



Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School



Friday 19th September 2025



DEDICATION



HONESTY

Our Core Christian Values

School Hours

Gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am for all children.

The school day finishes at 3.25pm for all children.

Tiger



Rabbit



Axolotl



Eagle



Hedgehog



Lunchtime Cup

This week the Lunchtime Cup is awarded to **Tory** in **Tiger**, for demonstrating our Christian Values. Well done!

House Points

| | |
|---------|----|
| Fenn | 77 |
| Shaw | 44 |
| Tabrums | 49 |
| Marsh | 44 |



Kindness Star of the Week

Well done to:

Hedgehog – Sasen

Eagle – Neve

Axolotl – Hattie

Rabbit – Kieran

Tiger – Georgie-Rae

As we are now recognised as a kindness school we are sent a certificate every term to award to a pupil who has demonstrated an outstanding act of kindness. Staff are always looking for children who have demonstrated kindness in school. We now have kindness stickers to acknowledge this. **If you want to nominate a child, whether it be your own or another child in the school, for an outstanding kindness award for an act of kindness outside of school then please email the office.** Senior leaders of the school will then consider all nominations before awarding the certificate at the end of the term.

Harvest Festival

With Harvest Festival fast approaching, we are asking for donations from our families to support South Woodham Food Bank. We would be very grateful for donations of any of the items from the list below.

Donations can be brought in until 9am on Wednesday 1st October 2025. Rev Jacqui will be talking to the children about the importance of Harvest Festival in the Christian Calendar and the difference that the children can make to the lives of others.

Donations can be sent directly into class with the children.

We are looking forward to seeing the difference we can make to the lives of families in need in our local community.

Examples of donations

Dried Goods- pasta, rice, noodles, flour, sugar

Tinned Goods - beans, spaghetti hoops, soup, tomatoes, sweetcorn, tuna

Pasta sauces

Breakfast cereals

Wrapped biscuits, cakes, crisps

UHT milk and fruit juice

Squash

Tea, coffee

Please may all donations have a minimum shelf life of 3 months.

Class Summary

Each week we will be highlighting what one class has been up to in school.

This week we share an insight into Eagle class.

Eagle Class Summary

This week in maths, we have been exploring rounding and number lines. Using creative resources like paper clips and strips of paper, we visualised different number lines and spotted patterns, especially in the midpoints. We also worked hard on our problem-solving skills, making sure to explain our reasoning clearly.

In English, the class has begun writing non-chronological reports all about dragons. The children have been buzzing with excitement, bringing their imaginative ideas to life on paper while using ambitious vocabulary to make their reports truly stand out.

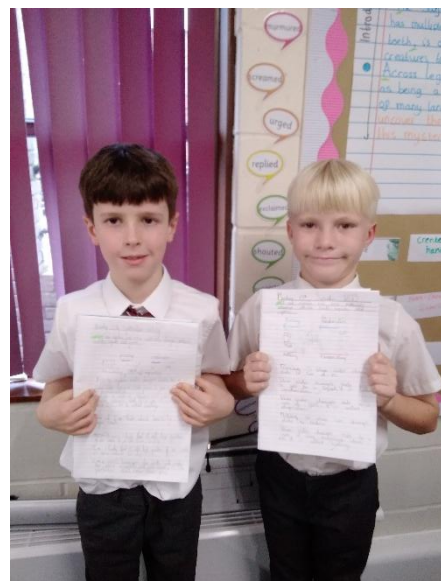
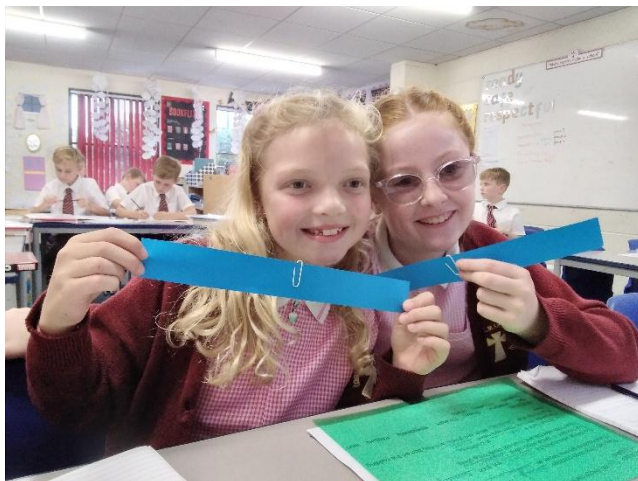
Our history lessons have focused on the Vikings. We discussed why Britain was such an attractive place for them to invade and learnt about their homeland, Scandinavia, with its colder climates. We also debated whether Vikings were always vicious or if history has sometimes exaggerated their reputation.

