

SMP CONNECTED

Friday 6th March 2026 Issue #129

www.stmatthewsprudhoe.bwcet.com

#LifesongSMP



THE TIMES
BEST SCHOOLS IN THE UK
TOP 100

For our SMPTA SHOP [CLICK HERE](#)



Our first week of the new half-term has really flown by! It was lovely welcoming the children back to school on Monday and to hear all of their tales from their half-term break.

A highlight this week was definitely our World Book Day celebration on Thursday. Everyone enjoyed coming to school in pyjamas and sharing stories together. I spent the day interviewing some fantastic authors online and it was fantastic for the children to be inspired by so many fabulous storytellers and illustrators.

Next Monday sees our oldest children take the stage in their performance of 'The Tempest' at Northern Stage. We cannot wait to see the children shining after all their hard work. Next Friday, we celebrate one of the highlights of the school year - our Reception class Mother's Day assembly! We are really looking forward to what promises to be another memorable week at SMP! I hope that you all enjoy a fantastic weekend!

Bright blessings,
Martin Gray
Headteacher



1876 Day - 17th March 2026

We will be going back in time to the very first day of St. Matthew's 150 year history on Tuesday 17th March.

Pupils are invited to dress in Victorian clothing to celebrate.

More details below!

Shakespeare Schools' Festival - Monday 9th March

Information about the day has been shared with the children participating. We will be leaving school after lunch on Monday, and children will require a packed tea. Collection is from Northern Stage in the lobby area at around 9:15pm.

Parents' Consultations

These will take place on consecutive Mondays: **16th and 23rd March.**

Appointments have been allocated via Arbor. **Please check the section labelled Guardian consultations for your time. Please note that historic time slots are also visible so don't get them confused.**

School Uniform

Please refer to the guidance on our [school website](#) on acceptable school uniform.

We expect all parents to support us in adhering to these expectations. Please be aware of specific guidance on jewellery, footwear and hairstyles. Thank you for your support.

Mother's Day Events - Friday 13th March

Reception class will be leading an assembly to celebrate all of our wonderful mothers and mother-figures at **8:45am**. Please join us for one of the heartwarming highlights of the year. In the afternoon, we will be serving a **Mother's Day afternoon tea at 2pm** - this is for all year groups. **Pupils will be joining you for this event. To purchase a ticket for the afternoon tea, please visit [this link](#).**

Wraparound care assistant

We are looking for someone to support us in our breakfast club provision from 7:30am - 8:30am every morning. If you think you might be interested in this role, please contact Mr. Gray to arrange an informal chat.

NEXT WEEK

Monday 9th March

Shakespeare Schools' Festival - Northern Stage - 7pm

Friday 13th March

Reception Class Mother's Day Assembly - 8:45am
Mother's Day Afternoon Tea - 2pm

St. Matthew's PTA



Cream Tea

In Celebration of the
Wonderful Women in Our Lives

Friday 13th
From 2 O'Clock

Tea & Scone
for Grown Ups

&

Treat & Drink
for the Kids



£5
Per Adult



Join Us in the School Hall

All Welcome!





LENT 2026@SMP

THE BIG LENT WALK



Scan the QR code to share an image of your BIG LENT WALK or click on [this link](#).

This year, we are inviting families to embark on their own BIG LENT WALK in support of Cafod. Joining in couldn't be easier - simply get your family together and go for a nice long walk. All we ask is that you share a photo of you on your walk to our shared Padlet and donate to Cafod via our [Big Lent Walk donations page](#).



SMP
Lenten
Mission

On **Tuesday, 24th March**, we will be holding a Lenten Mission Day called **OVERCOME**. Throughout the day, pupils will engage in a number of activities linked to our Lifesong mission and how, during this season of Lent, we can grow closer to Jesus.

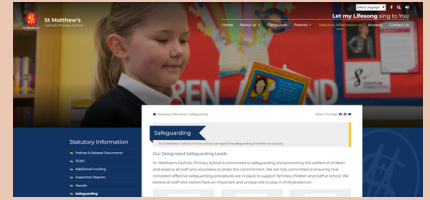
Praying with your child is so important. If you don't know how to get started, try clicking on the image opposite for some ideas about how you and your family can pray together this Lent. **You could even try the doughnut challenge!**



LET'S CELEBRATE



STAY SAFE

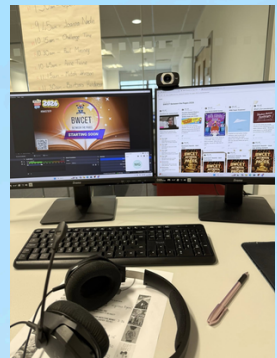


Click on the image above to access information about safeguarding at SMP.

We are very excited about our weekly **special recognition awards**. Each week, staff members will choose a pupil from each year group who deserves special recognition for exceptional effort and achievement.

