

Matching Green News



'Life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

14th February 2025

[Matching Green C of E VC Primary School \(matchinggreenprimaryschool.com\)](http://matchinggreenprimaryschool.com)



matchinggreenceprimary



[Week 1](#)

[Week 2](#)

Next week, we are Week 2
School dinner can be ordered on the day and children in Key Stage 1 receive free school meals.

Collective Worship

This week, the children had Collective Worship led by Reverend Julia and Mr Lorkins. They enjoyed learning about Mr Lorkins. The children are really learning to express their views as part of our Collective Worship which focuses on issues from around the world, this week they reflected on whether we should be able to go anywhere we want in the world following the price increase for climbers on Mount Everest.



Celebration



Potters
Flo

Nightingale
Charlie
Marcie

Darwin
Ivie
James

Shakespeare
Addie
Sienna

Weekly update

The staff and children have been working hard as courageous advocates to reduce our energy, and we are pleased to share that our energy use has decreased from a borderline band G to band E!

The school disco was a huge hit on Wednesday, a huge thank you as always to our PTA for all the support they offer.

Potter class had a guest in today for the Valentine lunch, a huge thank you to Miss Bennett who decorated biscuits as gifts to their special parents and for our visitors for joining us.

Next week is half term, we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 24th February.

Matching's Responsible Refills

Year 5 have been working hard on their refill shop and some children have written an article for the March Parish Magazine.

We cannot wait to open Matching's Responsible Refills to customers on Tuesday 4th March 2025 between 2.30pm – 3.15pm, and we will open on the 1st Tuesday of each month from 2.30pm – 3.15pm. Please bring your 500ml refillable bottles with you.
We can accept cash or card, but card would be preferable.

Opening times for 2025

4th March, 1st April, 6th May, 3rd June, 1st July.

Prices		
Product	Price	Amount
Body wash	£3	500ml
Washing up liquid	£1.75	500ml
Hand soap	£2.50	500ml
Laundry liquid	£10	500ml
Fabric conditioner	£8	500ml
Shampoo	£3	500ml
Conditioner	£2.50	500ml

Attendance

There has been some improvement in our attendance this week, thank you for your support with this.

	Whole school	Potters	Nightingale	Darwin	Shakespeare
Year to date	94.8%	95.6%	93.4%	96%	94.5%
This week	96.3%	92.5%	95.8%	100%	94.3%
Persistently absent pupils	13 pupils	1 pupil	5 pupils	3 pupils	4 pupils

Class updates

Potters – please follow us on Instagram: Potter.Class

The children have been learning about different versions of the creation story in RE. They really enjoyed decorating their Valentine biscuits for lunch. The children were ordering by time in maths and created their timetable for the day with Miss Travis.

Nightingale – please follow us on Instagram: nightingale.class

After learning about instructions and algorithms this term, Nightingale made their rockets in computing! We hope they have pride of place at home. They have also been story writing and using their imagination and previous learning to support sentence structure.

Darwin - please follow us on Instagram: charlesdarwin.class

A highlight was the visit to The British Museum. The children were wonderful and fully embraced the day, engaging in all of the displays and Mr Loader's wonderful tour. The journey took longer than anticipated due to traffic and they were so patient. They were an absolute credit to the school and families, and we are so proud of them!

Shakespeare - please follow us on Instagram: Shakespeare.class

Shakespeare have been creating their planets with their links to DT, art and science. They worked together to use mod-roc and will be labelling them. We have continued to look at different strategies for solving problems and the children have shown resilience whilst exploring SATs questions.

Cross country club

Cross Country will be on Thursday 27th February and on Friday 7th March at lunchtime after half term.

Year 6 learning conferences

Mr Ball would like to hold year 6's learning conferences earlier on the 4th and 6th March. The meetings will be available to book from today and the slots will be between 3.30pm and 4.30pm.

World Book Day

World Book Day is Thursday 6th March. Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite character from their favourite book, not movie. The children should bring their book matching their character to share with their peers.

