

Matching Green News



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

11th July 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,
Next Friday, we have crispy chicken wraps as our Year 6 leavers meal and not fish fingers.

Collective Worship

This week, our worship focused on how all animals are part of God's creation and deserve our care. With the upbeat tune of *"The Lion Sleeps Tonight"* playing, we were transported to the wild world of animals. We looked at photos and videos from Whipsnade Zoo and reflected on the Bible verse from Genesis 1:24-25, reminding us that God created every living creature and saw that it was good.



Celebration



Potters
Victor

Nightingale
Charlie
Amelia

Darwin
George
Isaac

Shakespeare
Sophia
John

Weekly update

The children will be bringing home their school reports today. For children in EYFS, children in year 1 and 2 who took part in the phonics screener, children in year 4 who completed the multiplication check and children in year 6 who completed their SATs, they will have a supplementary report that provides the results of these DfE assessments.

There is a form to complete following the report to ensure that all families have received their copy and to ensure that you can feedback. If would like to discuss the report, please contact the class teacher via the office.

Pupil attendance is recorded on their report, please note children are expected to have 96% or above for good attendance, 90% - 95% becomes a concern, 90% and below is persistently absent and these pupils are monitored at school and local authority level.

Next Wednesday, we have our school trip to Whipsnade. The weather is expected to be warm so please ensure children have plenty to drink, sun hat and sun cream applied and a rain coat if predicted. Children will need to bring a school lunch, please ensure the children arrive to school for 8.15am so that we can register them and leave school by 8.30am. We aim to return to school by 4.30pm on Wednesday. [Here is a reminder of the letter.](#)

Leavers assembly

Our Leavers Assembly will be at 9am on Tuesday 22nd July 2025.

School Uniform

Please contact the school office if you would like to purchase any preloved uniform for September 2025. In addition to this, please find an [attached leaflet](#) for a discount from our uniform supplier starting Monday 14th July.

Class updates

Potters – please follow us on Instagram: Potter.Class

This week we have started our topic on animal conservation. We learnt about animals camouflaging and did an activity outside where we had to look for different coloured wool. We discussed why some colours were easier to find and it helped us to understand what camouflage means. In Maths, we have been learning about maps and read Martha Maps It Out. We created a map of the street where we live, our bedroom and our classroom!

Nightingale – please follow us on Instagram: nightingale.class

The children measured in maths shape poems about endangered animals. To support Potter transition, the children also worked together on some art.

Darwin – please follow us on Instagram: charlesdarwin.class

Darwin class have started their end of term topic on conservation. They have made excellent posters highlighting the endangered polar bear. The children have nearly finished reading 'The Last Bear' which ties in nicely.

Shakespeare – please follow us on Instagram: Shakespeare.Class

In Shakespeare class, the children performed their dress rehearsal to the whole school and Fidgety Feet! Showings are Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th from 2pm for families who would like to attend.

They have also been learning about endangered animals alongside their conservation topic and have started their sex and relationship education.

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. Attendance has declined this last week, please maintain consistency until the end of the term which is Tuesday 22nd July 2025.

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.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Don't miss out on the education you deserve.



	Whole school	Potters	Nightingale	Darwin	Shakespeare
Year to date	94.9%	94.7%	94%	96.3%	94.5%
This week	95.9%	87.2%	95.4%	95.3%	100%
Persistently absent pupils	10 pupils	2 pupils	4 pupils	1 pupil	3 pupils

Summer dates

- 11.07.25 – end of year reports plus standardised data send home to parents.
- 14.07.25 – Shakespeare end of year performance
- 15.07.25 - Shakespeare end of year performance
- 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](https://www.instagram.com/matchinggreenschoolpta)

75 Club

June's lucky winners were:-

1st – Lisa Clarke

2nd – Angela Sharp

3rd – Richard Matthews

Would you like to be in with a chance to win?

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 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
	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

Recent Letters

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 *Speak out. Stay safe.* 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
25.06.25 – Shakespeare SRE education
25.06.25 – SRE policy review
03.07.25 – Staff structure for 2025-2026

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 \(www.police.uk\)](https://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 Jacque 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.

AI Scams

AI isn't just transforming the way we learn and work, it's also reshaping the tactics scammers use online. From generating convincing phishing emails to fabricating influencer videos, criminals are using AI to make their scams more convincing than ever. Young people, who often embrace new tech quickly, can be especially vulnerable.

