshop you'll have the opportunity to explore:

What research says about screen time

What managing screen time looks like for you and your family

How you're currently managing screen time; Amount of time, What your child is using screen time for

Transitioning from screen time, Using screen time for rewards/consequences

**9:15 am - 11:15 am on Friday 7 February**

**Holy Trinity School, Beechwood Road, E8 3DY**

**Please book by emailing [familycoach@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk)**

## Educational Psychology Parent Advice Sessions

The Parent Advice Sessions are open to all children and families living in Hackney including those children not yet in school, children who are out of school, children who live in Hackney and attend school in other boroughs

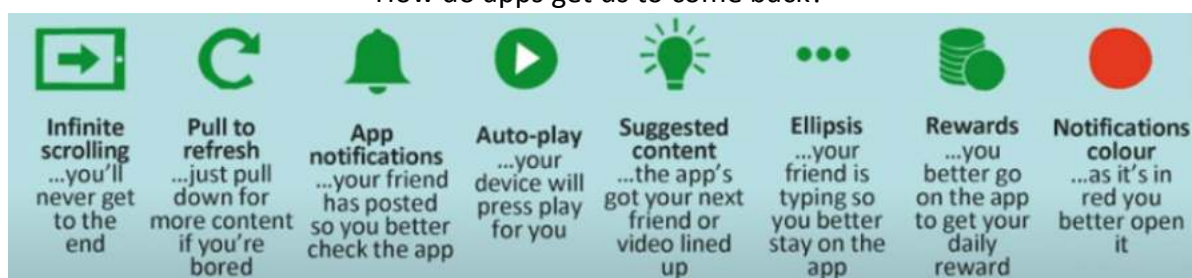
If you would like support and advice, this is an opportunity for you to talk about your child/children with an educational psychologist for up to 30 minutes on our phone line.

**Wednesdays between 1:00 and 3:00 pm and during term time.**

**Online booking form to secure a slot.**

### **Tip for keeping pupils safe online (taken from [saferinternet.org.uk](http://saferinternet.org.uk))**

How do apps get us to come back?



### **Keeping Children Safe**

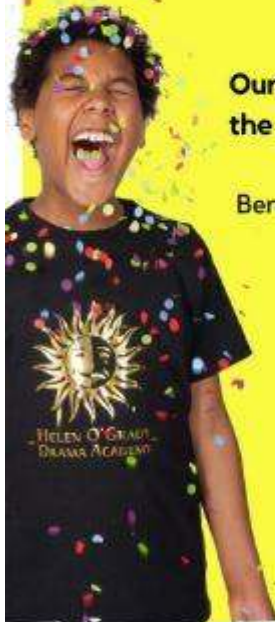
The safeguarding of the children at St Matthias is our number one priority. We adhere to stringent safeguarding procedures to protect the welfare of all the children who come to our school. We will endeavour to work with parents and carers as it is our duty as a school to protect our children and to keep them safe.

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead (Ms Blewett) or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (Miss Frohock & Mrs Cherid).

# DEVELOPMENT THROUGH ONLINE DRAMA



"The online lesson was amazing!  
It's been the best learning  
experience by far since  
lockdown began."



**Our structured curriculum and trained teachers guarantee the highest standard of interactive online drama classes.**

Benefits of Our Online Classes for Students Include:

- Increased SELF ESTEEM and CONFIDENCE
- SOCIAL INTERACTION and COMMUNICATION with others
- FUN activities to engage CREATIVITY and IMAGINATION
- SPEECH and LANGUAGE development

**JOIN US IN AN ONLINE TRIAL LESSON TODAY!**

## CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nicola Gossip BA Acting & Andrew Mayer BA Acting – Joint Principal's

**Tel: 07777 672284/0208 360 4020**

Email: [nlondon@helenogrady.co.uk](mailto:nlondon@helenogrady.co.uk)

[www.helenogrady.co.uk](http://www.helenogrady.co.uk)

