

# Matching Green News



*'Life in all its fullness'*

(John 10:10)

15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

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



matchinggreenceprimary



[Week 1 menu](#)

[Week 2 menu](#)

We have a new menu! We are on week 2, please check the menus above!

School dinner can be ordered on the day and children in Key Stage 1 receive free school meals.

## Collective Worship

Our Collective Worship this week has focused on peace, to reflect on Remembrance Day and with it being Anti-Bullying week. Our discussion on Anti-Bullying Week focused on respect and how bullying can sometimes be discrimination. This week we have explored the UN Rights of the Child as well as Protected Characteristics and how we are all unique and this must be respected.

It was wonderful to hear how much Penelope in Potters has been enjoying our Collective Worship and this is extended at home when she plays it with her family, thank you Penelope!



## Celebration



Potters  
Lenny

Nightingale  
Thea  
Lottie

Darwin  
Seb L  
Sophie

Shakespeare  
Henry  
Matilda

Sports Person of the week  
Zach for multisports and  
The whole of the cross  
country team

## Weekly update

This is a bumper issue with lots of information this week!

This week, I took 2 teams from Shakespeare to a public speaking competition at Moreton Primary School with schools for the Epping Forest Partnership. Teams of 3 had to prepare a public speech on Global Goals which included an introduction, discussion body and a summary up to 8 minutes. The judging panel considered preparation, writing for a speech, vocal production, use of formal language and body movement.

Orla, Addie and Elsie did a fantastic speech on life above and below focusing of land and sea, providing the judges with a pack of sunflower seeds to promote growth. Maisie, Sophia and Francesca's presentation was about climate change. Both grounds were fantastic, and it was so clear their presentations were authentically their own. Out of ten groups, we were over the moon that one our teams came away as 3<sup>rd</sup> and we are already excited about going back next year.

### **Class updates**

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

Potters have been enjoying Nursery Rhyme week this week. They been taking parts in different activities and reciting the nursery rhymes. They've also been out spider hunting in the outdoor classroom whilst learning about Incy Wincy Spider.

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

What a fantastic morning Nightingale had at the multi sports morning. The children were

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

There has been fantastic progress with the times tables in Darwin over this term. They are also flying through their Spanish with them moving on to naming fruit and vegetables, bien hecho!

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

The children have continued to enjoy history this week and have been learning about rationing in World War II. In maths, they have been learning about prime numbers and prime factors.

### **School Council**

The School Council met with Mrs Chilvers last week and will be raising money to purchase some new bins for the school field. The school council have arranged a 'PJ day' for 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025. Children will be asked to make a contribution of £1 and wear their PJs so we can start to build our fund for the new bins.

Our School Council did a great job of selling Poppies last week for remembrance, the pot was so heavy, and this is great charitable contribution from our school.

### **Matching's Responsible Refills**

Working with Essex Local Authority and the Essex year of Numbers, we will be opening Matching's Responsible Refills with year 5 in January on every Tuesday from the 13<sup>th</sup> January from 2.45pm - 3.30pm, families and the local community will be able to refill their pots to reduce plastic waste and use sustainable products which are both good for your health and the environment. The children in year 5 will sell shampoo, conditioner, hand wash, shampoo and condition bars, soap and many other hygiene products as well as some dried fruit. Miss Toon and I will be supporting the children with the project. This is a fantastic learning opportunity and a huge movement in our work as courageous advocates.

### **Snacks**

A reminder that we are a healthy school and that sweets and chocolates should be avoided for snacks and at lunchtime.

### **Morning Club**

After October half term, children will only be able to attend Morning Club when a payment has been made in advance. We are running at a deficit at the moment, and this is a challenge for small schools. If this is going to be difficult for you, please contact the school office to discuss.

### **Glass**

Please do not send children into school with glass bottles or pots, this can be dangerous if they break in school.

### **Absence reporting**

Please be aware that parents and carers must phone the school office to report a child's absence each day. This is part of our safeguarding and attendance monitoring procedures. If we do not hear from you, we will ring to make contact until we are able to physically speak with you.

## Christmas School Events

I had missed some information on the dates for the nativity. To confirm, Potters and Nightingale will be performing our school nativity. Darwin and Shakespeare will be performing some carols at the Nativity, our school Christmas event on 10<sup>th</sup> December and again at a Christmas Event we are participating in with the Cricket Club, more information will follow on the dates and times of this.

