



Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School



Friday 29th November 2024



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.

Our Christian Values Book

The following children have demonstrated one or all of our Christian Values: love, honesty, sharing, dedication and forgiveness. Well done to: **Tori** in **Ruby**, **Lacey & Lydia** in **Amber**.

Lunchtime Cup

This week the winning ticket for the cup is **Erin** in **Ruby** Class. Well done!

House Points

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Fenn | 89 |
| Shaw | 153 |
| Tabrums | 123 |
| Marsh | 74 |



Kindness Star of the Week

Well done to:

Humite – Seb S

Emerald – William

Amber – Evelynne F

Ruby – Penny

Topaz – Joseph

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.

Class Summary

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

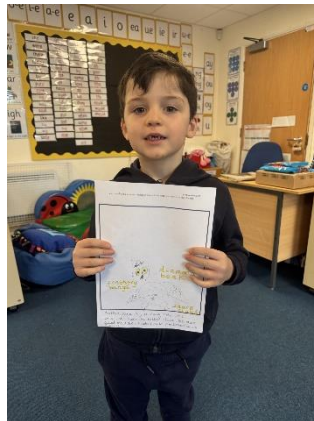
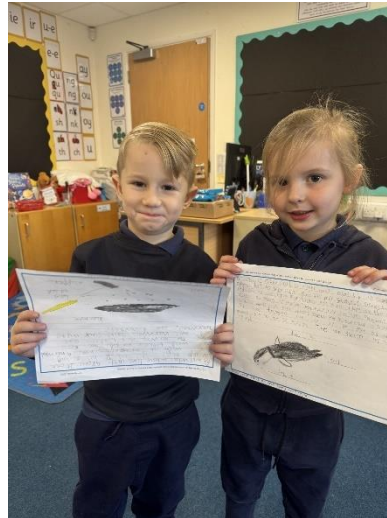
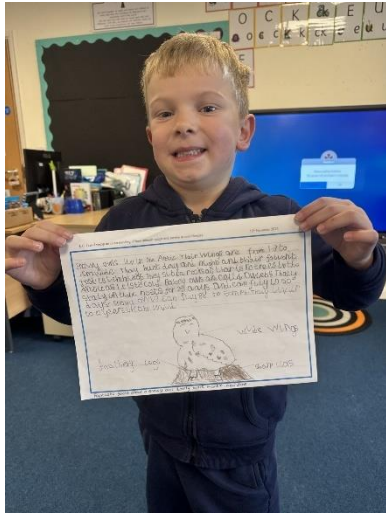
This week we share an insight into Topaz class.

Topaz Class Summary

This term has already been busy with everyone getting fully involved with our new topic 'Pole to Pole'. The children have been developing their research skills finding out about the Arctic (North Pole) and Antarctic (South Pole). They have learned about each habitat and the amazing animals that make these unique areas their home. The children have produced amazing fact files about Arctic animals, including Polar Bears, Snowy Owls, Arctic Foxes and Narwhales and animals from Antarctica, such as Penguins, Orcas and Seals.

Here are some of the children's favourite fabulous facts:

- A walrus can weigh over one tonne. Both male and female have tusks.
- Polar Bears are the largest land carnivores. They have slightly webbed feet that help them to swim.
- Penguins can swim up to 25 miles per hour and can dive over 800 feet.
- Orcas live in family groups called pods of up to 40 orcas. They recognise each other by the sounds they make.



In their independent work, the children have also had great fun pretending that they are Polar explorers in our Polar research station, they have also made some great Polar animals in our mark making area, as well as building a range of vehicles out of construction resources to help them travel to one of these amazing locations!





In Maths the Reception children have been further developing their number skills, by learning all about 'one more' and 'number bonds to five' whilst discussing the any patterns they have spotted. Our Year Ones have been learning all about part-whole models, using pictorial representation to show the relationship between a whole and its parts. They have extended their knowledge and understanding by investigating commutative facts. All the children have been working really hard and it has been excellent to see them problem solve using concrete resources. What super little mathematicians they all are!

All the children have been doing brilliantly in our daily phonics sessions and participate in them with lots of enthusiasm. Our Reception children have been getting very speedy at recalling all the phonemes taught to date and are also working hard to develop accurate letter formation when writing each grapheme. They have also become really clever when suggesting words that use a particular sound. Great job Reception!

Our Year One children have also been impressing me with their work on alternative spellings. They have become especially good at knowing when to use the long i sound and can identify if a word should be spelled with, igh, i, ie, or i-e! Wow, well done Year One!