PE Days

Monday	Potters and Shakespeare
Tuesday	Nightingale
Wednesday	Potters and Shakespeare
Thursday	Nightingale and Darwin
Friday	Darwin

PTA – The Friends Matching Green School

Please make sure you follow the PTA on Instagram: [matchinggreenschoolpta](#)

Second hand uniform

Please leave any donations of uniform you no longer need with the school office, second hand uniform is so valuable to many of us. If you need any uniform, please contact the PTA or the School Office and we will source some out for you.

75 Club

February's draw will take place on Thursday 27th February, should you wish to sign up for a number before the draw, and be in it to win it, please see details below.

The 75 Club raises much needed funds to help support our pupils with extra-curricular trips, visiting theatre productions, as well as helping to fund other resources for the school.

To join the club we are asking for £2.50 per calendar month per number. The numbers range from 1-75. The draw will take place on the last Thursday of the month and the lucky 3 numbers pulled out will win cash prizes (1st - £30, 2nd - £15 and 3rd - £10) but, the more members of the club, the larger the prize fund will be! During the summer holidays, the prize fund will roll over to create a BIG Rollover to be drawn in September! More Information can be found [here](#).

Easyfundraising

Matching Green C of E Primary School - Harlow are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our easyfundraising page at: [Easyfundraising - Matching Green C of E Primary School](#)

SEND resources

EPINS Emotional Regulation workshop for parents

Karen from the HGRC group has apologised profusely for muddling her times and missing the meeting on Wednesday this week. I have rearranged this for 11th March at 1.30pm – 3pm in the school hall. Please confirm your attendance by contacting the school office.

Free parent workshops

Is your child waiting for an Autism Assessment? SENDIASS are hosting free parent workshops that you can attend.

Tuesday 25 February, Developing Communication and supporting Sensory needs.
 Delivered with Autism Specialist Teachers at Manor of Groves Sawbridgeworth. 10am until 12pm
 Thursday 27 February, Understanding and Managing Your Child's Responses.
 Delivered with Proactive Training at The Pier Harwich, 10am until 2pm
 To book your place email iasspromotion.development@essex.gov.uk

Sensory swim sessions at Riverside Sports Centre Chelmsford

For children aged 0 to 8 and all ages with sensory needs.

Join for a sensory swim, where children and adults with sensory needs can enjoy the benefits of water in a calm environment.

The sensory swim sessions are held in the warm, shallow learner pool with low lighting and no music.

Sessions take place as part of general admission in the learner pool. The age limit in the learner pool is eight years old, but if you have a sensory need, there is no age limit.

The team will be on hand to offer support but will be supervising from the side.

For more information and to book a session visit [Sensory swim sessions at Riverside](#)

Dates	Resources	Referrals
<p>Tuesday 11th March 1.30pm Parent workshop on emotional regulation at Matching Green School.</p> <p>The Essex Local Offer Roadshow Thursday 13th March 2025 at The Harlow Hotel, CM187BA.</p> <p>The Epping Forest SEND Roadshow Monday 31st March 11am – 3pm Thomas Willingale School (see leaflet below)</p>	<p>Essex Local Offer Supporting your Neurodivergent Child West Essex Inclusion Project Essex Family Wellbeing SEND IASS Autism Central West Essex Inclusion Project One Plan Process Zones of Regulation pack</p>	<p>Community Paediatric Service West Essex Community Specialist Services</p>

Recent Letters

03.09.24 – Welcome Back
 14.11.24 – Adverse weather procedures
 18.12.24 - Darwin swimming. This has information on how children have been grouped for swimming this term, please check to see when your child is going.
 07.02.25 – Letter from Neil Banks re Headteacher appointment
 07.02.25 – Letter from Neil Banks regarding Governor vacancy
 10.02.25 - Darwin group 2 swimming letter
 14.02.25 - Darwin cross country letter

Spring	Summer
<p>09.02.25 – Seedlings at Matching Feast Room 11.02.25 - Mr Lorkins visit to Matching Green 12.02.25 – PTA Valentines disco 12.02.25 - last swimming lesson for Darwin group 1. 13.02.25 – Darwin trip to the British Museum 14.02.25 – Valentines lunch with Potter parents. 17.02.25 – 21.02.25 – Half term 28.02.25 – PTA Non-Uniform Day</p>	<p>22.04.25 – Children back to school 29.04.25 – Class photos 05.05.25 – May Day 11.05.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room 12.05.25 – 16.05.25 – SATS week 16.05.25 – PTA Year 6 celebration 21.05.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon 23.05.25 – End of term 26.05.25 – 30.05.24 – Half term</p>

