

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

July 2025

Welcome to a new month in school. It is just two weeks to go now to the end of the school year. Time has been flying by.

I think all members of our school community (parents, grandparents and other family members who work so hard supporting homework and organising children for each day, teachers and other staff who devote such a lot of time to preparing and organising lessons and of course the children who work hard and are the reason for all we do) are definitely ready for a rest now.

We have really noticed again this year and are so very grateful for the constant support of parents throughout this school year.



Classes for next year

Nursery: Mrs Whytock and Mrs Forgione

Reception (Hope): Mrs Rowley

Reception (Grace): Mrs Linnane

Year 1 (Wisdom): Mrs Keevil
(Reception Grace 2024/25 children)

Year 1 (Rosary): Miss Beckles
(Reception Hope 2024/25 children)

Year 2 (Fatima): Miss Soto
(Year 1, Wisdom 2024/25 children)

Year 2 (Faith): Miss Sheehan
(Year 1 Rosary, 2024/25 children)

Year 3 (St. Cecilia): Miss Tanak
(Year 2, Faith 2024/25 children)

Year 3 (St. Bernadette): Mrs Falzone
(Year 2, Fatima 2024/25 children)

Year 4 (St. Paul): Ms Joseph
(Year 3, St. Bernadette 2024/25 children)

Year 4 (St. Peter): Miss Crooy
(Year 3, St. Cecilia 2024/25 children).

Year 5 (St. Joseph): Miss Chafra
(Year 4, St. Peter 2024/25)

Year 5 (St. Anthony): Mr Dixon
(Year 4, St. Paul 2024/25)

Year 6 (St. Catherine): Mrs Egboh (Children from Year 5 - please refer to your letter.)

Year 6 (St. Christopher): Mrs Brennan (Children from Year 5 - please refer to your letter.)

We will say goodbye to Mr Murphy and Mrs Jones at the end of this school year.

Mr Murphy will move away from London to teach in a school nearer to his family. We wish him well for the future and thank him sincerely for the time he has spent with our community here in Ponders End and the contribution he has made.

Mrs Jones is planning to retire after many happy years at St. Mary's although she has said she will still come in each week to teach the hymn practice sessions for the children (so she has not fully retired yet!!!).

We will miss her here but know she has definitely earned her time of retirement as she moves on to devote more of her time to her own children and grandchildren.



We will also say goodbye to Mrs Romo from our Support Staff Team at the end of this school year as she moves into retirement (we know she really does not look old enough to retire!!!).

We will miss her energy and enthusiasm with the children and all of the jobs of support in the classrooms. We wish her well as she moves on to other projects as part of this new stage in her life.



I will also retire from my job as headteacher at the end of this school year after **30 very happy years** in Ponders End.

It is necessary now for me to slow down a bit in order to give my body a bit more rest (especially my eyes currently following the severe nerve damage I suffered as part of having pneumonia last school year).

For those of you who know me I am not really a 'going slow' type and absolutely love my work and our community but I know I need to ease up a little bit.

Thankfully I will be able to still be around the school and support the new team from September.

Mrs Martin will take over the role as Interim Headteacher from September 1st and Mrs Falzone and Mrs Brennan will share the Deputy Headteacher duties.

I am so very thankful that we have a strong senior team in place at St. Mary's at this time and wonderful support from the staff team, governors, parish and of course from our children and parents always.



Monday 14th July - Last day of School Year for Year 6 (and for Reception -Year 5 pupils the last day in their current classes). End of Year class Parties. Early Closing (12.45pm Infants, 1pm Juniors). **OWN CLOTHES' DAY.**
Tuesday 15th July - Years 1-6 pupils for September 2025 (current Reception - Year 5 pupils) begin their time in their new classes.
Friday 18th July - Last day of term and school year. Early Closing (12.45pm Infants, 1pm Juniors) . **OWN CLOTHES' DAY.**

Early Closing Days (Monday 14th July and Friday 18th July)

Parents, as I know you are aware, there will be two early closing days in the last week of term.

On Monday 14th July the school will close early to enable the staff to prepare the classrooms for their new classes to start with them on Tuesday 15th July.

Current Reception, Y1 +Y2 pupils will finish at 12.45pm.

Current Y3-Y6 pupils will finish at 1pm.

The Nursery will be open in the morning as usual on that day.

On Friday 18th July the school will close early as is usual on the last day of the term.

Y1 +Y2 September 2025 pupils will finish at 12.45pm.
Y3-Y6 September 2025 pupils will finish at 1pm.