In our PSHE lessons the children have been learning about health and well-being. They demonstrated excellent speaking and listening skills when discussing the importance of getting enough sleep. They also loved investigating how germs spread by getting very involved with our glitter germs experiment. They were fascinated to see how quickly germs can be passed around and to learn how having a good hygiene routine such as thoroughly washing our hands can help to stop this from happening.

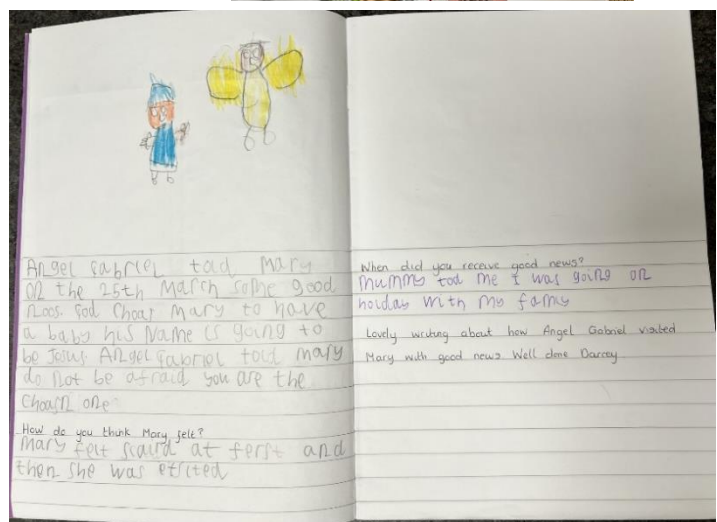
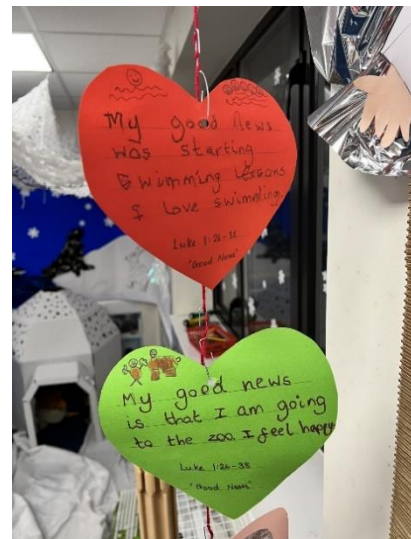
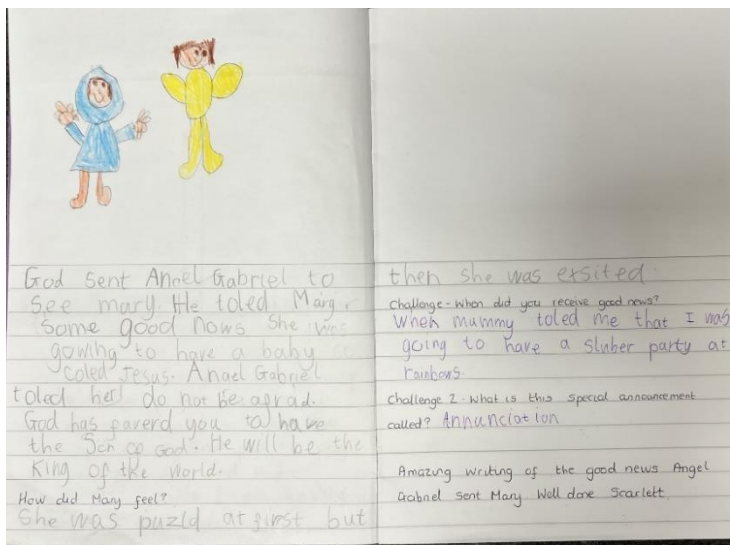


Despite the crazy weather lately, the children have continued to enjoy their outdoor P.E lessons!
They have built on their previous knowledge from last term to develop greater accuracy ball skills. They have worked hard to improve their balance, co-ordination and accuracy when aiming to strike a target. It has also been fabulous to watch the children work with a friend or as part of a team.





In R.E we have been learning all about Incarnation. The children listened to the bible story and learned that some Christians believe that God chose to reveal himself as a human being to spread his teaching, to teach humans how to live good lives by following his laws, and to offer human beings the chance of salvation. The children also impressed all the adults in the class by remembering the big word 'annunciation' and could say that this was the special announcement when Angel Gabriel told Mary that she was going to have a baby. The children then wrote about time when they received good news and how it made them feel.



