

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

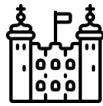


Aspire to greatness

Friday 17th October
2025



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



Year 2 Trip to the Tower of London

Year 2 went to The Tower of London! The class found out how the tower was saved from The Great Fire of London. They also explored other landmarks, including: Samuel Pepy's house (where the fire started) and saw The Monument.



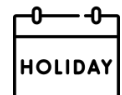
Important dates:

Monday 20th October
St Matthias Black history

Event 4-6pm



Monday 27th - Friday 31st October
Half Term Holiday

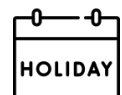


Monday 3rd November
INSET Day

Tuesday 4th November
Start of Autumn 2 Term



Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January
Christmas Holidays



Year 4 Apollo Music Workshops



Apollo music has started working with our Year 4 class. The children will have lots of opportunities to listen to them play and learn about the different groups of instruments that make up an orchestra. At the end of the year, Year 4 will attend a special concert at Hackney Empire!

Year 5 Reading Champions

Our brilliant Reading Champions attended the launch event at Hackney Town Hall this week. We were able to get free books, got set challenges and met with an author. This author led us in a brilliant poetry and Hip Hop workshop which we loved.

Our job is to raise the profile of reading across the school so watch out for our weekly book recommendations!



CELEBRATING BLACK AUTHORS

Children can wear to school:

- International dress
- Superhero costumes
- Non-uniform

Bring £1 to raise money
for Literacy Pirates, who tutor children
in our community to become
empowered young writers.

Collect as normal at 3:30pm
Church opens at 3:45 for a celebration of
black authors – poetry, music and art!

Then into hall for music and food

FREE EVENT

We will be selling boxes of Jerk Chicken,
Rice, Curry Goat, Cupcakes, Puff Puffs etc

**MONDAY 20TH
OCTOBER**

3:45-6:00

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

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



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

September P.E Days - these days will change each half term

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

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

EYFS:

EYFS have been busy beavers exploring their environment this week. We are really flexing our phonics muscles and showcasing our amazing writing by using initial sounds independently. EYFS have also done a big push on name writing, with most of Reception and some of Nursery off to a great start!

In maths, we have been going counting crazy - finding different numbers in our environment and exploring different ways to make numbers.

As Winter slowly approaches, we have made sure to explore Autumn and the fun activities that come along with it.

In EYFS, we have been celebrating Black History Month through our story Baby Goes to Market. The children loved drawing pictures of the baby and all the colourful fruits from the story. We also explored Africa, learning about its culture and some famous authors. Our learning didn't stop there — we've been busy baking delicious cinnamon swirls, smelling and tasting a variety of spices, and discovering autumnal animals such as hedgehogs and owls during playdough time. It's been a wonderful week full of creativity, learning, and exploration!

Year 1:

The children have been working hard this week, planning and retelling the story of *Old Bear*. They've shown great enthusiasm when drawing pictures to accompany the story, which has really motivated them to get stuck into their writing! In science, they had lots of fun investigating whether different materials are waterproof or absorbent, as part of their ongoing quest to find the best material for Old Bear's winter coat. Who knew squeezing water out of plastic could be so tricky? Most importantly, we've also been practising self-affirmation and reminding ourselves just how special we all are!

Year 2:

We have had another week of great learning in Year 2. We published our letters to Tom in writing which allowed us to practise our continuous cursive handwriting. We also discussed why the Lord's Prayer is important to Christian worship and in Humanities we continued our work on the Great Fire of London by writing about why Samuel Pepys' diary is significant.

Year 3:

We have had another week filled with hard work and focus! In humanities we focused on the learning question 'what was life like in a Stone Age settlement?' To understand this we discussed the different roles people would play and created a short role play based on this. Head over to classdojo to see the videos!

In Maths we have been focused on and adding and subtracting 10 from 10 from any number.

Well done year 3!

Year 4:

Year 4 have had another hard working week. We have produced some fantastic newspaper articles about a mysterious sighting of a marine creature. In science we carried out an experiment to see the affect of liquid on teeth (egg shells) Vinegar made our egg shell dissolve!

In RE we looked at the story of Ruth and how selfless she was to care for Naomi. We have also created some amazing poems based on our Black History Month book, To Be a Drum.