Nursery AM (current group): 11.45 am

Year Group Addresses:

If you have any questions about your child's end of year report, need any support or just want to say hello please contact the teacher via the year group e-mail address or via the school address or call us at school. I know the teachers would be very happy to hear from you.

nursery@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

reception@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year1@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year2@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year3@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year4@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year5@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year6@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

You are also very welcome to make an appointment to see your child's current teacher or new teacher before the end of term if you wish to discuss your child's report or need to make them aware of anything related to your child's learning.

Parking

Parking difficulties around the school tend to occur when children are being collected from / dropped off to school each day. I do understand how busy school opening and closing times can be but please make every effort to park responsibly in the roads around the school as you drop off / collect your child each day.

I hope that during the rest of this school term all parents and carers will act in a responsible manner both for the safety of our children and a positive association with our neighbours. Thankfully so many

continue to do so and the numbers of pupils who are cycling and scooting have continued to increase again over this school year which is absolutely wonderful. Thank you for your great support with this.



St Mary's Catholic Primary School Street

As I know you are aware Enfield Council have set up a School Street for St Mary's between Alexandra Road and Bursland Road. This has been in place for quite a while now.

A 'School Street' is an area transformed into a pedestrian and cycling zone operating Monday to Friday during the school term, during set times at drop-off and pick-up times.

School Streets aim to:

- ensure the safety of school students as they arrive to and leave school,
- improve the air quality near the school, and
- encourage more young people to walk and cycle to school.

When the School Street zone is in operation during the designated hours, motor vehicles cannot pass through the zone, except for those who have applied for and received a permit or exemption.

The times of operation for the St Mary's Primary School Street are 8.15am to 9.15am, and 2.30pm to 3.30pm from Monday to Friday during school term time only and operates using a camera enforced system.

Please take care so that you do not receive an expensive fine. Fines are not paid to the school.

Further information on School Streets and how they operate can be found at

<https://letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/schoolstreets/widgets/38314/videos/3024>

<https://letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/SchoolStreets>

Development of School Building and Site - School Fund



I know you are aware we are always keen to keep our school building in good repair and to continue to improve our school site.

Remember your donations to the School Fund greatly assist the school in improving the facilities provided for all of the children.

Thank you to all who have made contributions this year. For anyone who still wishes to make a voluntary contribution there is still time.

I am delighted to inform you that we have received a substantial fire safety grant which will enable us to upgrade all of our internal fire doors and some of our internal glass.



Wednesday Word

Have you started to read 'The Wednesday Word' yet?

The Wednesday Word is a gift to you and your family because of your connection with our Catholic school.

Every Wednesday, a 'word' (inspired by the Sunday Gospel) will be suggested for you and your family to talk about in your home.

This weekly Family Time is structured around the Sunday

Gospel because evidence shows that Gospel values really do help family relationships to thrive.

Regularly spending quality time with children is without doubt one of the most important aspects of parenting. *The Wednesday Word* seeks to support you in this important task: to help you and your children maintain a special closeness throughout the school years.

The Wednesday Word 'Family Time' leaflet is designed to ensure that all family members feel included. It presents an effective way for even the busiest of parents to enrich relationships with their children through spending a very special 5 or 10 minutes together each week.

We suggest Wednesdays for *Family Time* because it is the day that the Catholic Church dedicates to St Joseph – the Patron Saint of Families. But rather than miss out, any other night would do just as well.

The Wednesday Word is currently available online:

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/index.html>



Relationships Sex and Health Education (RSHE)



As you know we decided to adopt **Life to the Full** by Ten Ten Resources a number of years ago.

Through their programme, Ten Ten understand the foundational role that parents have in educating and nurturing their children on these matters. Within the programme, they have built in resources which will not only keep you informed about what is being taught in school, but will also give you the opportunity to engage your children in discussion, activity and prayer.

As part of the subscription to *Life to the Full* an Online Parent Portal is provided for parents.

Parents should visit the following webpage:

[Online Parent Portal – Enter \(tentenresources.co.uk\)](https://www.tentenresources.co.uk)

The parent login is as follows:

Username: st-marys-en3
Password: lady-3

School Uniform

Thank you to the great number of pupils wearing the correct **dark blue summer dress**. Remember it is fine for your child to continue to wear a grey skirt / trousers and polo shirt during the summer term.

Children are not encouraged to wear summer dresses which are not dark blue check (these other light blue dresses are actually the summer uniform of another school).