26.02.25 - Group 2 Darwin swimming starts
~~28.02.25 – PTA Quiz Night~~ – cancelled due to lack of interest
 04.03.25 – West End in School
04.03.25 – Year 6 learning conferences
 05.03.25 – Potter Educational Visit to Aerozone, Stansted.
06.03.25 – World Book Day – dress as your favourite book character.
 06.03.25 – PTA - Bake and book sale for World Book Day
06.03.25 - Year 6 learning conferences
 09.03.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room
 18.03.25 - Learning Conferences for **EYFS – year 5**
 19.03.25 - Learning Conferences for **EYFS – year 5**
 21.03.25 - Red Nose Day
 24.03.25 – Mothering Sunday gift room
 24.03.25 – 28.03.25 – Mothering Sunday lunches this week
 26.03.25 - last swimming lesson for Darwin group 2.
 31.03.25 – PTA Easter Enrichment and Easter Egg Hunt.
 01.04.25 – 9am - Easter Celebration Service at Matching Church, CM17 0QZ. Parents will need to take and return to school.
 02.04.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon from 2.45pm
 03.03.25 – Nightingale trip to Thorndon Country Park
 04.04.25 – End of term. Children finish at 1.15pm.
 13.04.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room

02.06.25 – Non-pupil day
 08.06.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room
 09.06.25 – PTA Father's Day gift room
 09.06.25 – 13.06.25 – Father's Day lunches this week
 17.06.25 – Sports Day
 23.06.25 – 9am Trinity Service at Matching Church, CM17 0QZ. Parents will need to take and return to school.
 24.06.25 – Reserve Sports Day
 06.07.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room
 16.07.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon
 10.08.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room
 14.08.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room

Safeguarding

Parking

When picking up or dropping off children at schools, you should do the following:

- Allow yourself plenty of time as the area is likely to be busy.
- Do not park on yellow zigzag lines and avoid parking opposite them.
- If you decide to park further away, please be considerate of local residents and avoid blocking driveways or access ways, especially for emergency vehicles.

[Parking outside schools | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](http://www.police.uk)

Are you worried about a child?

As a school, we consider safeguarding to be a priority. We welcome parents and carers talking openly to us about their concerns for the safeguarding of children and families. Remember, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

If you have any concerns about a child, you can contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads via the school office. Please ask to speak to Vicky Childs, Matthew Ball or Jacquie Toon and specify that you have a safeguarding concern.

If you are worried about a child or young person, you can call the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free on 0808 800 5000. If a child is in immediate danger, you should call 999.

Children can call Childline at any time on 0800 1111

Consoles and video games

Much like a television allows you to watch movies or a radio allows you to listen to music, a game console allows you to play video games. The most modern ones are names you might be familiar with – Sony PlayStation, Microsoft Xbox, and Nintendo Switch – and almost all of them can now connect to the internet and be enjoyed online with friends.

Part of our Gaming & Gambling Series



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What you need to know about...

GAMES CONSOLES



What are they?

? 'Games Consoles' ?

Much like a television allows you to watch movies or a radio allows you to listen to music, a games console allows you to play video games. The most modern ones are names you might be familiar with – Sony PlayStation, Microsoft Xbox, and Nintendo Switch – and almost all of them can now connect to the internet and be enjoyed online with friends



Know the Risks

Online Content

While modern consoles don't strictly need to be connected to the internet, many of them also double up as an internet browser or provide the ability to stream TV shows and movies, so it's important that the appropriate filters and parental controls are in place to restrict children viewing any unsuitable content.

Addictive nature

Games consoles require video games, and both can ultimately contribute towards an addictive habit. Playing too much and too often can force children to become reliant on the good feelings released when playing games, making them more likely to want to play them more frequently, and for longer periods of time.

