

Kindness, Endurance, Friendships, Forgiveness, Thankfulness
'Learning with our head, heart and hands so that we can experience life in all its fullness'



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News Update 5 **2nd November 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Throughout November we will be looking at the value of 'Peace'. Next week during Collective Worship we will be looking at the book 'Please Write Soon' by Michael Rosen to reflect about the importance of Remembrance Day. We will also be thinking about what peace means, peace that comes with some quiet time, the thing that makes for peace of mind and the qualities of a peacemaker. The children will be learning about the bible story of David who tries to make peace with King Saul. They will also learn about people who have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and the reasons why they were given this award.

Class Assembly

Our next Class Assembly is Darwin's which is on Friday 3rd November. You are more than welcome to stay afterwards to share your child's books with them. Siblings are welcome, but if they do become unsettled then please take them out of the hall so not to disturb the assembly. Thank you for your understanding.



PTA Christmas Market

Hopefully you would have seen the email sent out today about the Christmas market. The PTA are organising a fantastic event and need some help from parents/carers. If you are able to help out then please make contact with either Katie (Ivy's Mum) or Becky (Zach's Mum) both have children in Nightingale Class.

If you wish to have a stall then please contact the School Office on admin@matchinggreen.essex.sch.uk and we can forward your request to the PTA. They are also looking for unwanted but good quality toys for a toy tombola stall. The School Council are going to run a Christmas decoration stall and a book sale, so any unwanted books (good quality and age appropriate) are also welcome.

Governing Body Update from Neil Banks

Following a full Governing Body Meeting on the 3rd October 2023, I'm pleased to have been appointed Chair of Governors for another year. I'm also pleased to announce that Mike Nabarro and Jane Brown have been elected as Vice Chairs of the Governing Body. Ami Leland and George Streeter have stepped down

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from the Governing Body and we thank them for their support during their time as governors. We welcome Michelle Horgan to the Governing Body as a new Parent Governor. We currently have vacancies for another Parent Governor, if you’re interested in becoming a governor please speak to Miss Wareham, who will be happy to share with you what the role entails.

As always, at the first meeting of the academic year we assign roles of responsibility. Our Governing Body is made up of two sub committees. Each governor also has special responsibilities for certain areas e.g. Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Maths, Collective Worship etc.

Committee Membership is as follows:

Finance, Premises and Personnel: Daren Olley, Mike Nabarro, Jane Brown, Neil Banks.

Curriculum: Jane Brown, Mrs Byrne, Mary Nicholls, Rev Julia, Michelle Horgan.

Our meeting started with a safeguarding update from Miss Wareham, keeping us up to date with the current risks and mitigations for keeping children safe in school. Followed by the headteacher’s report, outlining the school’s position regarding pupil numbers, class sizes and academic performance. It’s been a busy start to the school year, and Miss Wareham and the team have been working hard to settle the new children into the school, as well as ensuring that all pupils are in a position to make progress and thrive - ranging from our youngest pupils that are just starting their school journey, to our pupils entering their last year at Matching Green.



Young Carers Assembly

On Wednesday 8th November the children will have a Young Carers Assembly to raise awareness about children who have responsibilities at home to help look after siblings or parents/carers and the challenges that they face.

Piano Lessons

Mrs Ramsey has some piano spaces available. If you wish for your child to take part in piano lessons then please make contact with her. Her details can be found on this link:

<https://www.matchinggreenprimaryschool.com/piano-lessons/>

Flu Immunisations

On Friday 10th November the Flu Immunisation Team will be visiting school. If you wish your child to have their flu vaccine in school then please follow the link below to consent to this.

<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/kiNeKvrvXW>

The deadline to complete your child’s consent form is **Wednesday 8th November**. We cannot guarantee any forms submitted after this date will be accepted at the school session.

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family members and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

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The vaccine is free and most children have it up their nose (nasal spray) which is quick and painless. ***The nasal spray is the most effective vaccine for children.*** If you do not wish for your child to receive the spray due to it containing porcine gelatine and would prefer for them to have the injectable vaccine, please contact us on the number provided below.

Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccines in schools have had the immunisation. If you have any queries, please contact the Immunisation Team on: 0300 790 0597 – Essex, Southend, Thurrock

Please note that only the children who we have consent for will have the immunisation. If you have any questions regarding this please contact the team directly and not the School Office.



Children in Need

On Friday 17th November the School Council would like to raise some money for this special charity. We are asking for a £1 donation in return for wearing pyjamas for the day.



Odd Sock Day

The week beginning the 13th November is Anti Bullying Week. We will kick start the week by wearing odd socks to school on Monday 13th November. These socks can be stripy, fluffy, long socks, colourful socks it doesn't matter as long as they do not match! No donation required, just odd socks.

Child Safety Warning about Water Beads

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) has issued a warning regarding the use of water beads, a product used increasingly as a toy. Water beads also known as gel beads, sensory beads, and sold under various brand names, are becoming increasingly popular as a toy. These beads are made from super absorbent polymer and can retain hundreds of times their weight in water.

