Half Term Highlights

Summer 1 - 2026

Engayne received a Silver Award from London Children's Flower Society as part of their Summer Bulb Competition. Our Parliament children worked incredibly hard to plant and care for vegetables, sunflowers and wildflowers. A huge well done to all of the Environment and School Grounds children for their enthusiasm and commitment in helping our outdoor spaces flourish.

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If your child is successful outside of school, for example in music, sport, etc, please let us know via contact@engayne.co.uk, and we will include this in the next edition of `Half-Term Highlights'

Reception

Reception had a busy half term with our growing and changing topic. In class we watched caterpillars turn into butterflies and then released them onto the flowers. We had a cress growing competition in our house teams to see which one grew the quickest with plenty of water and sunlight. Then tasted the cress as part of our Taste Education program, the children described it spicy but most did love it!
We also went on a trip to Thorndon to take part in a Hungry Caterpillar day. The children were very well behaved and enjoyed bug hunting, nature sculptures and some crawling on logs like a caterpillar!

Half Term Highlights

YEAR 1

Year 1 really enjoyed learning about and exploring the creation story within Spirited Arts week. The children explored the story through various art forms. They made masks of the animals God created and learned a dance to celebrate them. They also practiced their frames skills by creating freeze frames to represent the story. We all had lots of fun using the story to inspire some creative thinking!

In Year 2 we have been learning how to make moving toys in DT. We made a winding mechanism with an axle to suspend a character that could be moved up or down. We chose Nursery Rhyme characters and cut them out carefully to attach them to the moving mechanism.

During Spirited Arts Week we thought about places that are special to us and created drawings and patterns that expressed our thoughts literally and through abstract work.

We also made dioramas of our special places.

Year 3

Summer Term 1 has been full of exciting learning opportunities and memorable experiences. As part of our history topic, the children learned about the Romans and Celts and enjoyed taking part in a thrilling battle re-enactment on the field, proudly bringing in shields they had made at home. In Science, PSHE and DT, we explored the importance of healthy, balanced diets and discussed how making healthy food choices can support our wellbeing. The children then put their learning into practice by designing a healthy pizza, which they prepared in class and cooked at home. We also prepared for their first KS2 Sports Day, taking part in a range of athletic activities to develop our skills, teamwork and determination. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and effort the children have shown throughout the term. Well done Year 3!

Year 4 are designing and making some Ancient Egyptian inspired Canopic jars. The children used modroc to create the shape of their jar and they will paint hieroglyphs, pictures and patterns on the jars. The children learnt all about the mummification process and what the jars symbolised in their history lessons.

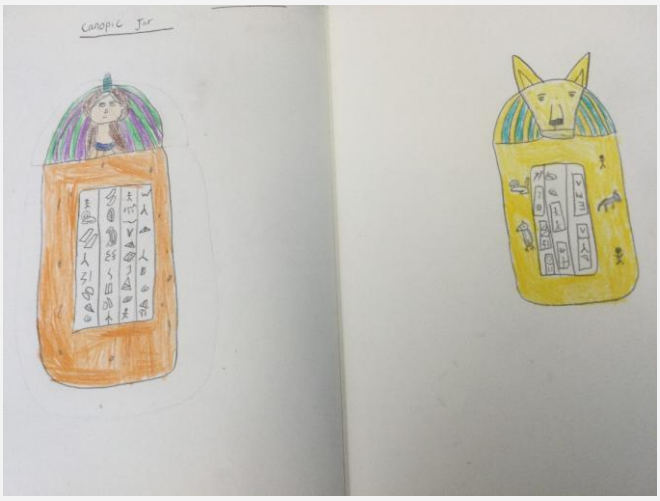
Here are some pictures of year 4's original designs:

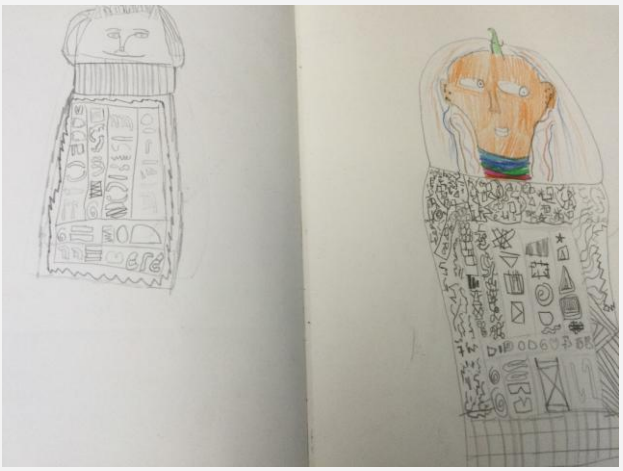
In English, the children have been learning how to write a Haiku poem about nature. They had to ensure it was three lines long and had syllables following the 5-7-5 rule. Here is one of their poems:-

Mischievous fox,

As sly as a cunning thief,

With sleek ginger fur.





Last term, Year 5 has embraced the outdoors, taking advantage of the beautiful weather to enhance their learning. Students have engaged in hands-on activities that deepen their understanding of key mathematical concepts like area and perimeter through practical applications on school grounds, fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Outdoor sessions have also included science explorations, where students identified plant reproductive parts, reinforcing their scientific knowledge and nurturing environmental stewardship. Connecting with nature helps develop social skills and physical health awareness, vital for a holistic education. We encourage parents to support outdoor learning at home through activities like gardening or nature walks.

