

Matching Green News



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

20th June 2025

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



Matchinggreenceprimary



[Church School Blog](#)

[Week 1](#)

[Week 2](#)

Next week is week 2.

Collective Worship

This week in collective worship, the children have been learning about the Trinity—God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Through stories and simple symbols, they explored how God is three in one and how each part shows God's love in different ways.



Celebration



Potters
Reggie

Nightingale
Julius
Lottie H

Darwin
Ralph
George

Shakespeare
Addie
Owen

Weekly update

What a huge success Sports Day was on Tuesday! A well done to Saint Mark House who pulled it out of the bag at the last minute. Thank you to the staff, PTA and families who all supported our event which enabled it to run so smoothly. Thank you to Mrs Howes and Miss Dean as our unsung heroes which organised the lunch ordering and to Miss Bennett for our lovely picnics.

Thank you again to the families and PTA for support us, the PTA raised a huge £627 which will go directly back in to supporting the children and school.

Thank you to everyone who completed our parent survey, this has now closed.

Skip2bFit

Wow! What a fantastic day we had with Skip2bFit today, we saw improvement in **every** pupil's personal best today with their skipping. Mr Ball got the best teacher score with 278, Arthur achieved the high pupil skipping score and Iris made the made progress when beating her personal best!

Trinity Service at Matching Church

On Monday 23rd June 2025, we have a Trinity Service at St Mary's Church, Matching Green. All children will need to be taken to the church by their parents or carers for 8.45am, for a 9am start and then returned to school, we are expecting the service to last 45 minutes. If you need to arrange for another carer to transport your child, this will be parental responsibility, you will need to notify the school office in writing prior to the Friday 20th June 2025.

Families are invited to stay and watch and see the children perform. If this causes you any problems, please contact the school office and we will try our best to support you.

SUD Planter

We have had the flowers delivered for our SUD planter this week and school council have taken on the role of maintaining and caring, we had a visit from Terry who discussion wildlife preservation with all of our children

Class updates

Potters – please follow us on Instagram: Potter.Class

Potter class have really enjoyed Julia Donaldson's book 'The Ugly Five' this week. The children have also been learning about odd and even numbers in maths.

Nightingale – please follow us on Instagram: nightingale.class

Nightingale have continued to learn about Christopher Columbus this week. They have also been learning about time and made their own clocks to support their understanding.

Darwin - please follow us on Instagram: charlesdarwin.class

Darwin class have been writing their instructions this week. They demonstrated so much endurance today during the Skip2bFit workshop too, making huge progress each time

Shakespeare - please follow us on Instagram: Shakespeare.Class

The children have turned a corner in their rehearsals this week in preparation for production of the year! They have also been writing Ancient Greek Myths in English.

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

A reminder that our policy on attendance follows the DfE National Guidance, our attendance policy can be found [here](#). We are unable to authorise absences and absences of 10 sessions are referred to the Local Authority for a fine.

	Whole school	Potters	Nightingale	Darwin	Shakespeare
Year to date	95.1%	95.2%	95.2%	96.4%	94.6%
This week	94.9%	96.9%	94.3%	96.7%	92.3%
Persistently absent pupils	8 pupils	1 pupil	4 pupils	0 pupils	3 pupils

Summer dates

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
09.07.25 and 17.07.25 – Bikeability for year 6
11.07.25 – end of year reports plus standardised data send home to parents.
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 Whipsnade Zoo – more information to follow.
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 (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

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.

Dates	Resources	Referrals
26.06.25 – West Essex SEND Roadshow – Zinc Arts Centre Ongar.	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 Essex Frontline	Community Paediatric Service West Essex Community Specialist Services
<p>Recent Letters</p> <p>03.09.24 – Welcome Back 14.11.24 – Adverse weather procedures 07.02.25 – Letter from Neil Banks re Headteacher appointment 27.02.25 – Extracurricular activities 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 <i>Speak out. Stay safe.</i> Programme 12.05.25 – Year 6 Chelmsford Cathedral leavers letter 14.05.25 – Zinc Arts invitation for some children across KS2 15.05.25 – Whipnade Educational Visit letter for 16th July 2025 03.06.25 – Parental Survey</p>		

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.

YouTube

YouTube Kids promises a safe, child-centric experience with colourful visuals, age-filtered content, and robust parental controls. Designed to appeal to younger viewers, the app has grown rapidly, being used by tens of millions of children worldwide. But is it as safe as it seems?

Despite YouTube Kids' safeguards, reports have highlighted worrying issues, such as inappropriate content slipping through filters, subtle advertising, and the use of manipulative design to keep children engaged. Our guide explores how to navigate these pitfalls, offering practical advice for making sure children get the most from the platform – without the risks.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS



YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

BE WARY OF ADVERTISING



Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE



YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED



YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION



There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading 'scientific' videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

DATA COLLECTION RISK



While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS



YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

SET TIME LIMITS



The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

CHECK WATCH HISTORY



YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Recommended' icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.

WATCH TOGETHER



It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youtube-kids-2025>