Each recipient will get to wear a special pin badge entitling them to special privileges in their class in the following week. Each teacher will decide on what these privileges will look like and these may change over time. **Pin badges must be returned to Mr. Gray each Friday in return for a small treat!**

RECEPTION	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	TA'S AWARD	HT'S AWARD
LILAH	TOBY	JESSICA	AVA	BELLA	ALEX	DANIEL	PHOEBE	SOPHIE



ATTENDANCE

-
-
-
-

This week

Reception - 100%

Year 4 - 97.5%

Rec 97.4%

1

2

3

Year 6 - 97%

96.1% overall

Year to date podium

*Tuesday, 17th
March 2026*

*Costumes encouraged
Special celebration lunch
Traditional lessons
Official photography*



1876 DAY

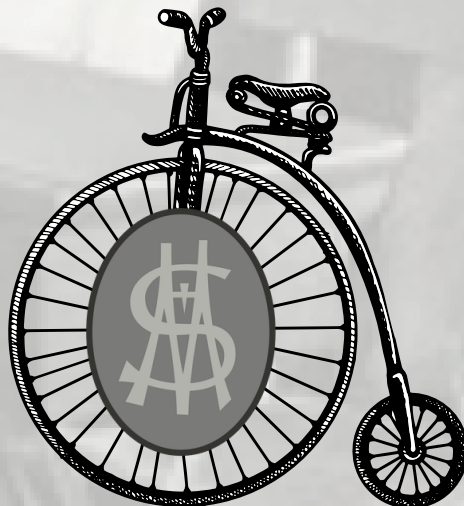
Tuesday 17th March 2026

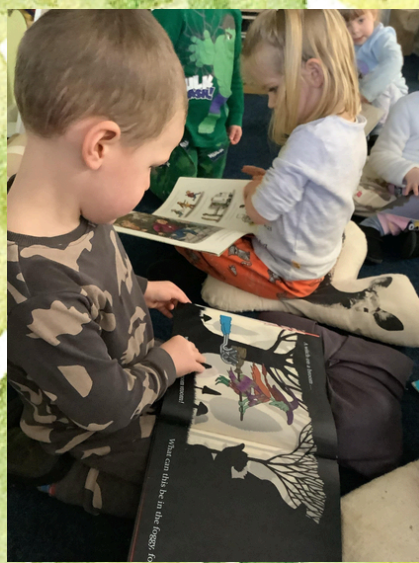
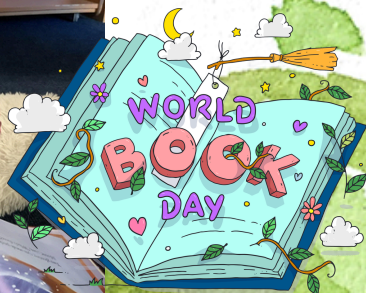
Dress as a Victorian child may have done on their first day at St. Matthew's.

Participate in a range of activities facilitated by historians from Beamish Museum

Play traditional Victorian games

As part of this special day, we are hoping to set up our own SMP Museum. If you have any educational artefacts that you think may interest the children and you are willing to loan them for the day, please get in touch.





Nursery children enjoyed a wonderful World Book Day! We loved sharing lots of stories together with our friends!



ROOTS AND SHOOTS

Bursting with LIFE



St Matthew's
Catholic Primary School



LITTLE SHOOTS

STAY & PLAY

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS 1:30PM

Bursting with LIFE

Join us for joyful afternoons of outdoor play, gentle discovery, and seasonal crafts — all rooted in the wonders of nature. At Little Shoots, we believe in nurturing young minds through mud, leaves, laughter, and learning. Whether we're planting seeds, splashing in puddles, or listening to birdsong, every session is a chance to grow together.

Perfect for babies, toddlers and their grown-ups who love fresh air, friendship, and the magic of the natural world.



FIND US ON HIGHFIELD LANE, PRUDHOE NE42 6EY
LOOK FOR THE RED ARCH!



www.stmatthewsprudhoe.bwcet.com



@StMatthewPrudhoe

#LifesongSMP

9th March
13th March
16th March
17th March
20th March
23rd March
31st March
1st April
11 - 14th May
16th May
31st May - 3rd June
1st June
8th June
13th June
19th June
22 - 26th June
2nd July
3rd July
8th July
10th July
16th July
17th July

Year 5/6 Shakespeare Schools' Festival 'The Tempest'
Reception Class Mother's Day Assembly - 8:45am / Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
Parents' Consultation Evening (1)
1876 Day - dress as a Victorian
School Council trip to Parliament
Parents' Consultation Evening (2)
Holy week Mass in school - 10am
EYFS Easter Egg Hunt (pm)
Year 6 SATs
First Holy Communion
Year 6 Field Trip to Boggle Hole (leaving Sunday)
Year 4 Multiplication Check (this week)
Year 1 Phonics Check (this week)
BIG School Reunion Day!
School Closed - INSET Day
Cornerstones Week 2026 / Summer fair on Friday
Year 5 Celebration of Sport at Gateshead International Stadium
Sports Day - Reception - Year 6
Nursery Sports Afternoon - 1pm
Anniversary Celebration Mass with Bishop Stephen Wright - 10am
Leavers' Mass - 10am
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly - 2pm / School closes



**Please note that
all dates are
subject to
change.**

Please note that new dates are added in bold