Year 5 found our theme week, Spirited Arts, particularly engaging, exploring Christianity through parables and psalms. This experience deepened their understanding of key religious texts and sparked discussions on moral values like compassion and forgiveness. By examining stories such as the 'Good Samaritan' and the 'Prodigal Son', students reflected on how these lessons apply to their lives.

Throughout the week, students created artwork inspired by Christianity, showcasing their creativity and understanding. We are excited to share some of their work below and encourage parents to discuss these lessons at home, sharing similar stories and fostering conversations about kindness and redemption.

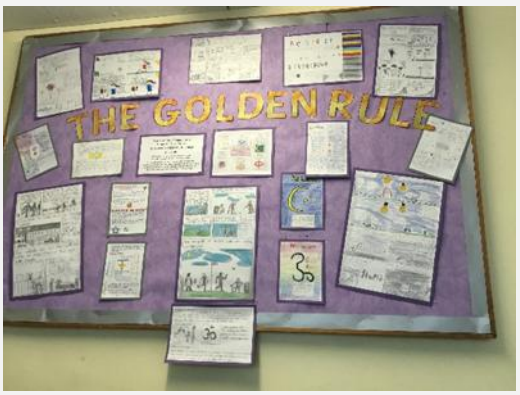
This theme week aligns with our commitment to fostering a supportive environment at Engayne Primary School. Engaging with these spiritual lessons promotes cultural literacy and enhances our students' spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development (SMSC), helping them grow into compassionate individuals.

Year 6 have now completed their milestone SATs tests, and we are incredibly proud of the way they approached the week. In the lead-up to the assessments, every child worked really hard, showing determination, focus and a positive attitude throughout. When SATs week arrived, they took everything in their stride and faced each day calmly and confidently.

A real highlight of the week was our daily SATs breakfast, which was wonderfully well attended. Each morning, the children enjoyed a relaxed start to the day with their friends, helping themselves to fruit, a pain au chocolat or croissant, and a drink. It was a lovely opportunity for them to chill out, chat and settle in before heading into their tests.

After SATs, the children were treated to a fantastic visit to see *Frozen* at Hall Mead. They thoroughly enjoyed the production, especially the chance to spend time in the playground during the interval and to see some familiar faces, including pupils who used to attend Engayne and were part of the show. It was a much-deserved and lovely treat after a busy week.

We also enjoyed our theme week, *Spirited Arts*, during which Year 6 explored The Golden Rule and how it runs through all religions. The children thought carefully about how breaking the Golden Rule can lead to disrespect in the community, while following it helps to promote respect. They created thoughtful cartoon strips and other pieces of art showing respectful and disrespectful behaviour within the Havering community.



On April 25th, twenty-five of our pupils took part in the mini London marathon.

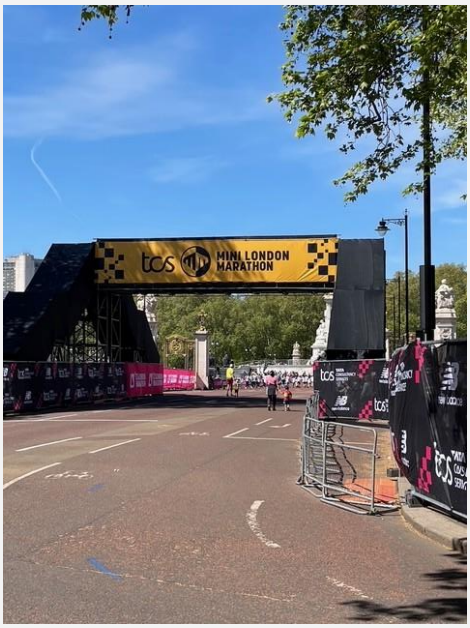
Along with staff and parents, they ran the final mile of the world's greatest mass participation sporting event, each person running their best race, setting personal bests and taking in the sights and sounds and emotions of the marathon. Some ran it in just over seven minutes, while other battled with injuries on the course and still had the determination to finish.

The race the next day saw a new women's world record and the first ever sub-2-hour marathon. We crossed that very same finish line and shared in a little of that glory.

Thanks to all the staff and parents who came along. The buzz was incredible.

We hope to be assigned places in next year's race so everyone will have another chance to take part.

John Manifold



Outside Achievements

Emily C, Fleet Class

Congratulations to Emily C, Fleet Class, for the two dance awards she has recently achieved outside of school.

Outside of school Emily attends JSD dance school in Upminster on Saturdays. She recently received two rosette awards and certificates for two dance exams she completed - one for Waltz and one for Cha Cha Cha. The rosettes and certificates were presented on 2 May for exams completed at the end of March.

Emily joined JSD in January 2025 and has achieved a total of 4 rosettes (including these latest two) since she joined.

We are very proud of Emily's achievement!

Zach D, 4W, Aiden H, 5P, Toby W, 5B and Jack G, 5P

Well done to the 4 boys who played for Upminster Hockey club in the East of England Regional Hockey finals held in Norfolk recently and came 5th.

Noah, Rocco, Sami and Dominic Year 4

Well done to the Y4 boys, who took part in U9 rugby tournament at Saracens rugby club recently.

"Noah, Rocco, Sami and Dominic in Year 4 took part in the U9s rugby tournament at Saracens stadium. The boys had a great day out representing Upminster Rugby Club and what an opportunity it was to play on a professional rugby pitch! All the boys played really well and we are super proud of them!"