

December 2025

# Newsletter



## A Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Families,

It has been a great few weeks for the children! They have been busy creating beautiful decorations, learning new songs and taking part in exciting activities.

One of the highlights for our Year 1 and Year 2 children has been their theatre experiences. These trips are so much more than a fun day out—they help children develop confidence, creativity, and imagination. Exposure to live performances supports language development, listening skills, and cultural awareness. It also inspires a love for the arts and encourages children to express themselves in new ways. We were incredibly proud of the children's behaviour during these events. We consistently receive positive feedback about how much they enjoy themselves and how well they represent our school. Also, a special thank you to family members who supported us on these trips, your help make these opportunities possible.

It was wonderful to see the confidence of our Year 1 children during their Christmas performance. They worked so hard to learn new songs and actions—it's a lot to remember, but they rose to the challenge brilliantly. I'm sure it made you immensely proud to watch them perform. Reception children will have their chance to shine in the spring term with their song sack performance, and Year 2 will showcase their talents at the leavers' concert in the summer.

We hope you enjoyed the family winter event in the hall. Your support for fundraising, especially at this time of year, is greatly appreciated. Behind the scenes, these experiences take a great deal of planning and organisation. I would like to thank staff and parent volunteers for their hard work in ensuring everything ran smoothly and that the children had memorable, enjoyable experiences.

As we end 2025, we say a very fond farewell to Beverley, a much-loved member of our office team. After 25 years of dedicated service, Bev has decided to spend more time with her family. She has been a reliable and welcoming presence, greeting children with a smile and helping them feel at ease—especially when they were worried about being late. Bev's kindness and commitment has made a lasting impact on our school community, and she will be greatly missed. I am sure you will join me in wishing Bev well as she begins this new chapter in her life.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a restful winter break. No amount of money or presents can replace the joy of quality time spent with your amazing children. These moments create memories that last a lifetime—and that is the greatest gift of all.

We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday, 5th January.

Take care,



Sarah Clements

## Courses for Parents and Carers

Please continue to check out our school website for available parent and carer courses. Many of them are free to Enfield residents! [Courses for Parents and Carers](#)

## Dates For Your Diary

Monday 5th January: Children Return to School  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January: **The Magic of Maths - Reception Parents Invited**  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January: Children's Dental Health Week  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February: National Story Telling Week  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February: Children's Mental Health Week  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February: **Staff Training Day - School Closed**  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February: **Half Term Break - School Closed**  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February: **Children Return to School**  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: Reception Hearing Tests  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March: **World Book Day - Children's Dress-up Day** - Donations Welcome  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Wonderful Women Week  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March: Reception Hearing Tests  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March: Neurodiversity Celebration Week  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March: **Parent Consultations**  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March: **Comic Relief/Red Nose Day - Children's Dress-up Day** - Donations Welcome  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March: **Children's Class photos**  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March: **Last Day of Term - School will be closing at 1:20pm** - Non-School-Uniform Day  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April: **Spring Break - School Closed**  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April: **Staff Training Day - School Closed**  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April: **Children Return to School**

## Reminder!

The school day starts at 8:45am  
Registers will be taken at  
8:50am, if your child arrives after  
8:50am they will be marked as  
late. All children must be in time  
for registration. The school day  
ends at 3:15pm. Children being  
picked up late from school may  
be charged for After-School Club.

## Thank you

Our Winter Fun Events were a huge success again this year! A big thank you to everyone who was able to attend and join in the fun. We truly appreciate all of the wonderful small gift and sweet donations for our tombola stall, they were amazing!

We hope you had the chance to say hello to Father Christmas and maybe even share what's on your wish list!

Thanks to your generosity, including the donations from our Toy and Gift Sales, we raised over £1,500. These funds will go towards purchasing more outdoor furniture to enhance outdoor learning for our children. We couldn't do this without your support. We are very grateful to you all, thank you!