Some of the children are wearing short school uniform trousers which are a little cooler in the warm weather.

Please check your child's uniform. Sometimes children accidentally take home the wrong sweatshirts etc.

Try to ensure your child's name is on each item of uniform. During the summer children take off sweat shirts a lot more. If the sweatshirt is labelled it is much easier to return it to its owner. It's good for children to be able to wear a hat during the summer when it becomes very warm. **School hats (with neck protection flaps) are now available from the School Office for £4.00.** Children are encouraged to wear these instead of other non - uniform baseball caps which are not permitted.

On PE days children are able to wear their PE uniform (or on any other school day if they wish). It must however be the correct PE uniform.



Please ensure your child is wearing the correct joggers in school blue or navy school shorts.

Also your child must wear their school shoes and change into their trainers/plimsolls for their PE sessions.

Please note that children are not allowed to wear nail varnish or false nails. Rings, bracelets, necklaces must not be worn to school. Lines, logos, Mohican cuts, dye or designs in the hair are not encouraged.

Pupils are asked not to wear makeup.

Thank you to the great number of parents who ensure their children wear the correct school uniform each day. The majority of children always look very smart.

Phone calls



Your child is welcome to phone home (in emergency only). We would welcome a voluntary

contribution towards the cost of any phone calls your child makes.

The Angelus

In the summer term we try to learn / say The Angelus each day at 12 noon in all classes from Year 2 (from summer term) - Year 6. This is a wonderful prayer which reminds us that God the Son became man in order to save us.

You might like to say this prayer with your child at home. It can be said in the morning, at noon or in the evening.

The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord:
Be it done to me according to your word.

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh:
And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us Pray.

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may be brought by his passion and cross to the glory of his resurrection, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the divine assistance remain always with us and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Christian Meditation

As you know the World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM) has worked to develop videos which provide short meditation sessions which children and young people can participate in, whether in school or at home. These sessions are inspired by meditation in the tradition of John Main OSB.

Full details are available here:

<https://www.cathchild.org.uk/meditation-with-children-young-people/>

Talk to your child about phone safety – Police Message for Parents and Carers

Mobile phones are a great way to stay in contact with family and friends. Many children starting secondary school in September own one or have access to one.

As useful as they are, they can make children vulnerable to thieves who are particularly interested in new models and other valuable items such as cash, airpods and expensive coats. Reducing robbery is our top priority and our officers are working hard to catch those responsible, with activity to prevent it taking place daily.

There are however, a number of things you can do to help reduce your child's risk of becoming a victim and keep safe whilst using their phone. **If you can, talk to them about where and how they use their phone using the following advice:**

Safety when out and about:

- Keep your phone and valuables out of sight in a safe place when travelling to and from school. Be careful if you take your phone out in public places.
- Bus stops, train stations and surrounding areas are common target areas for thieves, who can approach on foot,

moped or on a pedal bike or e-scooter.

- Earphones/headphones can distract you, stopping you from seeing or hearing someone approach you from behind.
- Don't confront a thief - it's not worth risking your own safety for possessions that can be replaced.
- Robbery or attempted robbery are serious crimes and should be reported. It's important you seek help straight away by dialing 999 rather than contacting police when you get home. Use a friend's phone or the phone of a trusted adult. This gives us the best chance to catch the suspects, recover any stolen property and ensure your safety.
- If you have information about a robbery and do not want to report it to police, speak to Fearless 100 % anonymously at www.fearless.org. Fearless is the youth service of independent charity Crimestoppers.

- Whether you have a phone or not, memorise or keep a parent/carer's phone number in a separate place in your bag/zipped pocket in case of emergency.

Help protect your child's phone if it's stolen:

- Use your device's security features, apps or PIN locking mechanisms to protect your data and prevent the phone being used.
- Keep a record of the phone's IMEI number (not on your phone!). This is a 15-digit unique number which can be obtained by keying in *#06#. You need this information if the phone is lost or stolen.
- Consider installing a tracker app, available online.

For more information go to www.fearless.org/campaigns/robbery.

For help and advice on staying safe online and how to keep cyber criminals at bay, the Met has some great videos and other resources at www.met.police.uk/littlemedia

Future Dates

Thursday 10th July - Year 6 Leavers' Mass, 9.30am in the church. Leavers' BBQ and Disco, 5-6.30pm.

Friday 11th July - Children visit their new September classes AM.