One of the biggest Christmas Events this year is our Christmas Activities Evening. Booking is essential to make sure we have everything we need.

A festive poster for a Christmas Activities Evening. The background is light grey with white snowflake patterns. On the right side, there is a large, decorated Christmas tree with a yellow star on top, surrounded by three children in winter clothing reading books. The text is in red and green colors.

# Christmas Activities Evening

**10.12.24**  
**3:15pm - 5:15pm**

We are asking for all the children to book and pay for a space to join our Christmas Activities Event (Spaces must be booked and payed for by 03.12.2024).  
Please email to book : [ptamatching@gmail.com](mailto:ptamatching@gmail.com)

What is included:

- Entry into our Bauble Decotating Competition
- Bauble decorating workshop
- Decorating the school Christmas Tree
- Carol Singing by Candlelight
- Unlimited squash/water and cupcake

Cost per child (plus a free adult) £5

Add a visit to Santa's Grotto £5

There will be a refreshment stall selling hot/ cold drinks and cakes.

*The Friends*  
OF MATCHING GREEN SCHOOL

## Measles in Essex

Please see the attached letter from the UK Health Security Agency and Public Health Colleagues at Essex regarding Measles

Measles signs and symptoms

- cold-like symptoms (runny nose, sneezing or coughing)
- sore, red eyes
- a high temperature (fever)
- A few days later, a red-brown blotchy rash will appear. This usually starts on the head or upper neck, before spreading outwards to the rest of the body.

If you or your child have symptoms of measles, seek medical attention. Be sure to phone ahead before you visit your GP surgery or other healthcare setting. This allows arrangements to be made to prevent others from being infected. Do not send a child with these symptoms to school unless they have been medically assessed and told they can go to school.

### Attendance

Guidance suggests that attendance for children across the year should be above 96%, we have high expectations of pupil's attendance but do sometimes understand that in some circumstances children are unable to attend due to avoidance medical appointments or illness. There has been new guidance for schools on attendance, which we have to follow. More information can be found on the [Essex County Council](#) website. The Depart for Education provides a guide for [parents and carers on school attendance](#).  
NHS guidance – [is my child too ill for school?](#)

### Safeguarding

Even among adults, it can be all too common to see disputes and differing opinions grow extremely heated, which is rarely helpful to anyone. When emotions run high, it can be easy to forget yourself and perhaps even say something you didn't mean, hurting feelings or escalating the situation further.

For children, it's just as important to avoid this kind of behaviour whenever possible; without the necessary guidance, however, they could struggle to identify any disrespectful behaviour, let alone recognise what they can do differently. The guide on the last page offers you expert advice on teaching children and young people to choose respect when interacting with their peers, helping to create an environment based on empathy and tolerance.

### Sources

[www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)

### Over the counter medication

Please can we advise not to give your child/ren any over-the-counter medication for them to use in school. This needs to be handed into the School Office and a form completed for us to administer.

### 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.

[Parking outside schools | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](#)

### Emails to The School Office

If sending emails to the School Office, please can we ask that you use the [admin@matchinggreen.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@matchinggreen.essex.sch.uk) address. We are finding parents are replying to the Teacher2parents email address, which is a no reply email box, therefore we do not receive these emails.

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

## PTA - of Matching Green Primary School

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



## 75 Club

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. The more members of the club, the larger the prize fund! 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](#).

October winners

1<sup>st</sup> place – Mrs K Ramsay

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Mrs Childs

3<sup>rd</sup> place – Mr Howes

## ASDA Cashpot for Schools

Mrs Travis has kindly set Matching Green up with Asda's Cashpot for schools. Please see the details below

"Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024, every time customers shop with Asda using their Rewards app, they can choose a primary school to receive a percentage of their spend. And that's not all — every time a customer chooses your primary school, Asda will donate £1 to your school's Cashpot, plus a further £50 when your first customer shops."

## 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. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at: [Easyfundraising - Matching Green C of E Primary School](#)

Over the years we have raised an amazing £3,211.33 via this fundraising portal. So please remember us when you are online and doing your Christmas shopping this year, remember it does not cost you any extra, but it does raise funds for our PTA, The Friends of Matching Green School.

Thank you so much for your support.