Our Christmas Craft morning was a very busy affair! It was so wonderful to have some many parents, grandparents and other family members join us for this session. The time absolutely flew by with the children working very hard to create a 'Selfie Elf' in which they turned themselves into some very sweet looking elves. Following this, the children demonstrated their fine motor skills by wrapping wool and sticking sparkles to create a Christmas Star decoration and finally they created their very own Hot Chocolate Reindeer Jars. We spent the rest of the morning finding run away marshmallows! The children (and the adults) all worked brilliantly and it was lovely to start our run up to Christmas together. A huge thanks to everyone for joining us. We hope you had as much fun as we did!



Egyptian Day

On Monday, we had an exceptional busy day in Emerald Class, we made some delicious Egyptian sweet bread topped with cinnamon sugar.

Then, using strips of parcel paper glued both vertically and horizontally we recreated papyrus paper, which we will be creating some designs on once they have completely dried using some art deco pens and paints. After break we created a 3D square based pyramid and used information gathered to write some funky facts around it.

Did you know their scale reflects the unique role that the pharaoh, or king, played in ancient Egyptian society, so therefore the bigger the pyramid the more important the pharaoh!

The largest is the Pyramid of Khufu, also called the Great Pyramid of Giza. When it was first built it was over 480 feet tall!

It is also is one of the Seven Wonders of the World. It's estimated that this pyramid was made from 2.3 million blocks of rock weighing 5.9 million tons.

The children enjoyed using sequins, macaroni and other materials to create an Egyptian necklace similar to those worn by pharaohs, we also used clay and toothpicks to create our own cartouche where the children had to very carefully draw out hieroglyphics on the clay – which was very tricky!

I enjoyed making and eating the Egyptian bread – Gracie

I enjoyed making the clay cartouche and drawing the hieroglyphics on – Isabelle

I loved the sweet bread! – Sienna

I liked making the papyrus paper! – Emelia M





TSM Choir Town Council Christmas Fayre

On Saturday, our fabulous choir braved the gale force winds, torrential rain and cold temperature to sing at the Town Council Christmas Fayre. Despite the horrible weather there was a big audience waiting to see them perform. After being introduced by Martin and Sue from Essex Radio, the children sang and danced their hearts out. Their enthusiasm, smiling faces and brilliant singing definitely put everyone in the Christmas spirit! I was very proud of the whole choir, well done to you all. Thank you to Miss Hoy and Mrs. Graham for your help backstage and to all the parents for your support. It was lovely to hear you all joining in with the children too!
What a super event!

Mrs. Allan

Year 5 & 6 Dodgeball Event

A huge congratulations to **Lenny-Ray, Thomas H, Thomas Bh, Bobby, Lucas, Mia-Rose, Elsie-Mae** and **Bethan** for representing TSM at the WDF partnership Dodgeball competition. Seven schools attended the event and it was a fast paced, energetic, noisy and fun competition. All the children behaved brilliantly and I was especially impressed with their determination, skill and excellent sportsmanship. To come 4th in such a huge tournament was a great accomplishment. Well done to the whole team.

Mrs. Allan



On Tuesday we went to the dodgeball tournament at William de Ferrers. We came 4th out of six teams and the top two teams went through to the final. It was really loud in the hall, we took 8 people to the match and we could only have two girls and four boys per match. We were there for about an hour and a half. We played 5 games and 3 rounds in each game and we won 2 full games!!!! It was so fun, thank you Mrs Allan for taking us. Although we had not had any practice together we still made progress from last to 4th. This was a fun experience for all of us.

Thomas Bh, Bethan & Thomas H

Collective Worship

On Monday we looked at the bible and the first miracle. Jesus presented the feeding of the 5000. Jesus blessed 2 loaves of bread and 3 fish and Jesus provided for 5000. This strengthens our spirituality because it shows the strength of Jesus' blessing.

On Wednesday we were told the story of the Good Samaritan. When a man was in trouble, a priest and a Levite walked by, but a Samaritan helped. This teaches us that no matter how important you are you should always help.

On Thursday we heard the parable of the good shepherd where it tells us that God cares about each and every one of us, like the good shepherd did when one of his sheep went missing, he still went to look for it even though 99 were OK. This shows us we are all equally as important.

On Friday Reverend Adrian came in for an assembly about how Jesus is light the of the world. This strengthens spirituality because we know if we follow him, he will be by our side at all times to help guide us.