Monday 14th July - End of Year Class Parties. Last day of School Year for Year 6. Last day for Reception -Year 5 pupils in their current classes.

Early Closing (12.45pm Infants, 1pm Juniors). Own Clothes Day.

Tuesday 15th July - Year 1- Year 6 pupils (September 2025) begin their time in their new classes. New Reception pupils and parents visit.

Wednesday 16th July - New Reception pupils and parents visit.

Thursday 17th July - New Reception pupils and parents visit.

Friday 18th July - Last day of School Year. Early Closing (12.45pm Infants, 1pm Juniors). OWN CLOTHES' DAY.

Thanksgiving for the School Year: School Mass (in memory of Daniel Evans and Mary Ireton) at 9.30am in Church for Years 2-6.

New Reception pupils and parents visit AM.

* Please note that dates may change as the year progresses. I apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause.

Attendance

Thank you for your support in trying to build our attendance up to our excellent pre-pandemic levels.

Our target is for 98% attendance (our absence was 4.38% up to and including the last Friday in June - this is still higher than we would like it to be but it is gradually improving).

The classes with the highest attendance from the beginning of the school year until the end of June were:

1. 97.10%-Y2, Faith
2. 96.98%-Y3, St. Cecilia
3. 96.97%-Y6, St. Christopher
4. 96.94% - Y4, St. Peter
5. 96.86%-Y4, St. Paul
6. 96.73%- Y5/6, St. Catherine
7. 95.74%- Y1, Rosary
8. 95.66%- Y5, St. Joseph
9. 95.55%-Y3, St. Bernadette
10. 95.39%-Y2, Fatima



Social Tariffs: Cheaper Broadband and Phone Packages - Ofcom (this might be of interest to you)

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phone-s-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/costs-and-billing/social-tariffs>

Best Wishes

Thank you so much for the support you have shown both to me and to the staff of St. Mary's over the last year and always. It is greatly appreciated by everyone in school always and most especially by me at this time.

Thank you children for making every day in school interesting, enjoyable and different. You are a credit to your parents and families.

I hope you have a safe and happy time over the summer.

Good luck in your new schools Year 6! You have been a lovely group all the way through school. As we have said to you many times, we are so proud of all of you and your secondary schools will be so lucky to have you as part of their community in the new academic year. We will miss you.

Miss M Creed
Headteacher

Starting Secondary School Guides:

- [Children and young people's guide to starting secondary school \(PDF, 1814.49 KB\)](#).
- [My child is starting secondary school – Our new routine \(PDF, 2979.41 KB\)](#)

Dates for Academic Year 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term

Monday 1st September - Friday 19th December 2025

Half - Term Monday 27th
October - Friday 31st October 2025

Spring Term

Monday 5th January - Friday 27th March 2026
Half -Term Monday 16th -
Friday 20th February 2026

Summer Term

Monday 13th April - Friday 17th July 2026

Half - Term Monday 25th May -
Friday 29th May 2026

May Bank Holiday: Monday 4th
May 2026

INSET Days

Monday 1st September 2025
Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Monday 23rd February 2026
Tuesday 5th May 2026
Monday 15th June 2026

Governors' Day: Monday 20th
July 2026 (school closed)



ADMISSIONS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

Due to the fact that there are now fewer pupils in London (decrease in the population of children) and the issues with finding affordable places to live we currently have places in some of our 2025/2026 class groups.

Thank you parents for recommending our school and helping to build up our pupil numbers. Please continue to do this. We need your help!

From our School Inspection Report: 'Pupils are eager to come to school each morning because their teachers do their best to help them learn...Pupils learn in a calm environment. This is because the school has high expectations for pupils...Pupils conduct themselves well because they know what is right and have been taught how to behave well. Pupils achieve well across a range of subjects. They are proud to talk about their work which is presented with pride...Warm, caring relationships permeate the school...Pupils are confident that adults will listen to their worries and help them. This means they feel happy and safe...The curriculum is ambitious and well structured...Adults have secure subject knowledge...Leaders have high expectations and are ambitious for pupils...Safeguarding is a priority here. (OFSTED Inspection, November 2023).

'A. Classroom religious education is outstanding

- The school has adapted and developed the themes of the Religious Education Curriculum Directory in an excellent manner to meet the learning needs of the pupils of St Mary's.
- The religious education programme in use fully delivers this content and the use of De Bono system in religious education pushes pupils to develop their understanding further.
- After carefully analysing the needs of their pupils, the school has developed a curriculum and teaching programme that has

reached outstanding achievement by the pupils in religious education.

