

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



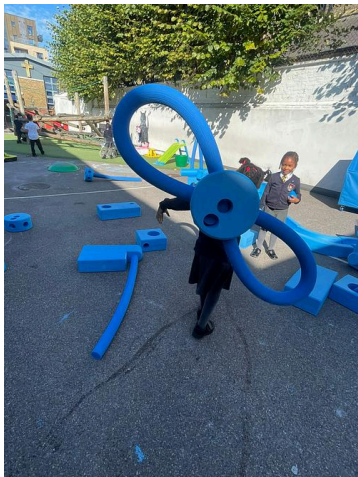
Aspire to greatness

Friday 21st November
2025



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

The imagination, creativity and sheer capacity for JOY of our children is clear to see during playtimes at St Matthias. The children are learning key skills without even realising it but most importantly having fun! #OPALPlaytimes



Important dates:

Tuesday 25th November
St Matthias Christmas
Organisation Coffee Morning
with Mrs Blewett



Wednesday 26th November
Year 4 Stratford Canal Trip



Tuesday 2nd December
Year 5 Natural History
Museum Trip



**Amy Frohock Can I add our
concert trip aswell here?**

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



Friday 12th December
Festive Dress - children to
bring in chocolate for
Christmas Fayre chocolate
tombola



Monday 15th December
St Matthias Christmas
Sing-along 2:45-3:30pm





Spanish Coffee Morning with Mr Enric Sancho



Thank you to Mr Enric for running our first Spanish Coffee morning last week! Here is a website that we would like to share with you. It has some brilliant resources to help you/your child learn a new language. Check it out!

**Rock
A
Lingua**



username
spanishenric
password
london2023

If your device has a camera you can scan the QR code to automatically sign in

Tuesday 16th December
Year 1 Museum of the Home

Trip



Wednesday 17th December
EYFS Nativity 9-9:30am (EYFS parents only)



Wednesday 17th December
St Matthias Summer Fayre
(3:45-5:30)



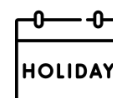
Friday 19th December
Last Day of Autumn 2 Term
3:30pm finish



Monday 22nd December
- Friday 2nd January
Christmas Holidays



Monday 5th January
INSET Day - no children



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





CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Joyful stuff for your
calendar:



Children Christmas Dinner Wednesday 10th December

Festive dress- bring tombola
chocolate!

Friday 12th December



Concert: Family Sing-along 2:45 Monday 15th December

EYFS Nativity @ 9:00 am

Wednesday 17th December

Christmas Fair 3:45-5:30

Wednesday 17th December



Last day finish at 3:30pm

Friday 19th December

Back to school

Tuesday 6th January





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

Autumn 2 P.E Days

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

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

EYFS:

We've had such a fun and busy week of learning! The children have loved role-playing as police officers and practising how to ask questions — all in preparation for a very exciting visit next week from Miss Zerrouki's brother, who will be coming in with his police car and uniform. We have also started learning about pets and how we take care of them. Our Christmas nativity songs are now underway, and the children have been practising beautifully; cast lines will be given out next week. We've also begun our new text, *Star in the Jar*, and the children have proudly started writing their first ever full sentence. We're so impressed with their enthusiasm and progress!

Year 1:

It has been a successful week in Year 1! The children have been demonstrating a fantastic understanding of comparing quantity, looking closely at length, height, and weight. We had great fun predicting what would happen when placing different objects on a balancing scale, as well as finding things that are taller or shorter than ourselves.

We also enjoyed an autumn walk around the school, observing how the change in weather has affected our surroundings — especially the trees, leaves, and of course, the wind!

The children have been especially excited to begin our Christmas festivities by recapping the Nativity story and starting to learn our Christmas songs. It's beginning to feel very festive in Year 1!

Year 2: We have had a busy week this week in Year 2. We have been working really hard on our maths, progressing from addition and subtraction to representing difference with physical resources and visual representations. We have also been working hard on our setting descriptions in writing and gave our thoughts and ideas about why Saint Matthias is both important to our school and to Christians in RE.	Year 3: This week, Year 3 have begun writing their own fable narratives inspired by Fox by Margaret Wild. In Maths, they learned a new song to help them convert between grams and kilograms. Using this knowledge, they confidently applied their skills by using scales to measure different amounts of cubes. In RE, the children brought together everything they have learned this term to answer the key question: "Why is Remembrance important?" Well done, Year 3!	Year 4: Year 4 have had a fantastic week. We have started writing our Outsider Narrative and have used lots of emotive language to show how our character would be feeling! In maths we concluded our learning on perimeter and had a very secure understanding of this! We are now looking at the relationship between the 3,6 & 9 times tables. We are practicing hard with these ready for our MTC! In humanities, we explored how a landform can be made. We also thought of some interesting questions that we can ask on our river trip next week!	
Year 5 Faith: Year 5 Faith, have really been working hard this week, in their writing lessons they have finished their first writing outcome for this term, which is a setting narrative, working hard with their partner to edit and check their work, ready for their assessment! Within maths, they have been focusing on word problems, unpicking the question and deciding an efficient method to use. In their humanities lesson, they looked at why slums develop, discussing push and pull factors. In PSHE they engaged in a meaningful discussion about how to treat others and for standing up for everyone, regardless of who they are! I am very impressed with year 5 this week, well done!	Year 5 Hope: It has been a busy week in Hope class with the children starting to write their setting narratives based on an illustration from FArTHER. They have made a fantastic start with some brilliant language being used. The children have been working on word problems and using different strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems in maths. In science the children have now started to learn about the life cycle of mammals and the different stages within the life cycle. 'Slums' has been the humanities topic this half term, with a focus on how and why slums develop during this week's lesson. The children have been highly engaged and inquisitive. Another week of great learning! Well done Hope class!	Year 6: Year 6 have had an exciting week of learning. In science, we carried out an experiment to explore how light travels and how it reaches our eyes, using torches and objects to test our predictions. In English, we planned our own flashback narratives inspired by A Story Like the Wind, thinking carefully about emotion, atmosphere, and structure. As part of our fieldwork topic in geography, we also learned how to read maps, using symbols and grid references to locate key features. It's been a fantastic week filled with curiosity, creativity and hands-on discovery.	

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
Stefan	Emerald	Kemal	Cataleja	Rome	Nayala	Nylah-Rose	Ezekiel

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

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 **respect** are:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5 Hope	Year 5 Faith	Year 6
Arabella	Ian	Huzaifa	Remie	Anna	Jehovani	Mouhamed	Hugo

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>

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/>



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[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-mindful-kindful-to-yourself-autumn-2025-tickets-1587978472349?aff=exp&creator>





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 soothe 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



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 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

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.

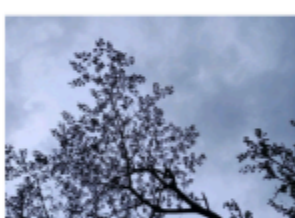


Family Coach Service

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 14th of November 10-11am

A walk to notice

Bring attention to your surroundings and notice the little things.

Friday 28th of November 10-11am

A walk to calm

Promote calmness when walking in your local community

Friday 12th 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

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 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