### 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.

### SEND resources

#### Good Beginnings

A course for parents and carers of children in Reception class or younger, who have autism or social communication needs. A diagnosis of autism is not needed to access Good Beginnings. The course runs in all four quadrants at least twice a year and one online course is also offered. This course is for parents/carers only – they do not bring the children or younger siblings with them. Parents can request a place on the course by completing the [application form](#).

Due to high demand, it may be necessary to add their details to a waiting list for the next course with availability.

This course covers: understanding autism; communication; play; sensory processing; behaviour is communication; eating, sleeping and toileting; managing anxiety

Information can also be found on the Schools Infolink in the Autism area: [Autism | Essex Schools Infolink](#)

Dates	Resources	Referrals
	<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="#">Community Paediatric Service</a> <a href="#">West Essex Community Specialist Services</a>

### Recent Letters

- 03.09.24 – Welcome Back
- 16.09.24 – Year 6 swimming
- 01.10.24 - Reception and Year 6 Height and Weight Checks
- 03.10.24 – Group of children for Tri-Golf
- 07.10.24 – EYFS Tapestry Information
- 22.10.24 - Year 5 swimming
- ~~22.10.24 – Shakespeare Tag Rugby event 6<sup>th</sup> November~~
- 22.10.24 - Nightingale Multisport event 13<sup>th</sup> November
- 22.10.24 - Darwin & Shakespeare Cross Country Event 14<sup>th</sup> November
- 14.11.24 – Adverse weather procedures

Autumn	Spring	Summer
<p>25.11.24 – PTA Christmas Enrichment Morning</p> <p>28.11.24 – Shooting Stars Pantomime - Cinderella</p> <p>05.12.24 – Year 3 Pantomime visit</p> <p>06.12.24 – Christingle Making with Reverend Julia</p> <p>08.12.24 – Christingle Service at Matching Church (CM170QZ)</p> <p>10.12.24 – EYFS for 2025 tour</p> <p>10.12.24 – PTA Christmas Event 3.30pm – 5.30pm</p> <p>11.12.24 – Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper day.</p> <p>11.12.24 – Learning celebration</p> <p>17.12.24 – all children in PE kits for PE morning</p> <p>17.12.24 – whole school Christmas celebration with EYFS and Key Stage 1 Nativity and KS2 Christmas carols from 2.30pm</p> <p>18.12.24 – whole school Christmas celebration with EYFS and Key Stage 1 Nativity and KS2 Christmas carols from 2.30pm</p> <p>20.12.24 – End of term. Children finish at 1.15pm.</p>	<p>06.01.25 – Non-pupil Day</p> <p>07.01.25 – Children back to school</p> <p>14.01.25 – PJ day to raise money for bins on the field</p> <p>14.01.25 – PTA film night</p> <p>12.02.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon</p> <p>12.02.25 – PTA Valentines disco</p> <p>17.02.25 – 21.02.25 – Half term</p> <p>28.02.25 – PTA Non-Uniform Day</p> <p>28.02.25 – PTA Quiz Night</p> <p>04.03.25 – West End in School</p> <p>05.03.25 – Potter Educational Visit to Aerozone, Stansted.</p> <p>06.03.25 – World Book Day</p> <p>06.03.25 – PTA - Bake and book sale for World Book Day</p> <p>18.03.25 - Learning Conferences</p> <p>19.03.25 - Learning Conferences</p> <p>21.03.25 Red Nose Day</p> <p>24.03.25 – Mothering Sunday gift room</p> <p>31.03.25 – PTA Easter Enrichment and Easter Egg Hunt.</p> <p>02.04.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon</p> <p>04.04.25 – End of term. Children finish at 1.15pm.</p>	<p>22.04.25 – Children back to school</p> <p>29.04.25 – Class photos</p> <p>05.05.25 – May Day</p> <p>12.05.25 – 16.05.25 – SATS week</p> <p>16.05.25 – PTA Year 6 celebration</p> <p>21.05.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon</p> <p>23.05.25 – End of term</p> <p>26.05.25 – 30.05.24 – Half term</p> <p>02.06.25 – Non-pupil day</p> <p>09.06.25 – PTA Father's Day gift room</p> <p>17.06.25 – Sports Day</p> <p>24.06.25 – Reserve Sports Day</p> <p>16.07.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon</p>
New dates will be added in red		

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

## 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

## 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

## 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

## 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel..." or "I think..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

## 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

## 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

## 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

## 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demoralising each other.

## 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

## 10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

## Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

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