

# Matching Green News



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

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

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



Matchinggreenceprimary



[Church School Blog](#)

[Week 1](#)

[Week 2](#)

We return on week 2. Order your Sports Day lunch using this [link](#).

## Collective Worship

This week, children reflected on *dignity* through the story of Matthew 19:13–14, where Jesus says, “Let the little children come to me...” They explored what makes them special—like kindness, creativity, and courage—and why everyone deserves to be treated with respect. Just as Jesus welcomed each child, we are reminded that every person is valued and loved. This was some of the ideas from the children and staff on what makes them special:

What is special about you?



Please see the summer term coverage from [Picture News](#).



## Celebration



Potters  
Arla

Nightingale

Darwin  
Adrian  
Sophie

Shakespeare  
Maisie  
Teddy

Sports

### Weekly update

We have had a new internet protection software installed and therefore, we cannot access social media. This is proving difficult for updates through Instagram throughout the day where we will now be relying on emails through Teachers2Parents. Please be mindful of this and ensure you have the app installed and are able to receive emails from the school.

Updated dates are always added to the newsletter; new dates are added in red each week to help you keep track. We have set dates as far in advance as possible to give plenty of notice to parents and suggest that you regularly check this to ensure you do not miss out on anything in school. The newsletter is accessible through Teachers2Parents, through the school website and paper copies can be obtained from the main school office.

Children should not be wearing any jewellery to school; we will ask them to remove this and earrings should be small studs and not worn on PE days. Children should also have their hair tied back.

### Class updates

**Potters** – please follow us on Instagram: Potter.Class

This week Potters have enjoyed reading the story 'Betsy Buglove Saves the Bees'. They did some brilliant illustrations and wrote some facts about bees. In Maths, the children have been learning about 3d shapes. Miss Clarke has sent home a Little Wandle information on tricky words as some children are having trouble retaining them, please practice reading them at home.

**Nightingale** – please follow us on Instagram: nightingale.class

In Nightingale this week, the children have been story writing using alliteration. They've finished their fractions by exploring equivalent, unit fraction and non-unit fractions. The children also learnt about continents and oceans in Geography.

**Darwin** - please follow us on Instagram: charlesdarwin.class

Darwin researched a question of their choice and answered using an explanation text format. They showed a good understanding of research skills. The children also developed improvements to their slingshot cars to improve in groups which they will make after half term.

Support act	Headliner	Rock Legend	Gone green
Iris	Stanley	Zachary	Zachary Poppy

Well done year 4 on your victory this week against Shakespeare with 19,428 correct answers compared to 15,224 The multiplication check for children in year 4 will be between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

**Shakespeare** - please follow us on Instagram: Shakespeare.Class

As well as finding out what their end of year performance is going to be and taking different parts, the children have been doing some creative writing in English using different sounds to inspire them. They have completed lots of history on Greek God's and the Battle of Marathon. In RE, the children have been learning about Ramadan in Islamic culture.

### Attendance

Thank you for your continued support with attendance, I am so pleased we have we have achieved a whole school attendance of 95% and look forward to it continuing!

### Sports Day

We will be holding our Sports Day event on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June from 9am, the sun will be shining! Families are invited to join us, and the events will last the morning

After our sports morning, we will have a picnic lunch where families are invited to join us on the field until 12.30pm. Miss Bennett will be providing a picnic lunch which families and children are invited to order in advance and must be completed by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Adult meals are £3.50, and children's (including siblings) meals are £2.75.

Please order your lunch by clicking on this [link](#).

Lunch will be:

- A drink
- Crisps
- A bap of your choice (cheese, ham or tuna)
- Miss Bennett's homemade sausage rolls
- And a pot of ice cream!

### PE Days

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

### Summer dates

23.05.25 – End of term  
26.05.25 – 30.05.24 – Half term  
02.06.25 – Non-pupil day  
**03.06.25 – pupils return to school**  
04.06.25 – last group 1 swimming for Nightingale  
08.06.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room  
09.06.25 – PTA Father's Day gift room  
09.06.25 – Year 6 Leavers Service at Chelmsford Cathedral 1pm – 2.3pm (children only)  
09.06.25 – 13.06.25 – Father's Day lunches this week  
11.06.25 – Nightingale swimming starts for group 2  
17.06.25 – Sports Day  
20.06.25 – Skip2Bfit day in school - [Skip2bfit - Skipping Workshops in Schools](#)  
23.06.25 – 9am Trinity Service at Matching Church, CM17 0QZ. Parents will need to take and return to school.  
03.07.25 – EYFS transition morning for September 2025  
04.07.25 – Independence Day lunch – Darwin parents invited to join us  
**05.07.25 – Art and Antiques day at Matching Church (see poster below)**  
06.07.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room  
08.07.25 – class swap day for September 2025  
09.07.25 – last swimming session for Nightingale group 2  
14.07.25 – Shakespeare end of year performance – invite to Shakespeare parents