By Worship Warriors **Emily** and **Grace**

Prayer Space

Thank you so much to Miss Cruickshank for giving up her time and resources to re-decorate our prayer space, she has transformed the area and has made the space a much more appealing place to reflect in.



TSM Christmas Events - Save the Date!

TSM Choir visiting Tylers Ride Retirement Home – Monday 2nd December, during school hours.

Whole School Panto Performance - Aladdin – Thursday 5th December, pupils only, during school hours.

Rocksteady Christmas Concert – Tuesday 10th December
Parents/carers of band members only are invited in for a 10am start.

KS1 Christmas Performance to KS2 – Tuesday 10th December, pupils only, during school hours.

Reception & KS1 Christmas Performance – Thursday 12th December
2pm & 6.30pm Performances. 2 tickets per family available per performance.
Tickets to be booked via ParentPay opening next week.

Children's Christmas Lunch – Thursday 12th December

TSM Choir Singing at Holy Trinity Church – Friday 13th December – selected pupils only/limited numbers. 5.15pm meet for a 5.30pm start.

Carols by Candlelight – Monday 16th December 5pm

Whole School Santa Dash – Tuesday 17th December, during school hours.

KS2 Christmas Performance to KS1 – Tuesday 17th December, pupils only, during school hours.

Rotary Sleigh Visiting TSM – Wednesday 18th December 5pm

KS2 Christmas Performance – Thursday 19th December
2pm & 6.30pm Performances. 2 tickets per family available per performance.
Tickets to be booked via ParentPay opening next week.

Wear Something Christmassy – Friday 20th December, non-uniform

Christmas Interhouse Competition – Friday 20th December



Attendance

Congratulations to **Amber** class who have the highest attendance this week, with an attendance of **94.86%**.

Whole school attendance is **92.36%**.

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.

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

We are seeing quite a few latecomers each morning, arriving via the office. 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

Parent Forum Group

We are looking for a volunteer to represent this year's Ruby class on the Parent Forum. If you would like to put yourself forward as the representative for Ruby class please contact the school office.

Reception admissions for academic year starting in September 2025

The primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 4 November 2024**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2025.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2025**.

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

The website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions also has a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2025-26 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories contain details of all admission policies.

Cut Your Carbon Challenge

We hope you have been enjoying taking part in the 'Cut Your Carbon' challenge this November.

Just a reminder to please remember to return the checklist forms to your child's class teacher w/c Monday 2nd December 2024.

Thank you for your support.

Online Safety

The following link may be of use, with age specific advice (under 5, 6-10, 11-13 and 14+) on ways to keep children safer on line.

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/abc-online-safety-checklist/?utm_campaign=313065_Partner%20Newsletter%20-%20October%202024&utm_medium=email&utm_source=DotDigital&dm_i=7MSZ,6PK9,UFBX2,T56V,1

Reverse Advent

Thank you for all the donations to our food bank so far. The boxes in each classroom are beginning to get quite full. If you would like to make a donation there is still time next week. Many thanks for all your support.

Christmas Cards

As an Eco school we would once again like to reduce the number of Christmas cards that are sent within school so for this year to be more sustainable classes will be making a class card, this will be done in school and each child will bring home one card that has been signed by all of their class, which they will come home with on Friday 13th December.

Letters Emailed Home

WDF Year 5 Science Club

TSM School Term Dates 2025 – 2026

KS2 Christmas Performance

Topaz & Ruby 'Simply the Nativity' Letter

Amber Class

Headlice – Action Required!

Choir Christmas Lyrics

Essex Kids Camp Friday 6th December

Headteacher Summary



It is beginning to feel a lot like Christmas! Thank you to all our TSM family members who came to our Christmas Craft morning on Tuesday. It was lovely to see so many of you enjoying the morning of craft with the children. I am sure you saw one or two of our Christmas doors. This has become a Trinity tradition. I hope it has brought a smile to the faces of the children as they pass them around the school. Thank you to FOTSMS who have been in today putting up decorations throughout the school.

Well done to the school choir who performed at the Light Switch On at the weekend. I thoroughly enjoyed listening to you and watching the actions. Thank you, as always, to Mrs Allan for organising for our choir to perform at such events.

It is lovely to see the prayer space refreshed and used by the children. I am extremely grateful for the time and thought that staff and volunteers put into making the spaces around the school so inviting and comforting such as the prayer space, Wellbeing Snug and the outdoor library.

I can't believe that December is just around the corner. I am excited to be celebrating all the fabulous events that are coming up in our school over the coming weeks.