Hacking risk

It's almost impossible to avoid signing up to different services when using modern consoles. Keeping track of all these accounts can be confusing and in a worst-case scenario, fraudsters could gain access to personal information, addresses and bank details by hacking online profiles.

Online Chat

Once connected to the internet, players can talk to each other either over headsets or using text chat functions on the consoles. Without the proper protections in place, children could speak to anybody of any age and find themselves building relationships with strangers they know nothing about.

Safety Tips

Check contacts

Online predators and hackers often use sly tactics to build relationships with children get them to illicit personal details through gaming platforms or gaming communities. Be on the lookout for suspect communications such as intrusive personal messages or people you suspect might not be who they say they are.

Look for behaviour changes

Becoming withdrawn, irritable and anxious when not playing on a games console are trademark symptoms of gaming addiction. If children turn angry when asked to stop playing, that could also be a sign that an intervention is needed.

Keep details private

Games consoles will almost exclusively ask you to enter your details securely on the console itself, or through a trusted website tied to the console maker. If somebody claiming to be working for Sony, Microsoft or Nintendo asks you to share your passwords or account details, do not give it to them.

Use parental controls

Most gaming consoles will have parental controls which can be used to set up things like family management accounts. From here, parents can often set age limits on games and content, spending restrictions, limit play time and set up passwords and authentications to help keep children safe.

Further Support

Block and report

If someone has made your child feel uncomfortable, make note of suspect players' usernames. Often, you'll be able to ban or block these players in a game's settings. If you have proof of their intentions, don't hesitate to contact your local police force or authority with as much information and evidence as you can gather.

Seek Support

If you're concerned about your child playing too much on their console and think they may have developed a gaming addiction, try and offer them support. The World Health Organisation has classified gaming disorder as a mental health condition and there may be external providers locally who can offer you more targeted help.

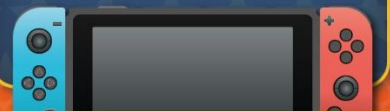
Keep IDs safe

Be sure to talk to your child about the importance of keeping their identity safe. If they ever receive messages claiming to be from companies but something doesn't feel right, tell them not to respond and inform you. Things like odd spelling and grammar, strange email addresses, or asking for personal information are tell-tale signs.

Our Expert Mark Foster



Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



Monday 31st March at 11am - 3pm



**THOMAS WILLINGALE SCHOOL AND NURSERY ARE
HOSTING**

THE EPPING FOREST SEND ROADSHOW

Are you a parent/carer or a child who has or may have additional needs? Do you find yourself asking questions like these?

How do I access support and information?

What is the Essex Local Offer?

Who can I speak to about my child/young person?

Who are the different services in my area and what do they offer?

Where can I meet other families with similar experiences?

We know it is challenging to navigate the systems, so we are holding this local roadshow event for you to know what support is available in Epping Forest. Meet representatives from across education, health and social care as well as local support. This is an in-person event for parents and carers of children with SEND.



The Essex PNI team (Physical and Hearing)

Essex Occupational Therapy

MIND

Essex Speech and Language

ACL Family Learning

Action for family carers

East Anglian Drivability

EM Tuition

Essex Youth Services

Families in Focus

Fit for all

Hamelin Trust

Hatfield Wick Education

Kids Autism Hub

SAFE Essex

Upwards with Downs

West Essex Inclusion Project

SENDIAS

Essex Inclusion Team

Essex wellbeing

No need to book, just drop in!

Your child does not need a diagnosis to attend.

The Main Hall, Thomas Willingale School, The Broadway, IG103SR

SPRING TERM ESSEX LOCAL OFFER ROADSHOWS

Help us
improve our
information

Tell us about your
experience to help us
make our website work
better for you

The Essex Local Offer

Find out about the services available for
children and young people aged 0-25,
with Special Educational Needs and
Disabilities (SEND)



Are you a parent or carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25? Do you want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex Local Offer Roadshows.

You can chat with teams from Education, Health and Social Care, as well as local support groups and activity providers.



The marketplace is free and there is no need to book. Children are welcome!



Drop in between 9:30am and 12:30pm



Book your place on free workshops



Scan the QR Code for all the information, including dates and venues or visit the Essex Local Offer at:

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>

In Partnership with