- Teachers have high expectations and plan lessons that deepen pupils' religious literacy.
- Since the last inspection, staff confidence in recording and assessment has been demonstrably achieved with the evidence of the clarity and confidence on the part of the staff in planning imaginative lessons based on the religious education programme followed in the school.
- The headteacher is also the religious education curriculum coordinator and she takes the closest interest in developing the excellent teaching and learning of religious education in the school.
- The chair of governors is a recent appointment but with her years of experience on the governing body she is clear in her role of both support and challenge in pursuing the special responsibility of governors of a Catholic school.

- Pupils and staff have a deep understanding of the call to 'human flourishing' and are given opportunities to develop and celebrate their gifts and talents.
- Partnership with the parents is excellent; they appreciate and support all that the school provides for their children.
- The leadership and management of the school are very effective in promoting the Catholic life of the school. The head is strong and devoted in providing both oversight and support on all aspects of Catholic life. The contribution and regular visits of the parish priest provides a strong and stable reinforcement of the foundational position of Catholicism in the life of the school' (OFSTED Section 48 Inspection, September 2019).



ADMISSIONS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

We need your help to remind friends, neighbours, relatives to apply for places in our Nursery and Reception classes for their children for September 2025!

It is not too late to apply!

B. The Catholic life of the school is outstanding

- The curriculum fully conforms to the classroom curriculum time of at least 10% for religious education and teaching is fully in line with the requirements of the Bishops' Conference.
- The previous inspection asked the school to develop pupils' understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and to help pupils understand the ethics of the market place and fair trade. The school has fully addressed these priorities, both in their classroom teaching and in the encouragement offered when choosing charities to support.
- The pupils of St Mary's enjoy an outstanding experience of prayer, liturgy and Catholic worship.



Dear God,

We thank you for giving us your peace. Help us to spread peace at home by loving and caring for one another. Help us to spread peace by listening to one another, even when we don't agree. Help us to spread peace by sharing our time with those who are lonely and who need a friend. Help us to spread peace by thinking and praying for children who have no food or who are frightened and live in fear. Let us pray every day for peace for our families, for our friends and for ourselves. Amen.

Re: Reducing Smartphone Use in Childhood

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are writing to you as a group of schools in Enfield, with the support of Enfield Council.

This letter explains that, from September 2025, **Primary School aged children will not be allowed to bring a smartphone to school**, and that the new cohort of students joining **Year 7 at Secondary School will not be allowed to bring a smartphone to school** for the duration of their studies from Years 7-11.

We also ask that you delay allowing your child to have a smartphone at all until they are aged 14 or older, and to delay access to social media until they are 16.

Why have we made this decision?

Although there are many benefits, there is increasing evidence that smartphone use has negative effects on the wellbeing and mental health of young people, and poses a number of significant safeguarding risks. Smartphone use has been linked to impaired attention and focus, sleep deprivation, mental health issues, online bullying, exposure to harmful online content and people, increased risk of mugging, and increased loneliness and social isolation. We want young people to prioritise in-person interactions and to benefit from the stronger social skills, empathy and sense of community real-world interactions offer.

In many of our schools, mobile phone bans are already in place and children are protected from some of the issues outlined above. These risks remain outside of school. We encourage parents to delay allowing children to have a smartphone at all until they are aged 14 or older, and to delay access to social media until age 16.

If you feel your child needs a device for safety reasons, consider instead a phone without internet connectivity (a 'brick' phone), an Airtag or a fully locked down phone with no internet or communication apps installed.

We know that many of you are keen to delay giving your child a smartphone at the age of 11, 12 or 13, so we hope that the position we are adopting as schools will support you in your decision to ask children to wait until they are older to get a smartphone.

We hope that you will support us in our aim to make sure that your children are happy and safeguarded by being smartphone free.