In science, we've been investigating states of matter – solids, liquids, and gases. We carried out experiments to see how factors like heat can affect evaporation. Some children even challenged themselves to explain evaporation using simple particle models.

In RE, we have been reflecting on the creation story. We thought carefully about how different Christians might interpret it differently, and in particular, how these beliefs might impact their actions towards looking after the world today.

We also enjoyed working together on our Wonder Poem activity. In groups, children used their senses – sight, hearing, smell, touch, and taste – to imagine themselves inside an image. Each person contributed a line from their perspective, and together the groups created vivid, sensory poems that captured the wonder of the scene.

It's been a busy and exciting week of learning in Eagle class!



**It's time for
Coffee Morning
and you're
invited**



This year TSM are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning on **Friday 26th September 2025** in the school hall from **10-11am**.

Please join us, whether we raise a little or a lot, let's do something amazing and raise money to help people living with cancer. Please save the date and let's make a difference.

If we have any budding Mary Berry's who would like to bake a cake for the morning, please remember we are a nut free school and a list of ingredients would need to accompany your showstopper!

We hope to see you on the day however our fundraising page is justgiving.com/CM25004068 in case you cannot make the date but would still like to donate. Thank you in advance!

Attendance

Congratulations to **Axolotl** class who have the highest attendance this week, with an attendance of **95.16%**. Whole school attendance is **93.79%**.

If your child is absent then please remember to report this before 8.30am either by telephone or via Studybugs stating the reason for your child's absence. **We do not accept emails for reporting absence.** Thank you.

Get the app or register now <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

Please also be aware that if you plan on taking your child out of school then a leave of absence form must be completed or a copy of the appointment letter must be shown prior to the absence.

Please be reminded that absences need to be reported daily. Therefore if your child is off for more than one day, updates must be provided to the school via Studybugs or voicemail.

In August 2024 the Department for Education issued "Working together to improve school attendance" which is statutory guidance that as a school we must follow. From the 2024/25 academic year schools now have a responsibility to submit a sickness return to the local authority for any child who will miss 15 days consecutively or cumulatively because of sickness.

We will be rewarding attendance every half term this year. A class receives the attendance cup each week. The class that receives the cup the greatest number of times will receive a treat in the last week of that half term.

Lateness

Please be reminded that the gates close at **08:55** for all children. Any child arriving after this time through the office will be given a late mark and you may be called in to discuss this. All late arrivals must give a satisfactory reason.

General Reminders

Earrings

Please can we remind you that earrings and jewellery are not part of the uniform and this is clearly stated in our uniform policy.

Please remove your child's earrings before sending them to school. School staff are not permitted to remove or insert earrings from a child's ears, nor are they allowed to apply the tape to cover newly pierced ears.

As a school we follow the up-to-date guidance from 'Safe Practice: in Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity' to comply with Health & Safety. Sadly, children wearing earrings will not be permitted to join in any physical element of P.E. Parents/carers cannot choose to withdraw their child from P.E. lessons, as P.E. is a statutory subject in the same way that maths and English are.

The Governing Board, leadership and staff of our school are committed to maintaining high standards of uniform and behaviour, and expect all parents to support us in this.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Arbor Parent Portal

Thank you to those parents who have signed up already to the Arbor Parent Portal. If you haven't already done so we would urge you to do this as soon as possible. This month we will stop using ParentPay and Parents Booking and the booking of trips, clubs and parent consultations will be done through the Parent Portal. If the school doesn't currently hold an email address for you please do provide us with one as soon as possible so that we can give you access to the portal.

Good Beginnings – Autism Information Course for Early Years Parents and Carers

Good Beginnings is an 8-week course for parents and carers of under 5's all about understanding autism. Dates are available to book for the spring and summer terms in Rochford, Braintree, Witham, Colchester, and online. Parents can join the course to meet other parents, learn about autism, and chat to professionals from education and health. Book a place via the [Essex Local Offer](#) website.

Secondary School Applications

Please note, the new secondary school admission round opened on Friday, 12 September 2025, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2026.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 31 October 2025.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2026-27 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

Request for Milk Bottle Tops and DVD cases

To help with some of the phonics activities in Tiger class, we would be very grateful for any donations of milk bottle tops (any colour) and old DVD cases with the title cover removed.

These items will really help all the children with their phonics lessons so all donations will be very much appreciated.

Many thanks for your support.

Mrs Allan

Letters Emailed Home

Secondary School Admissions for September 2026

Parent Governor Vacancy

Year 6 Residential

TSM School Term & Holiday Dates 2026-2027

RBA for Reception Children

Multiplication Check Year 4

KS2 Tests Year 6

KS1 Tests Year 2

Harvest Festival Collection

Milk Bottle Tops & DVD cases - Tigers

Phonics Screening Check – Year 1 & selected Year 2 pupils

Year 6 Hoodies

After School Emergency Number

National Fitness Day

Collective Worship

On Monday we spoke about love as our Christian value. Love is a big part of life and you can show people love by showing kindness. We are surrounded by love through our friends and family and teachers. We all express love differently but it is important that we always understand that everyone is loved!

