

# St Matthias CE Primary School Newsletter

My Identity



Know who they are

My World



Ask questions about the world around them

My Voice



Use their voices to make a difference

My Future



Aspire to greatness

Friday 7th November  
2025



News from this week: **(please scroll all the way to the bottom!)**



## Year 6 Residential to Ufton Court

Our fabulous Year 6s have been away to Ufton Court this week. They have spent 2 nights and 3 days taking part in a range of exciting activities, such as: fire lighting, orienteering, cooking, den building, looking after animals on the farm, raft building and riding bikes. We look forward to hearing more about their trip when they return today!



## EYFS and KS1 Drama4All Workshops

EYFS and KS1 had a special workshop with Drama4All.

Each class explored a different well-known fairytale and the children acted out their favourite parts!



## Important dates:

**Tuesday 11th November**  
Spanish Coffee Morning  
with Mr Enric Sancho



**Tuesday 18th November**  
St Matthias Christmas  
Organisation Coffee  
Morning with Mrs Blewett



**Tuesday 24th November**  
Helping your child with  
communication and  
regulation strategies with  
Mrs Danquah



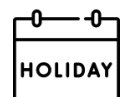
**Thursday 11th December**  
Year 2 Theatre Trip to see  
Mamma Goose



**Friday 19th December**  
Last Day of Autumn 2 Term



**Monday 22nd  
December - Friday 2nd  
January**  
Christmas Holidays



**Monday 5th January**  
INSET Day - no children



## EYFS School Bonfire!

EYFS had a special bonfire night celebration in the meadow toasting marshmallows!



**Tuesday 6th January**  
Start of Spring 1 Term  
**ALL CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL!**



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

[EYFS Autumn 2 Curriculum Overview](#)  
[Year 1 Autumn 2 Curriculum Overview](#)  
[Year 2 Autumn 2 Curriculum Overview](#)  
[Year 3 Autumn 2 Curriculum Overview](#)  
[Year 4 Autumn 2 Curriculum Overview](#)  
[Year 5 Autumn 2 Curriculum Overview](#)  
[Year 6 Autumn 2 Curriculum Overview](#)



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

**Autumn 2 P.E Days from W2 - w.c. 10.11.25 - some classes P.E days have changed for the next half term. Please see below:**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 4</b> <b>Year 6</b>	<b>Year 1</b> <b>EYFS</b>

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

### EYFS:

We have been celebrating Bonfire Night with lots of fun activities.

### Year 1:

Year 1 have had a fantastic first week

<p>The children loved gathering around our own little bonfire, toasting marshmallows, and watching the beautiful sparkles from the sparklers. We talked about how to stay safe around bonfires and fireworks, and everyone showed great listening and understanding.</p> <p>We also started our brand-new story, The Everywhere Bear. The children really enjoyed getting to know the story and joining in with our very own bear hunt around the setting — there was so much excitement as we searched high and low to find him!</p> <p>In RWI, we have been focusing on reading CVC words and practising blending the sounds together to make short words. The children are becoming much more confident with their phonics and are so proud of how much progress they're making.</p>		<p>back! The children returned full of enthusiasm and quickly settled back into their routines. They thoroughly enjoyed a visit from <i>Perform</i>, where they explored ancient England and fairytales through drama and performing arts — everyone had a wonderful time and showed off some brilliant acting skills!</p> <p>In English, we began our new class text, <i>Rapunzel</i> by Bethan Woollvin, which offers a fun twist on the traditional story we all know. In Geography, we started our new topic, <i>Where We Live</i>, learning more about our country, city, and the town where our school is located.</p> <p>It's also been great to see how well the children remembered their decade numbers and key vocabulary from before the half term — a fantastic start to the new term, Year 1!</p>
<p><b>Year 2:</b></p> <p>Year 2 have had a really busy first week back and it has been so lovely to come back and see each other after the holiday!</p> <p>We started this week off with an amazing drama session learning all about the legend of Merlin. We have also been making predictions about our new book The Night Gardener and writing poetry inspired by the cover art.</p> <p>We have begun exploring addition structures by making numbers using 3 addends in Maths and in Humanities we discovered more about our Capital City, London.</p>	<p><b>Year 3:</b></p> <p>Year 3 have had a great start back to the term! In maths, we have started to focus on measurements specifically understanding how to use centimetres and metres along with converting between the units. In writing, we wrote a simile poem based on a character from our new story 'Fox' by Margaret Wild.</p> <p>In humanities we have started our new topic 'villages, towns and cities', yesterday we focused on the concept of population and population density.</p> <p>Well done year 3!</p>	<p><b>Year 4:</b></p> <p>Year 4 have had a calm and focused week back to school. In writing we fully immersed ourselves into our setting of an Icy Forest, we used our scenes to experience the atmosphere, smell and touch of what it would be like there. In maths we went on a polygon hunt around the school! We found that the playground has lots of regular polygons. We then used our knowledge of polygons to help us with perimeter!</p> <p>In humanities, we started our unit learning about rivers, we researched all the most famous rivers across the world!</p> <p>Well done Year 4</p>
<p><b>Year 5 Faith:</b></p> <p>Year 5 have been amazing this week. They have engaged in their new text in their writing lesson, called Farther. They have constructed beautiful personification poems, about the atmosphere, that they explored through looking at the illustrations. Within maths, we have started our new topic which is money, in which year 5 have been using their knowledge of place values, in particular ones, tenths and hundredths linking this knowledge to money and answering reasoning questions! In their science lessons this week, they looked at parts of a plant and immersed themselves in their new topic. In reading, we are close to finishing the boy at the back of the class,</p>	<p><b>Year 5 Hope:</b></p> <p>Hope class have had a focused and successful first week back to school! We have started looking at a new text for our writing called 'Farther', in which the children have made predictions about what they think the book is about. They also immersed themselves fully into the text through elements of music and drama.</p> <p>In maths the children have been learning about the value of British money through practically exploring the different coins and their values. They were able to use and apply their knowledge of decimals to further develop their understanding.</p> <p>In science the children learnt about how flowering plants can reproduce and also dissected flowers to examine the various</p>	<p><b>Year 6:</b></p> <p>Our fabulous Year 6s have been away to Ufton Court this week. They have spent 2 nights and 3 days taking part in a range of exciting activities, such as: fire lighting, orienteering, cooking, den building, looking after animals on the farm, raft building and riding bikes. We look forward to hearing more about their trip when they return today!</p>