Further Information and Resources

The following links lead to research and resources regarding mobile phone use and young people:

Keep Your Child Safe Online – Guide for Parents and Carers (Enfield Council)
([Online Safety | Enfield Council](#))

Keep Your Child Safe Online – Resources for Schools and Families (Enfield Council)
([Online Safety | Enfield Council](#))

Smartphone Free Childhood
([Smartphone Free Childhood](#))

House of Commons Committee Report
(<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5804/cmselect/cmeduc/118/summary.html>)

Unesco Report
(<https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/smartphones-school-only-when-they-clearly-support-learning>)

Mobile Phones in Schools Guidance
(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65cf5f2a4239310011b7b916/Mobile_phones_in_schools_guidance.pdf)

Keep Your Child Safe Online – Poster (Enfield Council)
([Online Safety | Enfield Council](#))



Further information can be found in the 'Sources and Resources' section of **Keep Your Child Safe Online – Guide**

Signed:

AIM North London	Latymer All Saints C of E Primary School
Alma Primary School	Laurel Park School
Ark John Keats Academy	Lavender Primary School
Bishop Stopford's School	Lea Valley Academy
Bowes Primary School	Merryhills Primary School
Brimsdown Primary School	Oakthorpe Primary School
Capel Manor Primary School	Oaktree School
Carterhatch Infant School	Oasis Enfield Academy
Carterhatch Junior School	Orchardside School
Chase Side Primary School	Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School
Chace Community School	Prince of Wales Primary School
Chesterfield Primary School	Raglan Schools (Infant and Junior)
Churchfield Primary School	Raynham Primary School
De Bohun Primary School	St Edmund's Catholic Primary School
Delta Primary School	St Ignatius College
Durants School	Salmons Brook School
Delta Primary School	Southgate School
Eastfield Primary School	Starks Field Primary School
Edmonton County School	St Andrew's CE Primary School Enfield
Eldon Primary School	St George's Catholic Primary School
Enfield County School for Girls	St John's CE Primary School
Enfield Grammar	St John and St James CE Primary School
Enfield Heights Academy	St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Eversley Primary School	St Matthews CE Primary School
Fern House School	St Michael at Bowes CE Primary School
Firs Farm Primary School	St Michael's CE Primary School
Forty Hill CE Primary School	St Monica's Catholic Primary School
FreshSteps Independent School	St Paul's CE Primary School
Galliard Primary School	Suffolks Primary School
Garfield Primary School	Tottenham Infant School
George Spicer Primary School	Vita Et Pax Preparatory School
Grange Park Preparatory School	Walker Primary School
Grange Park Primary School	Wilbury Primary School
Hadley Wood Primary School	Winchmore School
Hazelbury Primary School	Wolfson Hillel Primary School
Hazelwood Schools (Infant and Junior)	Worcesters Primary School
Heron Hall Academy	Wren Academy
Highfield Primary School	
Highlands School	
Honilands Primary School	
Houndsfield Primary School	
Keble Preparatory School	
Keys Meadow Primary School	
Kingfisher Hall Academy	
Kingsmead School	



Online Safety Newsletter

July 2025

ZEPETO

ZEPETO has an age rating of over 13. Users create their own avatars and can design rooms. ZEPETO is a social networking app and therefore users can chat with others. Due to the communication option, there are the usual risks, such as your child seeing inappropriate content or online bullying. In-App purchases are also available on this platform.

Parental controls are not available, but a user can change some settings within privacy and content settings, for example to change who can direct message you.

ZEPETO have published a Guardian's guide here:
<https://support.zepeto.me/hc/en-us/articles/900005874946-ZEPETO-Guardian-s-Guide>

Sprunki

Is your child playing Sprunki? If they are, there are several versions of this game, so it is important to check which version they are playing and to then check its suitability for your child. For example, one version states:

"WARNING: This game contains disturbing images and scenes of explicit violence and gore".

Find out more here:
<https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-topics/esafety-guide/sprunki>

Nintendo Switch 2

The Nintendo Switch 2 was released last month and has a new communication feature that you should be aware of.

GameChat – NEW

GameChat is included within a Nintendo Switch Online membership and allows up to 12 people to chat while playing games. Players can share their screen, even if they are playing different games, chat with the built-in microphone and as the Nintendo Switch 2 allows cameras to be connected (sold separately), even video chat. If your child is using this feature, then ensure they know how to report other users.

You can find out more here: <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-2/GameChat/Nintendo-Switch-2-GameChat-2785625.html>

Parental Controls

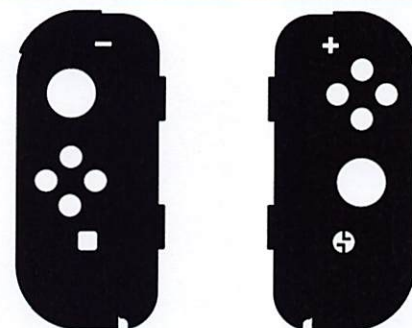
There is a free Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app that can be linked with your Nintendo Switch to monitor what your child is playing. The app creates a report so you can see which video games your child is playing and for how long. It also allows you to set which games your child can play, based on the PEGI age rating and restricts your child from sending or receiving messages from other users. GameChat settings can also be adjusted. Children under the age of 15 can only use GameChat if allowed by you through the app. They can then only use GameChat with people that you approve. Find out more here: <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Support/Nintendo-Switch-2/How-to-Set-Up-Adjust-or-Remove-Parental-Controls-on-Nintendo-Switch-2-2843839.html>