Year 5 Faith: Year 5 this week immersed themselves in a range of lessons. Within maths they used practical resources to support them with their place value knowledge. In writing they completed their final writing outcome, using their knowledge to complete a mission log based on an astronaut going to space. Alongside this, for their black history topic, they looked at a particular author, in which they based their poems on, that will be showcased on Monday for the black history month evening. Within RE, year 5 wrote letters to a community that didn't know much about Jesus, sharing beautiful messages with them! Year 5 worked extremely hard this week, well done!	Year 5 Hope: It has been a highly focused week for Hope class. We have finally written our formal mission logs in our writing lesson, used our knowledge of column addition and subtraction to add and subtract decimal numbers in maths, and also learnt about the geocentric and heliocentric models/ theories in science. We have continued our focus on miracles in RE, with the miracle of Lazarus being the focus this week. The children have also written some fantastic poems linked to our BHM story 'Granny Came here on the Empire Windrush', which we look forward to sharing on Monday!	Year 6: What a busy and exciting week it's been for Year 6! We created a beautiful art piece to celebrate Black History Month, showcasing creativity and reflection on inspirational figures. We also enjoyed an outdoor learning session led by the team from Ufton Court, where we developed teamwork and problem-solving skills in nature. In addition, we took part in an engaging BHM workshop run by Young Hackney, deepening our understanding of Black history and culture. Finally, we completed our CATs tests — a big well done to everyone for their focus and effort throughout such a full week!	

Hot chocolate Friday!

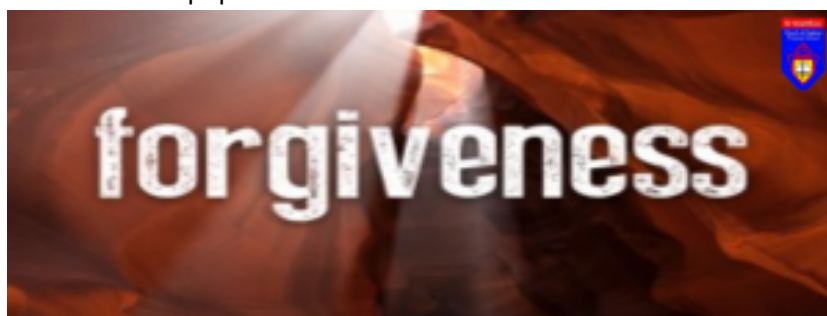
Pupils enjoyed hot chocolate this week. They have consistently displayed exemplary behaviour and learning.



Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5 Hope	Year 5 Faith	Year 6
Elira	Shae	Nancy	Buruk	Makaela	Khyran	Harry	Joel

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
Jayveer	Massai	Alan	Meslian	Khalid	Yaafi	Shanika	Amelia

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>

SEND Local Offer ▾ Family Information Service ▾ Contact Form Sign in/Register SEND Newsletter

 [Help with searching](#) [Crisis service contacts](#)

[Home](#) > [Family Information Service](#)

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

10th Oct to 21st 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-
1587978472345?aff=socialcreator](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parent-wellness-course-being-kindful-to-yourself-autumn-2025-tickets-1587978472345?aff=socialcreator)



Contact Ms Cherid for sign up
information!

Children &
Family Hubs
Partnerships



Support your child's early language development

The Peep Learning Together Programme



For parents, carers
and children
aged
2-4 years old

St Matthias
Community
Room

Starting November
Thursday
8:45 - 10:00

Working for every child

peep supporting parents and
children to learn together

Helping Your Child With Fears and Worries

Supportive Group for Parents & Carers of Anxious Children (Ages 5–12)

Date and time

November 7 · 9:15am - December 12 · 10:30am GMT

Location

Children & Young People's Centre

15 Homerton Row London E9 6ET

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/helping-your-child-with-fears-and-worries-tickets-1757634525179?aff=ebemoffollowpublishemail&ref=email&utm_campaign=following_published_event&utm_content=follow_notification&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eventbrite

Foundations for Positive Parenting - using Incredible Years principles

Join our group to share your experiences in parenting and what is going well.

For parents of children aged 5 - 7 years.



Join our supportive group to share your experiences in managing behaviours that challenge. For parents of children aged 5-7 years.

Date and time

November 7 · 9:15am - December 19 · 10:30am GMT

Location

John Scott Health Centre

220 Green Lanes London N4 2NU

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/foundations-of-positive-parenting-tickets-1757658326369?aff=ebemnsebconsumeremail&lid=51fdn9grzfqr&utm_campaign=clab_coex_lcm_dss_na_mc_mum_0_0_followroundup&utm_term=GB-London-organizer.addl listings-Priority-listing.organizer&utm_content=b0a269ce-0ebd-47f3-adec-c100b5255492_68ed4e2007f64c2426812e1a3c96f0da_a9bb9a44-b472-4b39-a371-9874028bd571_e3fc8e93-385e-47cc-a4e8-b3fe8b4d0e58&utm_source=braze&utm_medium=ebml



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

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
0207 275 6036



Working for every child



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

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.
-

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 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

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 29th January
Wednesday 26th February
Wednesday 26th March
Wednesday 30th April
Wednesday 28th May
Wednesday 25th June
Wednesday 30th July
Wednesday 27th August
Wednesday 24th September
Wednesday 29th October
Wednesday 26th November
Wednesday 17th 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.childrensofpevents@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
SENDCO |



Janiece Headley-Walker
Pastoral Manager
Deputy DSL