answering comprehension questions and using their inference skills. Well done year 5!

parts.

### Hot chocolate Friday!

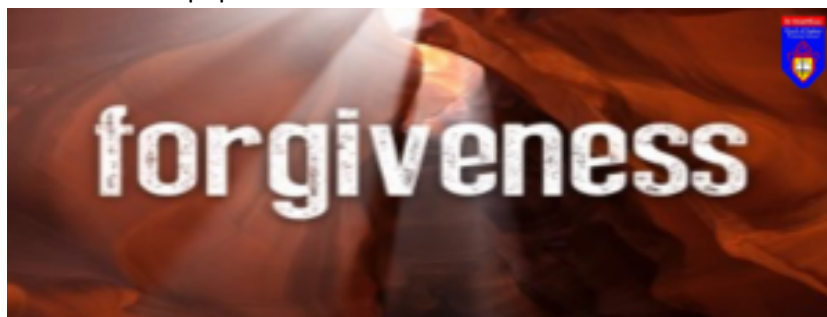
Pupils enjoyed hot chocolate this week. They have consistently displayed exemplary behaviour and learning.



Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5 Hope	Year 5 Faith	Year 6
Elira	Liya	Inayaah	Archibald	Delaney-Rome	Aiden W	Joellianna	N/A

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:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5 Hope	Year 5 Faith	Year 6
Owen	Archie	Alan	Luke	Tuana	Jehovani	Dolly	Joel

## Hackney Local Offer

We know navigating the Hackney system can be really tricky so Hackney have created a padlet that includes everything you may need.

We are very lucky to have a rich Local Offer but there are many things we don't know about so be sure to discover:

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/family.page?familychannel=0>



## Family Information Service

What's on?

Help and advice

View all services



Childcare and Early Years



Education



Parenting and Family Support



Health and Wellbeing



Young People



Financial support and Housing Options



Training, Employment and Volunteering

<https://www.hackneylocaloffer.co.uk/kb5/hackney/localoffer/localoffer.page?newlocalofferchannel=0>

## SEND Local Offer

SEND document library

What's on?

Help and advice

You said - We did

Local authorities have a statutory duty to provide, in one place, a description of their offer of support for local families with children and young people who are 0-25 years of age and have SEND (special educational needs and or disabilities). The purpose of the Local Offer duty is to:

- Provide clear, comprehensive, accessible, up-to-date information about available provision and how to access it.
- Make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations by involving disabled young people, their parents, and local service providers in developing and reviewing what is available.

Hackney's SEND Local Offer to families is made up of support from partners across Education, Health, Social Care, and Leisure Services. It includes registered specialist charities, and community and voluntary services where appropriate to the 0-25 cohort with SEND. Our Local Offer website is where we share with families and partners, information from these services about their support, processes, and opportunities.