The use of water beads, especially by babies and toddlers poses serious risks. If swallowed, the beads can continue to expand, growing considerably larger than their original size and causing intestinal blockages requiring medical intervention. Due to their growing popularity, driven by social media exposure, it's critical to be aware of the potential dangers. The CCPC advises that water beads should be kept out of sight and reach of young children to ensure their safety.

More information, and guidance for Parents and caregivers can be found on the [CCPC](#) website.

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DEAR with a Twist

On Wednesday 15th November parents/carers are invited to join their child/ren for DEAR with a twist. As before, we will split the school into house groups, where you will all listen to a story that celebrates diversity to tie in with Anti-Bullying Week that is happening throughout that week. You will then create a piece of art work with your child, that is linked to the house group text. The books that we will be using are Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister, Odd Dog Out by Rob Biddulph, Elmer by David McKee and The Hueys in the New Jumper by Oliver Jeffers. **We have changed the start time to 9:15am.** Please can we ask only one adult per family. If you are unable to come, please do not worry, your child will complete the same activities with a member of staff.

Lost Property

Before half term we had over 80 pieces of school uniform which we were unable to return, because they were not named, some of the items were brand new! We were only able to return two items because they had their initials on. We appreciate that school uniform can be costly and we also want to return lost items. However, we cannot do this if there is no name on them. We have now donated these to the PTA for their Preloved Sale.

We also have lots of snack pots that have no names on. Please label everything using either permanent markers, fabric/laundry pens, sticky labels etc. Please see below:

[Laundry Pen](#)

[Name Tags 4 U](#)

Reading

Please find attached our next reading poster which is all about comprehension. Our next series of posters will all be able how to support writing at home.



Instagram

We have joined Instagram! Please come and join us as we share updates and information about our school day. There are some great photos on there of the children enjoying their Fit Fence and Kidditch day!

There is a whole school account: @matchinggreenceprimary and an account for each of our classes:

Potter Class - @potter.class

Nightingale Class - @nightingale.class

Darwin Class - @charlesdarwin.class

Shakespeare Class - @shakespeare.class

Our PTA also has an Instagram account @matchinggreenschoolpta.

Open Days

Although we have only just welcomed our new Potter children into class, we are already thinking about the next academic year. If you or anyone you know would be interested in coming to visit the school on one of our Open Days, you are more than welcome. Please contact the School Office to book in. You can apply for primary (reception) school place at an Essex primary school between 6 November 2023 and 15 January 2024. **Offers will be sent to online applicants by email on 16 April 2024.**

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Open Days are on the following dates:

Tuesday 14 th November	9.30 or 11am
Tuesday 28 th November	9.30 or 11am
Tuesday 12 th December	9.30 or 11am

Best wishes,

Miss Wareham

New dates will be highlighted in yellow.



Fri	3 rd	Nov	Royal Gunpowder Mill Trip	Shakespeare Class details to follow
Fri	3 rd	Nov	Darwin Class Assembly	@ 9am Darwin parents/carers
Mon	6 th	Nov	Parents Evening 5-7pm	
Weds	8 th	Nov	Parents Evening 3:30-5:30pm	
Weds	8 th	Nov	KS1 Multi Skills Event	Nightingale Class
Fri	10 th	Nov	Flu Immunisations	For children with consent from parents
Mon	13 th	Nov	Start of Anti Bullying Week	Whole School
Weds	15 th	Nov	DEAR with a twist	9:15am start parents invited
Fri	17 th	Nov	Celebration Assembly	@ 9am Parents welcome
Weds	22 nd	Nov	Potter Class Assembly	@ 9am Potter parents/carers
Fri	24 th	Nov	Nightingale Class Assembly	@ 9am Nightingale parents/carers
Mon	27 th	Nov	PTA Christmas Enrichment morning	All children
Weds	29 th	Nov	Tower of London Trip	Nightingale Class details to follow
Thurs	30 th	Nov	Robin Hood Pantomime	All children
Fri	1 st	Dec	WB Studios Harry Potter Trip	Darwin Class – Details to follow
Weds	6 th	Dec	DEAR with a twist	9:15am start parents invited
Thurs	7 th	Dec	WESSP Sports Leadership Day	All children – PE kit required
Fri	8 th	Dec	Christingle Making	All children in school
Fri	8 th	Dec	PTA Christmas Market	3pm – 5:30pm All families invited

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Sun	10 th	Dec	Christingle Service @ St Marys Church	4pm all families invited
Mon	11 th	Dec	Christmas Nativity	2pm start parents/carers welcome
Tues	12 th	Dec	Christmas Nativity	2pm start parents/carers welcome
Weds	13 th	Dec	Christmas jumper day & lunch	All children
Tues	19 th	Dec	Last day of term	All children finish at 1.15pm
Weds	20 th	Dec	INSET Day	
Return to school Thursday 4th January 2024				

INSET Days

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Monday 26th February 2024

Monday 3rd June 2024