15.07.25 - Shakespeare end of year performance – invite to Shakespeare parents  
 16.07.25 – Whole school trip to Whippsnade Zoo – more information to follow.  
~~16.07.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon~~  
 18.07.25 – Shakespeare leavers lunch – parents invited to join us.  
 22.07.25 – 9am Leavers Assembly – invite to Shakespeare parents.  
 22.07.25 – Last day of term and academic year. School finishes at 1.15pm.  
 10.08.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room  
 14.08.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room

### PTA – The Friends Matching Green School

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

#### 75 Club

Are you feeling lucky? Would you like a number? 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 (1<sup>st</sup> - £30, 2<sup>nd</sup> - £15 and 3<sup>rd</sup> - £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

#### SEND Roadshows – Summer

The Essex Local Offer SEND Roadshows have now all taken place for the spring term. We welcomed nearly 300 families across the four venues. We also had nearly 50 different services attend to support everyone who came along. We are now planning the summer term roadshows. These will take place in the mornings on Thursday 26 June at Zinc Arts Centre Ongar, West. All information will be updated on [The Essex Local Offer](#) as it is confirmed.

#### Essex Frontline

Do you need signposting to local health and wellbeing support in Essex? The [Essex Frontline](#) is the perfect tool, it is free to use and covers all of Essex.

#### ACL

Please see the leaflets below on some course available to families on ARFID, positive parenting and 'boys and girls'

Dates	Resources	Referrals
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<p>26.06.25 – West Essex SEND Roadshow – Zinc Arts Centre Ongar.</p>	<p><a href="#">Essex Local Offer</a>  <a href="#">Supporting your Neurodivergent Child</a>  <a href="#">West Essex Inclusion Project</a>  <a href="#">Essex Family Wellbeing</a>  <a href="#">SEND IASS</a>  <a href="#">Autism Central</a>  <a href="#">West Essex Inclusion Project</a>  <a href="#">One Plan Process</a>  <a href="#">Zones of Regulation pack</a>  <a href="#">Essex Frontline</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Community Paediatric Service</a>  <a href="#">West Essex Community Specialist Services</a></p>
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### Recent Letters

03.09.24 – Welcome Back  
14.11.24 – Adverse weather procedures  
07.02.25 – Letter from Neil Banks re Headteacher appointment  
07.02.25 – Letter from Neil Banks regarding Governor vacancy  
25.02.25 – Potter class birth certificate request  
27.02.25 – Extracurricular activities  
27.02.25 – Maypole for Key Stage 2  
03.04.25 – Nightingale swimming group 1  
23.04.25 – Summer term extracurricular activities  
29.04.25 – Parent Governor elections.  
02.05.25 - NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* Programme  
09.05.25 – Information for Nightingale Phonics  
12.05.25 – Year 6 Chelmsford Cathedral leavers letter  
14.05.25 – Zinc Arts invitation for some children across KS2  
15.05.25 – Whipsnade Educational Visit letter for 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025

### 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 \(www.police.uk\)](#)

#### 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.

#### Violent content online

With around 70% of teens reporting, they've seen violent real-life content on social media in the past year, this guide shines a light on a disturbing – and increasingly common – aspect of young people's digital lives. From shocking videos to hate speech, many children don't go looking for this material, it finds them via algorithms or peer sharing.

The guide outlines key concerns, including the mental toll of repeated exposure, shifts in behaviour, and the worrying normalisation of harmful ideologies. It also explains how such content can escalate from screen to street, and why some young people may feel pressured to share or even create violent media themselves.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 6% actively seek it out; most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA

Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after seeing violent content. For some, these effects may be short term, but for those with existing vulnerabilities or past trauma, the impact can be more severe. Many also feel pressured to 'laugh off' violent content to fit in with friends, even when they find it distressing.

### BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

Exposure to online violence can lead to fear and avoidance behaviours – such as skipping school or staying indoors. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

### ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION

Violent videos often go viral quickly. What begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even admit to sharing or creating violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

### DESENSITISATION

Older teens may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, admitting they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – usually because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being labelled a 'snitch' by their peers.

### HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES

Violent content online may overlap with racist, misogynistic or otherwise extremist ideas. These messages can dehumanise others or glorify violence as a way to gain power, popularity or notoriety. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

### DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, marginalised, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES

Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to build trust through non-judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, gently signpost trusted services they can turn to for support.

### KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL

Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or a safeguarding matter that needs reporting. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. A useful resource is [reportharmfulcontent.com](http://reportharmfulcontent.com).

### AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS

Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to overreact or threaten to take away devices. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

### UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA

Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these tools and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy for both online and offline life.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, media law, and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit [onlinemedialawuk.com](http://onlinemedialawuk.com) for more.



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# MINI-SHOOTERS & SSA JUNE HALF TERM FOOTBALL CAMP



**Tuesday 27th May**  
**Wednesday 28th May**  
**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

**1 DAY: £25**

**2 DAYS: £45**

**3 DAYS: £60**

**(deposit to be taken  
at time of booking)**

**9:30 - 15:00**

**9:15 DROP OFF**

**AGES 4 - 12  
(SCHOOL YEARS  
RECEPTION - 7)**



**⚽ MEDALS AND TROPHIES TO BE  
WON**

**⚽ FA QUALIFIED & DBS CHECKED  
COACHES**

**⚽ SIBLING DISCOUNT OFFERED**

**SHOOTERS FOOTBALL,  
RAYLEY LANE, NORTH WEALD,  
CM16 6AR**



**TO BOOK YOUR CHILD ON OR FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
CONTACT US:**

**Jack- 07398267338**

**SSA-enquiries@outlook.com**

**Anthony- 07469 717386**

**info@mini-shooters.club**

ACL

FREE!



## Positive Parenting

Is your child struggling and feeling overwhelmed?  
Maybe you are a new to parenting and want to learn tips early?  
Perhaps you are struggling with certain behaviours?

Whatever your situation, our free **'Positive Parenting'** courses have got it covered.

Join like-minded people for support and to gain further advice.

Enrol now to make a positive difference in your child's life!  
Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type **'Positive Parenting'** in to the  
'Find a course...' box or phone **0345 603 7635**

COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING



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FREE



## Raising Boys, Raising Girls

Join one of our free 'Raising Boys' or 'Raising Girls' sessions (or BOTH!) Find out how to support your son, or daughter's, growth into a confident and resilient individual.

Sign up today!

Enrol now to make a positive difference in your child's life! Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type 'Raising' in to the 'Find a course...' box or phone **0345 603 7635**

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FAMILY LEARNING**

[ACLESSEX.COM](https://www.aclessex.com) / FAMILY LEARNING





## Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID)

What you'll learn:

- What ARFID is and how it differs from other eating disorders
- How ARFID often links to neurodiversity
- Practical insights into day-to-day living with ARFID
- Strategies to support your child or young person with ARFID

 Date: Thursday 26 June 2025

 Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

 Location: Online (Live via Microsoft Teams)

 Cost: FREE

Sign up today and make a positive impact on your child's life!  
Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type 'ARFID' in to the 'Find a course...' box

COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING



# Art & Antiques Valuation Day

In aid of the St Mary's Church Matching Restoration Appeal



Saturday 5 July 2025

10:00am - 4:00pm

At St Mary's Church, Matching, CM17 0QZ

what3words - then.aspect.snack

Join us for a day of discovery and community spirit at St Mary's Church. Bring your treasures and meet with Sworders' specialists, whilst supporting this vital restoration project.

**Valuation fee | £10 for up to 5 items**

All proceeds go directly to the church restoration appeal.

*Enjoy a selection of refreshments including tea, coffee, light bites, and a beer tent.*

ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES | ASIAN ART | JEWELLERY | PICTURES & PAINTINGS

*In Association With*



ENQUIRIES

[matchingchurchrestoration@gmail.com](mailto:matchingchurchrestoration@gmail.com)

[e-voice.org.uk/st-marys-matching/](http://e-voice.org.uk/st-marys-matching/)

EST. 1782  
**sworders**  
FINE ART AUCTIONEERS