Use the category search buttons below, key words, or '[Contact Us](#)' if you need help finding information.

View all services



Childcare and Early Years



Education



Family Support and Social Care

<https://hspcf.org/>



Home

About Us

Meetings And Events

News

Info & Resources

Get Involved -

Contact Us

## WELCOME TO

## Hackney SEND Parent Carer Forum (HSPCF)

The forum enables parents and carers of children (0-25yrs) with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to work in collaboration with local decision makers, communicating their views and experiences and helping to shape local services.

[Join Us](#)

# Parent Wellness Course

## Being, Mindful & Kindful to Yourself

10<sup>th</sup> Oct to 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2025 every Friday 10 – 12 pm  
at Rushmore Primary School in the Music Room

6-week course run by Dr Su Batuwitage Psychologist

This wellness group is for parents/carers who would like a nurturing space for their wellbeing and to develop a practice of mindfulness and compassion to support them with caring for themselves and their families

This group is designed to help you to develop your own self-care practice, to make time for yourself and to meet other parents/carers who also want a space to recuperate and rest



Use the QR code or the weblink to access the Eventbrite page to register for this course:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parent-wellness-course-being-kindful-to-yourself-autumn-2025-tickets-1587979472348?aff=sourcecreator>



## Yoga Home - FREE Classes for Parents and Carers

### Service details

Yoga Home is a registered charity and community studio offering a wide range of yoga, Pilates, and movement classes, along with therapeutic massage and a cafe.

As we are a charity, proceeds from our paid classes and services fund free yoga and movement programs for schools and groups within Hackney who would benefit from this opportunity.

### About these sessions.

[Yogahome](#) is delighted to offer a free weekly yoga class specially designed for parents and carers of children with SEND.

No need to bring anything, just come wear comfortable clothes. You can just turn up!

Each hour-long weekly session will include gentle movement to strengthen and stretch, and guided relaxation to deeply sooth and release tension and stress.

We hope you can join us for this free session.

### When?

Every Wednesday 10 am to 11 am

No class during half terms and school holidays.

[Check school holiday dates here.](#)

### Where?

Yogahome, 14 Allen Road, Hackney, N16 8SD.

### Further information

If you have any questions please call us on 020 7249 2425 or email Shira: [shira@yogahome.com](mailto:shira@yogahome.com)

### Hackney SENDIAGS Drop-in Sessions Fortnightly on a Tuesday from 10am - 2pm Autumn Term 2025

Hackney SEND Information, Advice and Guidance Service (SENDIAGS) is an arm's length service providing impartial and confidential information, advice and support to parents and carers of children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) and young people and children with SEND.

**Do you need help, for example, to:**

- prepare for a school meeting in order to effectively share your views, wishes and feelings in any discussions
- know what questions to ask when visiting a school for a tour
- make sure that your child's needs are being met at school, college or nursery
- think about your contribution to an assessment
- go through your EHC needs assessment request
- go through your draft EHC Plan
- Prepare for an Annual Review meeting and make sure your views are included

**Attend one of our 20 minutes' drop-in appointments where you can discuss further and receive information, advice, support and guidance from one of our advisers.**

**30.09.25, 14.10.25, 28.10.25,  
11.11.25, 25.11.25, 09.12.25**

Ann Tayler Children & Family Hub  
1-13 Triangle Road  
London Fields, Hackney, London  
E8 3RP

For any more information please contact:  
Hackney SENDIAGS  
[SENDIAGS@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:SENDIAGS@hackney.gov.uk)  
0207 275 6036



**Working for every child**





# The Family Coach Service's 4 week Parent Empowerment Group

## Building a toolbox for Parental Wellbeing

### Mondays 1-3 pm @ Daubeney Children and Family Hub

### 103 Daubeney Rd, London E5 0EG

All families with a child that has a need within **any of the 4 areas of SEND** are welcome  
We are a needs based service. **No EHCP or formal diagnosis** is needed.



There are **10 spaces available**. We ask that families are able to attend **all 4 sessions**.  
To sign up email to [familycoach@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk) or call the hub 020 8525 7040

## Parent Empowerment Groups

Every group has 10 spaces available to parents that have a child with an identified special educational need or disability that live in Hackney or have a child in a Hackney school.

No formal diagnosis or education health care plan is necessary.

We ask that you commit to attending all sessions as parents report consistency helps to build community connection and problem solving.

To express your interest in attending the group please email [familycoach@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk)

Please include the group you'd like to attend and the school your child attends in the email.