Congratulations to Alya, Eva (Gorilla class), Defne (Giraffe class), Liam (Gorilla class), and Ali (Tiger class) for winning the raffle prizes; we hope you enjoy them!

And well done to Jacob (Tiger class) for being the closest guess in our How many sweets in the jar? challenge.

Jacob guessed 1,250 sweets—there were 1,266 in the jar!



## Christmas and Hannukah

We would like to wish all our families who celebrate over this holiday period a very Happy Christmas and Happy Hannukah!

Christmas is a traditional celebration for Christians. They celebrate the birth of Jesus and give thanks to God.

Christmas is now celebrated by many families across the world, through the acts of giving and receiving of gifts and spending time with loved ones.

Hannukah is celebrated by Jews around the world. The word Hanukkah means 'dedication' and celebrates one of the greatest miracles in Jewish history. Jewish people celebrate Hannukah with a nightly menorah lighting as well as playing dreidel, singing songs and preparing delicious food.

The dates of Hanukkah change every year, but it will always fall in November or December and lasts for eight days. This year, it began on the evening of Sunday 14th December and ended on Monday 22nd December.

## Parent Shout-Outs!



We love celebrating the amazing work our staff do every day, and we know you do too! If you've seen a member of our team go above and beyond, or simply want to recognise their kindness and hard work, we'd love to hear from you.

### How to share:

Follow the link [Parent Shout Out](#) to send us a quick message with the staff member's name and what you'd like to say.

We will share your shout-outs in our staff meetings and on our staff bulletin board.

## A Message from Year 2

### Rapunzel and the Revengers

The children absolutely adored their recent visit to the theatre and were immersed into a magical world as they joined Rapunzel and her luscious long locks in an epic showdown against the most powerful group of villains the panto world has ever seen. They were blown away by their dazzling costumes and couldn't resist dancing along to the music in their seats. It was a magical experience that will stay with the children for a long time, inspiring their love of stories, theatre and adventure! Not only did they enjoy the performance, but it also sparked discussions and ideas for their writing in class.



### Tis the season to be jolly...



As we count down to the Christmas break in Year Two, we have been thinking about how to make others feel happy by demonstrating acts of kindness (Kindness Kai). Top of our list was smiling at someone – it really is infectious! We wanted to build positive habits and take a moment each day to be grateful for the everything we have. People who are grateful tend to be happier, healthier and more fulfilled. Even the Grinch couldn't resist a smile!

### Year 2 Staff Book Corner

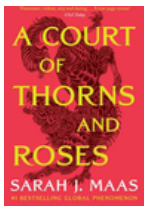
#### What will your teachers be reading over Christmas?

**"That's the thing about books. They let you travel without moving your feet." - Jhumpa Lahiri**

Following our previous message about celebrating reading as a lifelong pleasure for our children, we now turn the page to our own professional community. As promised, here are our next exciting reads from the year 2 team. Please let us know if you are inspired by any of our choices and feel free to share any good recommendations you have with us!

We believe that learning never stops, and a vibrant reading culture benefits us all. Our staff book corner isn't just about professional development—it's also about exploring new ideas, boosting our well-being, and connecting over shared stories. Happy reading!

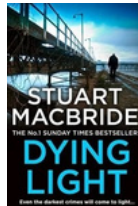
Sonia



Vikki



Laura



Tas



Nikki



Roseanne



## A Message from Year 1

Year 1 children have been using their crafting skills to make Christmas snowflake decorations to help kick off the festive period on our Christmas decoration day. The children had lots of fun cutting and sticking and our carpets were very sparkly when we had all finished!



### How can I support my child at home?

**Counting:** Does your child know how to count forwards and backwards within 100? Can they count in steps of 2 and 10? When you are out and about, what numbers can they see? What is one more and one less than that number?

**Spelling:** When your child is completing their home learning spellings, can they use them in a sentence? Use the tricky word sheets you were given at parent consultations to help increase children's reading fluency.

