

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 19th December 2025



News from this week

What a fabulous term we have had at St Matthias. We have welcomed so many new starters who have settled in beautifully and the learning across the whole school has been such high quality. We have been on some amazing trips and been treated to so amazing performances from both the school singalong to the nativity. We are so excited about what the new year has in store.

Goodbye, congratulations and welcome:

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mr Ian. We thank him for his contribution to the school, for his early starts, his problem solving, those nifty drill skills and the countless times he's fixed the swing ball! I know many will miss him as part of our school community.

Congratulations to Ms Danquah, who is expecting her first baby in spring. From January she will no longer be the y1 class teacher but will be responsible for the leadership of SEND provision across the school and will also take on a cover role. Which leads me to welcome Ms Worley back, who will be a strong pair of hands to see year one through the spring and summer term.

Welcome back to full time teaching for Ms Zerrouki! Who from January will be with us 5 days- taking on the role of early years leader. We thank Ms Cherid for her amazing support for the early years team and as she takes the reins in her role as assistant head of inclusion.

We look forward to welcoming all children back to school on Tuesday 6th January. In the meantime sending you all love and Christmas blessings see you next year!



EYFS Nativity



We are so incredibly proud of our wonderful EYFS children and staff for pulling together a brilliant nativity that brought joy (and a few tears) to our whole school community. They have

Important dates:
Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January
Christmas Holidays



Monday 5th January
INSET Day - no children



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



Monday 16th-Friday 20th February
Half term holiday



Monday 23rd February
Spring 2 Term Starts
ALL CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL!



Monday 23rd February
Registration for Hackney Run Schools Challenge opens



Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April
Easter Holidays

been working so hard at remembering all of their lines and using sign language to make this performance inclusive for everyone! Well done!



Ice-Skating at Lee Valley

We are thrilled that we were able to secure tickets to send children for a free ice-skating session at Lee Valley Ice Rink as a pre-Christmas treat! It was brilliant to see so many parents attend.



Monday 13th April
Summer 1 Term Starts
ALL CHILDREN BACK TO
SCHOOL!



Monday 4th May
Bank Holiday



Saturday 16th May
Hackney Run School
Challenge!





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

Spring 1 P.E Days

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

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

EYFS: What an incredible and emotional week it has been in EYFS. Watching all the children perform the nativity was truly magical and incredibly special. We are so proud of every single child who was brave enough to stand up and perform so beautifully — and even remembered their lines! It was such a wonderful performance that the whole school came to watch on Thursday. To top it all off, we were lucky to have a very special visitor — Miss Zerrouki's brother, who is a policeman. The children asked lots of fantastic questions and loved seeing all of his special equipment. A truly memorable week for everyone, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all the team in EYFS!

Year 1:

Year 1 have had such an exciting week! We finished writing our instructions on how to get rid of the mean old witch and explored the composition of numbers to 5 using the part-part-whole model. We also had an amazing time visiting the Museum of the Home, where we learned about how different families lived in the past. The children enjoyed all the Christmas festivities this week, including our singalong and sharing stories about the exciting moments and prizes they won at the Christmas fair but most importantly our visit from Santa! What a lovely way to end the

		autumn term! Merry Christmas to and a Happy New Year to you all!
<p>Year 2:</p> <p>What an amazing end to the Autumn Term! We have had such a wonderful week of fun enjoying our time together before the school holidays. Year 2 has shown such progress and determination since September and this was proven by our trip to the ice rink where we showed how brave and resilient we all are! After a little while we got the hang of skating and soon we were flying around the ice rink!</p> <p>We have spent this week completing our writing assessments, practising our skills with addition and subtraction of ones from a two digit number and looking at the physical and human geographic features of London.</p> <p>Congratulations to all of Year 2, we are so proud of you all! Merry Christmas!</p>	<p>Year 3:</p> <p>Year 3 have had a brilliant Autumn term!</p> <p>We have learned how to research and use our findings to create an information report. In maths, we have continued to develop our understanding of right angles and apply this knowledge to polygons. In science, we explored the learning question <i>How are shadows made?</i> In humanities, we used our knowledge of settlements to make effective comparisons.</p> <p>We have also continued to build our resilience through classroom challenges and our ice-skating trip.</p> <p>Well done, Year 3!</p>	<p>Year 4:</p> <p>Year 4 has had a wonderful end to the Autumn term! We have written some amazing information reports all about polar bears! In maths, we have connected the 3, 6 & 9 x tables together and used strategies and connecting facts to help us remember them. In Humanities we looked at the causes and dangers of flooding and what could be done to prevent it. We have loved taking part in all our Christmas celebrations this week. We showed great collaboration skills when helping each other ice skate. We also showed off our beautiful voices at the Christmas Concert.</p> <p>Well done to every member of Year 4 this term for such hard work. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!</p>
<p>Year 5 Faith:</p> <p>Year 5 Faith have had an amazing Autumn term, I am extremely proud of them! They have shown great enthusiasm and determination in every way. This week we enjoyed many fun Christmas activities, which included ice skating and our Christmas sing along in which they worked very hard on. Alongside this, they finished off their maths topic of multiplication and within reading we finished off our text, the boy at the back of the class, answering our reading comprehension questions and bringing everything to a close. I look forward to welcoming year 5 Faith back in the new year. Have a lovely Christmas holiday!</p>	<p>Year 5 Hope:</p> <p>Hope class have had a brilliant first term! They have worked super hard and made fantastic progress. This week the children completed their emotive letters in writing, learnt how to multiply using the expanded and short method in maths and also learnt about the similarities and differences between the life cycle of an amphibian and an insect in science. We rounded the week up with an ice skating trip (thank you to all the parent volunteers!) and the Christmas concert sing a long. The children have worked extremely hard and have made us very proud! I look forward to welcoming them back in the new year after a well earned restful break! Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a fantastic New Year!</p>	<p>Year 6:</p> <p>Year 6 have worked incredibly hard in the final week of term and should be very proud of their efforts. We finished reading <i>Blackberry Blue</i> and enjoyed discussing the themes and characters together. Inspired by our class novel <i>A Story Like the Wind</i>, pupils wrote thoughtful newspaper reports about refugees, showing great empathy and strong writing skills. On Tuesday, the class built their own websites, learning how to design pages and add content independently. We also started the week on a high note by taking part in a whole-school sing along on Monday. A fantastic end to a busy term!</p>
<p align="center">Hot chocolate Friday!</p> <p align="center">Pupils enjoyed hot chocolate this week. They have consistently displayed exemplary behaviour and learning.</p>		



Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5 Hope	Year 5 Faith	Year 6
Kiron	Pearl	Zion	Sally	Angel	Elif	Jason	Keylor



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.

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.



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.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
SENDCO |



Janiece Headley-Walker
Pastoral Manager
Deputy DSL