Check age ratings

PEGI provides age classifications for video games. PEGI considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty. It is important to note that PEGI do not take into consideration user generated content within games (such as on Roblox) and chat facilities within games. <https://pegi.info/>

Further information

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>



Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleycitylearningcentres.org.uk/primary-july-2025/>

Online Challenges

According to Ofcom's latest Children's Media Use and Attitudes report "funny videos or those showing pranks or challenges continue to be the most popular type of VSP (video-sharing platforms) content for children, watched by 68% of 3-17-year-olds who watch videos." [source - <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/media-use-and-attitudes/media-habits-children/children-and-parents-media-use-and-attitudes-report-2025>]

If your child is watching this type of content, then you need to chat to them regularly, particularly about online challenges and the risks that they can pose. **There are challenges online that are risky/dangerous.** Sadly, there are reports that children have died as a consequence of attempting online challenges.

Children may not yet have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse that what they see online is not always safe for them to replicate. Make sure your child knows that they should talk to you (or another trusted adult) if they are thinking about trying something that they have seen online.

If your child has not heard about an online challenge, then do not draw attention to it as this may lead to them searching for it out of curiosity, so just talk about challenges in a general sense. Furthermore, reassure your child that challenges that suggest that terrible things will happen if they do not complete the tasks are not real.

The following link will provide you with further information as well as content to help you talk to your child:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-challenges-guide/>



Is your child moving to Secondary school?

Is your child moving to Secondary school this September? Internet Matters have outlined a number of tools and resources, including a Transition Parent Guide to help support you:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/moving-to-secondary-school-online-safety-guide/>

Conversation Starter

Are you struggling to start a conversation with your child about online safety? Why not try discussing this scenario with them. What would they do and how would you help them?

Amira and her classmates have a WhatsApp group. One evening, Amira notices that some group members are sharing unkind jokes and memes about another student, Leo, who isn't part of the group. The messages start as playful but quickly turn mean-spirited. Amira feels uncomfortable but isn't sure what to do. So, what should Amira do?

First, Amira should **not join in** with the mean messages. Then, although difficult, she could **speak up** in the group by saying something kind like: "Let's not be mean. This isn't fair to Leo." Finally, she should **tell a trusted adult**.

Discuss how group chats should be fun for *everyone*, not a place to hurt others. Emphasise that being part of a group chat means we all have a responsibility to keep it respectful. If you see something that doesn't feel right, like Amira did, it's okay to speak up or talk to a trusted adult. Remind your child that they won't be punished if they tell you something like this.

Remember, even if Leo doesn't see the messages, **it's still wrong to be unkind**. Real legends lift each other up — they don't tear others down.

Omegele (and similar platforms)

Whilst the original Omegele no longer exists, there is now Ome.tv, other Omegele cypocat sites as well as other sites with a similar concept. **We cannot stress enough that these sites should not be accessed by children due to the potential content and language used, which can be explicit.** As an example, Ome.tv connects you randomly to **other people via video chat** from across the world. Ome.tv does state that it should only be used by adults.

You can find out more information about Chat apps, including 'randomised chat forums' here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>



WWW.STICKYFINGERSENFIELD.CO.UK

SUMMER HALF-TERM

21ST July - 15th August 2025

BOOK NOW ON OUR WEBSITE

LEGOLAND

CARIBBEAN MEGA SLIDE

MAZE ADVENTURE

WOBURN SAFARI PARK

CANVAS ART

SKYDIVING EXPERIENCE

WATER WORLD CORAL REEF

SURF SIMULATOR

GULLIVER'S THEME PARK

PADDINGTON BEAR AFTERNOON TEA

HUMAN BAR FOOTBALL

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CINeworld CINEMA

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PLUS LOADS MORE

CONTACT US FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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JOIN US FOR 90+ ACTIVITIES OVER THE SUMMER

ESCAPE INTO SUMMER UNI

Escape into Summer
5 WEEKS OF FREE ACTIVITIES

**Open to young people aged 11-19,
or up to 25 with SEND, who live or
attend school in Enfield.**

Over 90 FREE courses and activities are waiting
for you - from sport, music and dance, to tech,
creative arts, cooking and career tasters.