## A Message from Joey and Kangaroo Class

This month Kangaroo and Joey class have been very lucky to have a music lesson with Adam! He came in and we sang along to his ukulele. We practised Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, The Winter Song and we sang Happy Birthday for one of our friends! We enjoyed welcoming our families into the classroom on Thursday for a festive celebration! The children loved making cakes for the event sharing their hard work with their carers. It was also made extra special by a visit from Santa! Thank you to all of our families for all of your support so far this year. Kangaroo and Joey Class would like to wish you all a peaceful winter break and a Happy New Year!



## A Message from Reception

One of our core books this half term has been 'The Very Busy Spider'. Linking to this book, we have also looked at other books written by the same author, Eric Carle. One of his books was 'The Artist who painted the Blue Horse'. Through this, the children have explored the artwork of Franz Marc, looking at the colours, shapes and animals he used in his paintings. The children then went on to produce their own art work which they are so proud of, as are we! Your children will have brought these pieces home at the end of term and we hope you liked them just as much as we do!

The children have been working hard in their maths, learning their numbers to 5 and all the different ways they can make these numbers. Ask your child to show you a way of making 4 or a way of making 5. Challenge them and ask them questions such as "if I had 2 apples but I wanted 4, how many more would I need?"

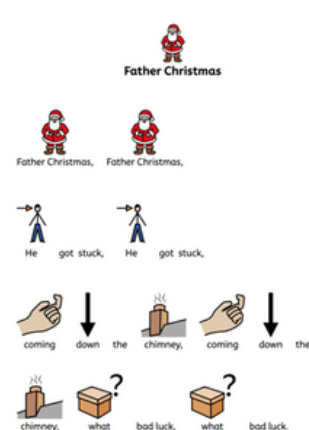
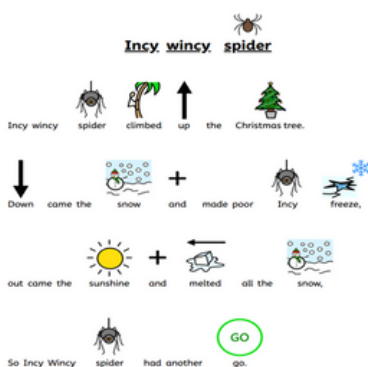
We are really proud of the progress the children have made in their phonic skills, learning many sounds and using these to start blending and segmenting words in their reading and writing. We ask all parents to please look at the phonic home learning sent out at the end of every week and ensure they are practising the sounds and words with your child, as well as reading regularly with them. Just a few minutes each day can make a big difference in the progress they make.

We have had a truly wonderful first term in Reception and it has been fantastic to see the children's confidence, social skills, vocabulary and learning progress as they have settled in to the routines and expectations of school.

The team would like to wish all the children and their families a very relaxing and happy winter break and we look forward to welcoming the children back on the 5th of January.

## A Message from Nursery

We were so disappointed that we unfortunately, had to cancel our Winter Fun Event due to pupil illness and absence. The children had been working hard on learning some classic nursery rhymes with a festive twist. Here are some of the lyrics for them to sing for you at home.



The team and children have had a wonderful first term together in both Otter and Turtle Class, thank you for your continued support. Thank you for all the generous gifts you have sent in for staff – the whole team are very grateful.

We wish you all a happy, healthy and restful break together and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!

A kind reminder that ALL items sent to Nursery need to be labelled including coats, water bottles. All children also need a bag of spare labelled clothes including underwear and socks. Please ensure these are sent in, in January.

## Important Update: Child Protection Policy

We want to let you know that our updated Child Protection Policy is now available on the school website. This policy is designed to ensure the safety and well-being of every child in our care.

You can view the policy by visiting: [Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#)

In addition, you can also access our Medical Policies here:

- [Asthma Policy](#)
- [Medical Needs Policy](#)

Please remember, these policies are here to support you and your child. If you have any concerns or need guidance, do not hesitate to reach out to us. Your child's safety is our main priority, and we are always here to help.

Thank you for working with us to keep our school community safe.