## Building a toolbox for parental wellbeing

Starting Monday 10 of November 1 to 3 pm at Daubeney Children's Centre, Daubeney Rd, London E5 0EG

- Monday 10 of November - What's already in your wellbeing toolbox?
- Monday 17 of November - Bringing awareness to your strengths
- Monday 24 of November - Catching unhelpful thoughts
- Monday 1 of December - Finding a moment for you

## Creating a sleep routine that works for you and your family

Starting Tuesday 11 of November 9 am to 10:30am at Holy Trinity Primary School, Beechwood Rd, London E8 3DY

- Tuesday 11 of November - An Introduction to sleep
- Tuesday 18 of November - Before bedtime (transitions and routines)
- Tuesday 25 of November - Before bedtime (calming activities and screen time)



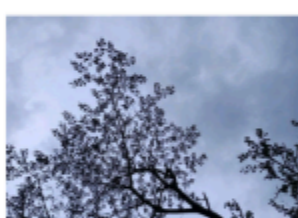
- Tuesday 2 of December - Thinking about the bedroom environment
- Tuesday 9 of December - How to settle if your child wakes-up.



## Family Coach Service Winter Wellbeing Walks 2025

**For parents of children with  
special educational needs and disabilities.**  
No formal diagnosis or Educational Health Care Plan necessary.

**All walks will meet at Hackney Service Center**



**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> of  
November 10-11am**

### **A walk to notice**

Bring attention to your  
surroundings and  
notice the little things.

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of  
November 10-11am**

### **A walk to calm**

Promote calmness  
when walking in your  
local community

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of  
December 10-11am**

### **A walk to connect**

Create something for  
others to connect with  
on their walks

**To sign up please email: [familycoach@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk)**

**Can't make the walks but still want to be part of the community?**  
Please email us to be sent the walks to complete in your own time.

## Winter Wellbeing Walks

Opportunities to take a moment for yourself, meet with other parents of children with SEND and walk together. All walks meet at Hackney Service Center behind the Town Hall on Mare Street.

To express interest in attending the walks please email [familycoach@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk) telling us the walk/walks you'd like to attend and your child's school.

Friday 14th of November 10-11am - A walk to notice

Friday 28th of November 10-11am - A walk to calm

Friday 12th of November 10-11am - A walk to connect.

Can't make the walks but still want to be part of the community? Please email us to be sent the walks to complete in your own time and an invitation to upload something from your walk onto a community online padlet.

## Training Opportunities

### Understanding Autism Training for Parents (Online)

- Would you like to learn more about Autism?
- Are you waiting for an assessment for your child?
- Do you have a child that has a diagnosis of autism?

If you've answered yes then the Understanding Autism training may be for you.

Across the 2 hour training you will explore the following:

- An Introduction to Autism
- Understanding the individual
- Positive and effective relationships
- Learning and development
- Enabling environments

There are 20 spaces available for each session.

#### When and where?

Online - Thursday 13 November 9.30 am to 11.30am

Your child does not need a formal diagnosis or an Education, Health, and Care Plan for you to be eligible to sign up for these sessions. Any Hackney parent is welcome to join.

Please email us stating which training you'd like to attend to reserve your place. [familycoach@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk)



## Talk to an OT

Do you have any concerns or questions about your child's development?



Occupational Therapy can help with life skills such as self care skills (e.g. toileting, dressing, sleep and eating), school skills (e.g. attention, focus, writing and cutting) and play skills (e.g. turn taking and sharing).



Drop In is for children and young people aged 0-18yrs

Identify a goal for your child to work towards in their everyday life.



Learn from an Occupational Therapist.



## How does it work?

The sessions will be offered either face to face, telephone or virtually for a 15 minutes consultation and can be booked in over the phone.

### Upcoming dates

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December

### Where:

Face to face  
Hackney Ark  
Downs Park Road  
E8 2FP

Telephone

Microsoft teams

For some advice or tips on  
your child's development,  
come and speak to an  
occupational therapist.  
Everyone's welcome!



**To book your place, or for more details, contact us  
on:**

[huh-tr.childrensotpevents@nhs.net](mailto:huh-tr.childrensotpevents@nhs.net)  
020 7014 7025

## 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 (Ms Frohock, Ms Cherid or Ms Janeice).





**Lucy Blewett**  
**Headteacher**  
**DSL**



**Amy Frohock**  
**Deputy Headteacher**  
**Deputy DSL**



**Yasmine Cherid**  
**Assistant Headteacher**  
**SEND CO |**



**Janiece Headley-Walker**  
**Pastoral Manager**  
**Deputy DSL**