On Tuesday we focused on our next Christian value of dedication with Miss Frith. She spoke to us about how when we try new things it can always be hard. She said that it is important to keep your eye on the objective and always show resilience.

On Wednesday we had an exciting opportunity to have Open the Book join us. They told us the story of the lost sheep and the shepherd who carried on looking for it. This showed that God loves everyone, even though there are so many people in the world! We had so much fun helping to find Bramble the sheep.

On Thursday we focused on honesty using the phrase 'Honesty is the best policy' and supported this through passages from Proverbs in the Old Testament. We learnt about the story of the boy who cried wolf which taught us to be careful making jokes and using white lies.

Vacancies

TSM are looking to recruit a relief TA, Midday Assistant to work Monday to Friday between 11.30am and 12.30pm and a relief Midday Assistant to provide cover for absence, to apply please follow the links below;

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=113228>

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=113189>

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=113413>

Headteacher Summary

I have enjoyed teaching in Eagle class this week. The children have impressed me with their rounding skills with many of the children progressing to a challenge.

I enjoyed having our first kindness meeting with our new Kindness Ambassadors. Our focus was to look at what we currently do as a school to spread kindness and then brainstorm what we could potentially do in the future. Our ambassadors then had the task to go back to their class and brainstorm ideas, note them down and share them with me. They were all very eager to do this straight away!

Thank you to everyone who could come to 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. I hope you found the time valuable. Please look at our website for Autumn term curriculum maps, end of year expectations and other information.

Have a great weekend.

Miss Hoy



TSM Key Dates 2025/2026

Please find a list of our key dates below. The list will constantly be updated throughout the school year, so please keep an eye out for any changes. Further information will also be sent home, as usual, closer to the dates if needed.

| Autumn Term 2025/2026 | |
|---|--|
| 22 nd September 2025 | Harvest Festival RE Lesson |
| 24 th September 2025 | National Fitness Day |
| 26 th September 2025 | TSM Macmillan Coffee Morning |
| 30 th September 2025 | Year 6 Bikeability – Day 1 |
| 1 st October 2025 | Harvest Festival |
| 2 nd October – 3 rd October 2025 | Year 6 Bikeability |
| 9 th October 2025 | Eagle – STEM Space/Rocket Session |
| 13 th October 2025 | Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Halloween & Fireworks Assembly |
| 15 th October 2025 | Carmel Jane Individual & Sibling Photos |
| 16 th October 2025 | Eco Committee Wildflower Planting Workshop |
| 17 th October 2025 | Essex Kids Camp – Archery |
| 20 th October – 23 rd October 2025 | Travelling Book Fair |
| 24 th October 2025 | Inset Day |
| 27 th October – 31 st October 2025 | Half Term |
| 3 rd November 2025 | Inset Day |
| 4 th November 2025 | New to Reception 2026 Open Evening |
| 4 th November – 10 th November 2025 | Remembrance Week |
| 10 th November 2025 | Y6 NHS Resilience Workshop |
| 14 th November 2025 | Children in Need Day |
| 22 nd November 2025 | SWF Christmas Fayre |
| 28 th November 2025 | Essex Kids Camp – Cup Stacking |
| 9 th December 2025 | Rocksteady Christmas Concert |
| 22 nd December 2025 – 2 nd January 2026 | Christmas Holidays |
| 5 th January 2026 | Inset Day |



We have our AGM on Monday 6th October, if you would like to help out the PTA please feel free to message myself Vicki Bohr or Marie Knight via our FB page [FOTSMS \(Friends of Trinity St Mary's School\) | Facebook](#) to let us know if you would like to attend.

Our team is struggling with numbers and unless we have a full committee and additional volunteers FOTSMS will have to cease, along with the events we plan for the children.

Are you able to help assist with marketing / our accounts / or be on site for the events we organise? If you can offer your time to help raise funds for our children, then please let us know.

Events we have organised in the past;

- School disco's
- Christmas cards using children's designs
- World Book Day costume sales
- Clothing collections
- Wear Something Christmassy & gifts for children
- Coin Wars – Winning class wins an afternoon treat
- Mother's Day sale
- Easter egg raffle & gifts for children
- Summer Fete

Don't forget your Barleylands tickets

We are
barleylands

Barleylands is a fantastic day out, with animals to see and feed along with shows, and a soft play.

FOTSMS sell tickets for £12.50 each, which is a huge saving on the gate prices.

Contact Marie Knight or our Facebook page for more details [FOTSMS \(Friends of Trinity St Mary's School\) | Facebook](#)

Vicki Bohr – Chair FOTSMS