I wish you a wonderful weekend.

Miss Hoy



TSM Key Dates 2024 – 2025

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 | |
|--|---|
| 2 nd December 2024 | Choir Event @ Tylers Ride |
| 5 th December 2024 | Whole School Panto Performance |
| 6 th December 2024 | Essex Kids Camp Day |
| 10 th December 2024 | Rocksteady Christmas Concert |
| 10 th December 2024 | KS1 to KS2 Performance |
| 11 th December 2024 | Year 3 Home Safety Session, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service |
| 11 th December 2024 | Topaz Class Trip – Thameside Nature Discovery Centre |
| 12 th December 2024 | KS1 Christmas Performance 2pm & 6.30pm |
| 12 th December 2024 | Christmas Dinner |
| 13 th December 2024 | Choir Event @ Holy Trinity Church |
| 16 th December 2024 | Carols by Candlelight |
| 17 th December 2024 | Santa Dash |
| 17 th December 2024 | KS2 to KS1 Performance |
| 18 th December 2024 | Rotary Father Christmas Visit |
| 19 th December 2024 | KS2 Christmas Performance 2pm & 6.30pm |
| 20 th December 2024 | Wear Something Christmassy Day |
| 20 th December 2024 | Christmas Interhouse Competition |
| 23 rd December – 3 rd January 2025 | Christmas Holidays |
| 6 th January 2025 | Inset Day |
| 7 th January 2025 – 17 th January 2025 | Art Week/s |
| 17 th January 2025 | Art Gallery |
| 22 nd January 2025 | Eco Committee Meeting |
| 24 th January 2025 | Glider Challenge – Emerald Class |
| 28 th January 2025 | NCMP – Reception & Year 6 |
| 30 th January 2025 | Reception Class Road Safety Session |
| 31 st January 2025 | Year 5 Road Safety Session |
| 3 rd February 2025 | Year 6 Cyber Safety Lesson – Essex County Fire & Rescue Service |
| 5 th February 2025 | Young Voices Choir @ O2 |
| 17 th February -21 st February 2025 | Half Term |
| 17 th March 2025 | Essex County Fire & Rescue Service – Year 6 Respect Assembly |
| 21 st March – 23 rd March 2025 | Swimathon 2025 |
| 2 nd April – 4 th April 2025 | Year 6 Residential |
| 12 th May – 15 th May 2025 | SATS Week |



School Panto – 5th December



We hope the children enjoy Aladdin, the pantomime we have booked to come in to perform next Thursday to the whole school.

Why we have chosen a panto to come to school:

- Convenient: Enjoy the performance right at your school.
- Inclusive: Perfect for children who rarely get to see live theatre.
- Engaging: Highly interactive and loads of fun.
- Festive: A great way to get into the Christmas spirit!

Barleylands Tickets - £10



With the holidays coming up we have Barleylands tickets for sale, they do not include a Santa visit etc.

£10 each for a day out.

Wear Something Christmassy – Friday 20th December



We are also excited to have our annual 'Wear Something Christmassy' on the last day of term.

Your child can wear a Christmas - jumper / tshirt / dress or maybe just some tinsel in their hair. This item can be found on ParentPay and the suggested donation is £1.00.

Vicki Bohr – Chair FOTSMS



FOTSMS Event Diary

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 5th December | Aladdin - Panto | We're thrilled to announce that FOTSMS have booked a pantomime company to come in and visit the whole school this year. |
| 12 th December | Christmas Lunch | Christmas lunch gift for each child. |
| 20 th December | Wear Something Christmassy | Children can come into school wearing something Christmassy. A £1.00 donation can be made via ParentPay. |
| 10 th January | School Disco | £4.50 pre-booked on ParentPay or £5.00 cash on the door. KS1 3.30pm-4.30pm (KS1 can get changed in their classroom.) KS2 4.45pm - 6.00pm |

Essex Library Service



Winter Reading Challenge

The Dragons' Adventure!

Arriving in your local library this January!

Children across Essex are being challenged to complete 6 challenges (from a choice of 12) to help some mischievous Dragons make their way home!



For every challenge you'll get a sticker and if you complete 6 you will receive a certificate and a pencil prize. You'll also be able to enter our prize draw for the chance to win some wonderful prizes such as tablets, book tokens, and arts and crafts packs!

Thursday
2 January
to Saturday
22 February

Find out more about how to take part in this free activity on our website: libraries.essex.gov.uk