This guide highlights several AI-enabled dangers – including romance scams, deepfake audio and video impersonations, and fake job offers – and explains how to spot and report them. With clear tips for verifying content, thinking critically, and using trusted platforms, it's essential reading for parents and educators to help young people stay one step ahead of the scammers.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-ENABLED SCAMS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is quickly becoming a widely used tool, with lots of positive applications being discussed and developed. Sadly, however, as with most technology tools, there are those who will seek to use it for malicious and dishonest practices, with children and other vulnerable groups particularly at risk.

PHISHING EMAILS: BETTER & QUICKER

Phishing scams – emails designed to trick people into handing over login details or money – are not new, and do not rely on AI; however, AI has made them far more dangerous. Criminals can now generate highly convincing emails at speed, mimicking an organisation's tone, branding and language with ease. This makes phishing attempts harder to spot, especially for young people who may not yet know what to look out for.

ONLINE MARKETPLACE FRAUD

Online marketplaces are now a common way to buy and sell everything, from second-hand clothes to cars. Criminals are exploiting this by using AI to enhance or completely fake product photos and videos, and pressure buyers into paying deposits or full amounts upfront. These tactics are becoming more advanced, making it vital to pause, check, and verify the sale before parting with any money.

VOICE IMPERSONATION

AI can now realistically impersonate a person's voice when given a small sample of someone's speech patterns. This is especially concerning where voice has been enabled as an alternative to password-based logins. One such example was the use of AI deepfake audio as part of a fake kidnapping scam: the criminals used an AI voice clone of a 15-year-old to convince her parents she had been kidnapped and elicit a ransom.

EMPLOYMENT SCAMS

Using AI, criminals can create fake online profiles that seem completely real. These synthetic identities can chat with young people about fake job offers, asking for money to secure a visa or paperwork. In 2025, The Guardian reported a scam targeting young people with promises of quick cash, posing as TikTok staff.

INFLUENCER & INVESTMENT SCAMS

AI tools now make it easy to manipulate video and audio, with technology available that can generate entirely fake content using the likeness of celebrities or influencers. Criminals are using this to create convincing videos of well-known figures promoting fake products or services, which young people can be particularly susceptible to. Cryptocurrency scams are a common tactic, luring people into investing in schemes that do not exist. Once payment is made, the criminal simply disappears with the money.

ROMANCE SCAMS & SEXTORTION

AI chat bots can now mimic real conversations, often accompanied with realistic fake photos and videos, which makes it easier for criminals to build trust with young people – among other things, this can lead to fraud or sextortion. In 2024, the NCA's CEOP Safety Centre received 380 reports of sextortion. Alarmingly, in the first five months alone, police received an average of 117 monthly reports involving under-18s, showing how serious and targeted this threat has become.

Advice for Parents & Educators

THINK CRITICALLY

The key to addressing the increasing growth of AI-enabled scams is to think critically and show caution. Inform children that if something is too good to be true, then it probably is. Encourage them to stop and carefully consider what they are seeing and reading before taking any action. For example, if a social media post expresses urgency, proceed with caution; if content seems unusual, even from a known person, it may be that their account has been hacked.

USE TRUSTWORTHY SITES AND SERVICES

Online marketplaces are useful when buying and selling items; however, where possible, encourage children to use reputable companies and their online shopping sites. These companies are likely to have more sophisticated cyber-security safeguards in place, underpinned by consumer legislation, enabling them to control how products and services are displayed and traded on their sites.

SEEK TO VERIFY

Criminals may breach an influencer's account or spread misinformation and fake content; however, their approach will generally be limited to a single account, site or service. Where possible, show children how to verify information to check its legitimacy before proceeding. Small actions, such as phoning the person who is the subject of a suspicious email, or checking content via an individual or company website or social media sites can make the difference. The greater the risk, the more effort we should expend to confirm whether the information presented is true or false.

REPORT IT

As the sophistication of scams increases, the likelihood of being tricked by them also increases, especially when not paying attention or acting quickly. It is important that young people know how to report incidents as they happen. Show children how to report their concerns to the social media site, Action Fraud, banks, and other individuals or organisations linked or involved. If you are unsure of the most effective reporting channel, contact Action Fraud.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at Millfield, a large independent boarding school in Somerset, as well as a member of the Digital Futures Group, Vice Chair of the ISC Digital Advisory Group and an Association of Network Managers in Education (ANME) Ambassador.