## Applying for Reception, Nursery and Year 3 September 2026:

### Have you applied for your child's school place for September 2026?

**Reception:** If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, you will need to apply for a primary school place by 15th January 2026. Your child will start reception in September 2026. Please note that you do NOT automatically move up to Reception if your child attends our Nursery.

**School Nursery:** If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, you can apply for a nursery place linked to a school for 15 hours. You need to apply for a place by 15th February 2026. Your child will start nursery in September 2026. (If you are eligible for 30 hour funding you will need to apply before 31st August 2026. Please let school know that you require 30 hours when you accept your 15 hour place in our school.

**Year 3:** Children in Carterhatch Infant School will need to apply for a year 3 place in Carterhatch Junior School. The deadline for on time applications is 15th January 2026.

Further information can be found online via the [Enfield Council Website](#) and in the [Applying for a Primary School in Enfield, Information for Parents brochure](#).





If you need help with applying for your child's school place, please see Sandra, our Family Support Worker.

## Parent Governor

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Governing Body. If you are interested in becoming a School Governor could you please speak to our headteacher, Sarah. We can then share information about a Parent Governor's role and answer any questions you may have.

## Learning Friends

Our learning friends help promote positive attitudes to learning. They are also linked to our school values.

			
Kindness Kai	Challenge Chico	Polly Perseverance	Ruby Resilience

**Congratulations to our year 2 children who have recently received a certificate for demonstrating our school values!**

- **Jaguar Class:** Kledion, Elani
- **Leopard Class:** Perihan, Ela

**Our Year 1 children will begin attending assemblies next term, they will be receiving their certificates then to bring home and celebrate with you.**

## Composer of the Month

In January, we will be learning about Ludwig van Beethoven, one of the most influential composers in music history. Born in Germany in 1770, Beethoven bridged the Classical and Romantic periods, creating music that is still celebrated today. Despite losing his hearing later in life, he composed some of the world's most famous works, including symphonies, piano sonatas, and concertos. His determination and creativity continue to inspire musicians and listeners around the globe.



**Fun Fact:** Beethoven loved nature and often went for long walks in the countryside. He said that being outdoors helped him think of new musical ideas!

**Listening Suggestion for Families:** Try listening to Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral". It was inspired by his love of nature and is full of beautiful sounds that paint a picture of the countryside. You can find recordings easily on YouTube or music streaming platforms.

Christmas is a magical time filled with excited children and moments to unwind with family and friends, not to mention the joy of new toys to enjoy. With millions receiving new devices, around 13 million smartphones each year, it's important to make sure you and your children stay safe while using them. Here are a few top tips to help keep your household safe online during the holidays.

### Learn your way around the tech:

Most devices come with settings to help prevent kids from accessing content you don't approve of. Be sure to turn off "in-app" purchases to avoid any unpleasant surprises in the new year. [Parent Guides and Resources](#)

### Tablets and Mobile devices:

Tablets and phones are becoming more popular with younger children, and there are plenty designed with kid-friendly content in mind. When introducing them, take it slow; only download games and apps you've thoroughly reviewed (websites like [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk) or [www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org) offer great tips!) and guide them toward age-appropriate options like [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids) or [YouTube Kids](#).

### Set Boundaries:

**Screen Time:** Set a time limit or decide on the number of games in advance to prevent repeated arguments about how long they can be online.

**Sleep Comes First:** Keep phones and other devices out of the bedroom at night. This helps prevent interruptions that can affect sleep. A peaceful, screen-free environment supports better rest and overall well-being.

**Ask for access:** If you're genuinely concerned about your child's online activity, approach the situation calmly and respectfully. Explain why you're worried and ask them to allow you access to their phone or device. Make it a conversation rather than a demand, emphasise that your goal is to keep them safe, not to invade their privacy. Building trust is key to ensuring they feel comfortable sharing with you.