Courses go live Saturday 5 July!

Don't miss out - places are first come first
served. Scan the QR to register, download the
Summer Uni booklet and choose your courses
from 5 July to book on.

**Let the countdown begin. Escape
into Summer starts here.**



**REGISTER
TODAY**

**ESCAPE FROM THOSE BORING DAYS OF JULY & AUGUST
INTO THE EXCITING ROOMS OF SUMMER UNI 2025,
WHERE ACTIVITIES ARE AVAILABLE
OVER 5 WEEKS**



@Youth_Enfield #supportingyoungenfield

Email: SUregistration@enfield.gov.uk

Register now: www.youthenfield.taptub.co.uk/summeruni25



Free Summer Cycling Fun for Children

No booking
required

Free of
charge



Join us this Summer at Pymmes Park Multi Use Games Area

Learn to ride, improve your cycling skills and join in cycling games at Summer Cycling Fun, running every Wednesday from 23 July to 27 August from 10am-3pm.

A variety of bikes/trikes will be provided to suit ages 6-16 years

Parents will need to register upon arrival, and young people under the age of 13 will need to be accompanied by a parent.

For more information contact
JourneysandPlaces@enfield.gov.uk

journeysandplaces.enfield.gov.uk

Our Voice drop-in service
For parents/carers of children & young people aged 0-25 with Special Educational Needs/ Disabilities
At the Ponders End Family and Youth Hub

Join members of the Our Voice team and our invited speakers for our regular monthly drop-in sessions at the [Youth and Family Hub](#) in Ponders End.



Our last session before the school summer holidays will be **Monday 14th July, 12.30 – 2 pm**

We will be joined by [SENDIASS](#) (SEND Information and Advice Support Service) and [The Inclusion Project](#).

See the [Our Voice events page](#) for information. Although you do not have to book, it would be really helpful if you could let us know if you plan to attend via [Eventbrite](#).



Our Voice is the official parent carer forum supporting the families of children and young people aged 0 -25 years with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities, living or attending school in the London Borough of Enfield. We are not part of the Local Authority but we work with them to improve services for the families that we represent.

Ponders End Youth and Family Hub
129, South Street, Enfield,
EN3 4 PX
(next to Oasis Hadley Academy)
Drop in – no need to book



An opportunity to talk to one of the parent carers from the Our Voice team about any questions you may have, and to chat with other parents of children with additional needs.

Invited speakers attend most of our sessions to talk on specific SEND - related topics



FREE

N NORTH
LONDON
WASTE
AUTHORITY



EcoPark House

FAMILY DAY

BOOK YOUR SPOT
NOW!



THURSDAY

7 and 28 August, 2025



TIME

10:30am - 1:30pm



EDMONTON ECOPARK

1 Lee Park Way, London N18 3BJ

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Food waste workshops
- Toy repairs
- Resource Recovery Facility tours
- And many more...



**NHS****North London**
NHS Foundation Trust

North London Summer Connect

Together for Wellbeing

Saturday 16 August, 12pm-5pm

Chestnuts Park

St Ann's Rd, N15 3AQ

Join us as we spotlight the mental health and wellbeing support available to young people and their families in North London, provided by the NHS and local partners. We aim to bring the community together, create stronger relationships, and foster a safe space for dialogue among different stakeholders.

Fun interactive activities • Sports and games

Advice and information booths • Bouncy castle and face painting

Arts and crafts workshops • Refreshments

Tips and info from young people with lived experience of our services



Want to get some new ideas to help
you be the best parent you can be?
Enhance your relationship with your children?
Learning at a time that suits you?



**6 online
sessions**



**6 group
discussions**



**Certificate on
completion**

What to expect...

- Information on strategies and child development.
- Hear from other parents.
- Worksheets and hand-outs.
- Videos, quizzes and fun activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Expert help from a real person each week.
- Choose a course that suits your child's age.

Topics covered...

- Healthy relationships.
- Understanding and managing behaviour.
- Enhancing children's self-esteem.
- Emotions and empathy.
- What to expect for the age of your child.
- Being part of a community.

Group discussion...

1. Speak to a course expert and get answers to any questions you might have.
2. Talk about how the strategies are going at home and how to adjust them for you.
3. Address other difficulties relating to parenting.
4. Hear from others about what works for them.