**Gaming:** You can install software on devices to monitor online activity, flag inappropriate behavior, and block certain content. While these tools are becoming more popular and can be tempting, they raise concerns about a child's right to privacy and could impact your relationship with them. SWGfL have explored this topic in detail in their [blog](#), offering some interesting insights. The best approach is to have regular, open conversations with your child about behavior and risks, so they feel comfortable coming to you if something goes wrong. SWGfL also touched on this in its [Parenting in a Digital Age series](#). Setting parental controls on your Wi-Fi can block adult or inappropriate content and set time limits to curb marathon Minecraft sessions, with more advice available from the [UK Safer Internet Centre](#). As for games, there's an exciting range of options this year, from DS and Nintendo Switch to PS4, with something for every age. Think about whether your child is ready for online communities and if the games they play are appropriate. For more guidance, check out [pegi.info](http://pegi.info) or [askaboutgames.com](http://askaboutgames.com), and see the blog '[The real cost of online gaming](#)' for useful tips. Most importantly, enjoy your tech together—it's the perfect time of year!

### Protecting Children's Data Online:

Keeping children safe online isn't just about screen time—it's also about protecting their personal information. The Data Protection Commission provides helpful guidance for parents on how to safeguard children's privacy in the digital world.

👉 Learn more here: <https://dataprotection.ie/en/children>

Take a few minutes to explore these tips and ensure your child's online experience is safe and secure.



## Look, Say, Sing, Play

Look, Say, Sing, Play is a set of resources which encourage interaction between parents and their babies. Parents and carers interact with their babies all the time without always realising how those interactions shape the way their baby's brain develops. Improving interaction and encouraging parents to be more sensitive to their baby's cues helps parents identify and respond to their needs. It also improves attunement and sensitivity of parents from an early stage, setting up positive behaviour as their child grows.

The NSPCC have teamed up with [Vroom](#) to give you some fun and easy tips to help you bring even more Look, Say, Sing and Play into your daily routine with your baby or toddler. To try brain-building tips, follow the link! [Look, Say, Sing, Play](#)

## Supporting You to Stay Well This Winter

This year's flu season could be another tough one, but there are plenty of NHS services ready to help. You can explore the variety of local options on the [London Winter Wellness NHS website](#). If you're pregnant or have a long-term health condition, make sure to get your free flu jab.



# Flu community catch up clinics

If your child has missed their flu vaccination at school, you can book an appointment for their vaccine at one of our local community clinics.

**Winter season is upon us, and with colder weather keeping us indoors and in close contact, it's easier than ever for the flu to spread.**

Protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community by getting your flu jab today. The flu vaccine is your best defense against severe illness, hospitalisation, and missed work or school. Let's work together to keep everyone healthy this winter.

**Stay Well:**

Avoid the misery of flu this winter.

**Protect Others:**

Especially children, the elderly, and those more vulnerable.

**Stop the Spread:**

Help prevent flu outbreaks in your community.



For our clinic locations and contact details for the Vaccination UK teams please scan the QR code or follow the links below:

<https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/contact>

<https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics>



Vaccination UK  
Immunisation Provider for  
**NHS**



# Vaccines - what do they do?

**Vaccination UK offers these vaccines for children in school or at our community catch up clinics.**

**DTP**

**Protects against Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio.  
This is a Booster, the 5th dose in Redbook.**

Offered to 4 to 19 years old

**Flu**

**Protects against the 4 main groups  
of flu type A and Type B viruses.**

Offered to Reception to Year 11 (23 years old if in SEN school)

**HPV**

**Protects against Human Papilloma Virus  
that can lead to certain types of Cancer**

Offered to boys and girls 12 to 19 years old

**MenACWY**

**Protects against 4 different causes  
of Meningitis and Septicaemia.**

Offered to 13 to 19 years old

**MMR**

**Protects against**

**Measles, Mumps & Rubella.**

If your child has missed the vaccine as a baby, we can offer the vaccination in school, aged 4 - 19 years old.



For more information, to book into a clinic or to speak to our team, please scan the QR code