



Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School



Friday 28th November 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 **Hugo** in **Tiger** class, for demonstrating our Christian Values. Well done!

House Points

Fenn	41
Shaw	51
Tabrums	29
Marsh	20



Kindness Star of the Week

Well done to:

Hedgehog – Theo

Eagle – Bella

Axolotl – Indie H

Rabbit – Lucy

Tiger – Eleanor-Rose

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 Rabbit class.

Rabbit Class Summary

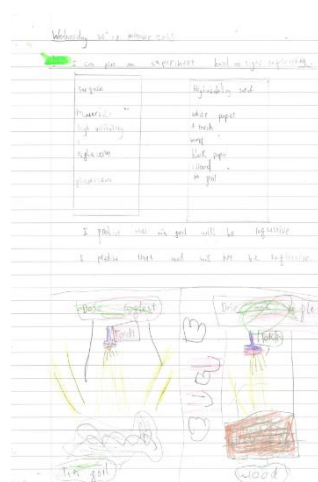
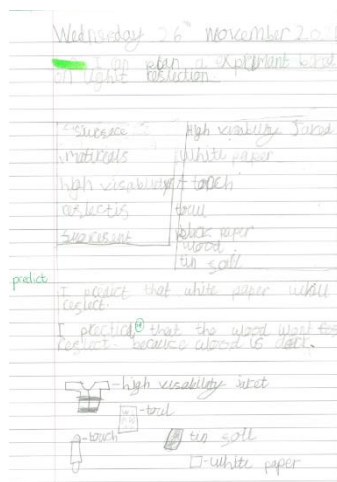
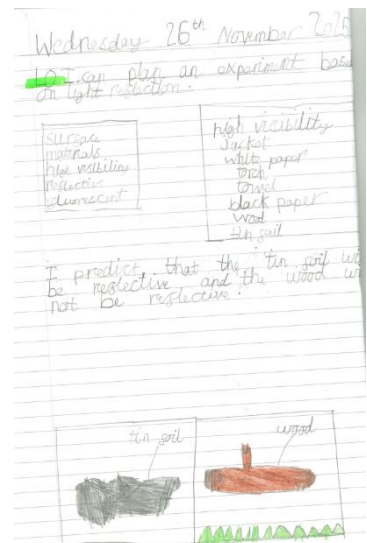
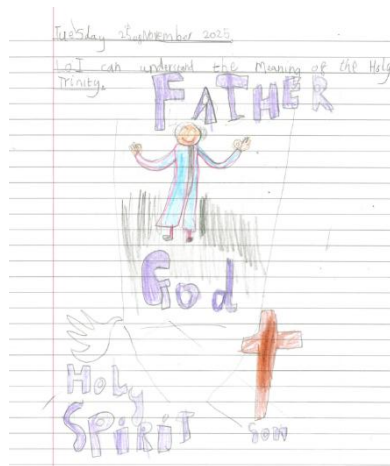
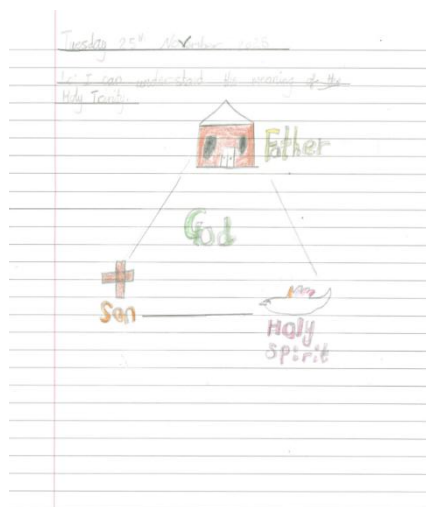
This week, Rabbit class have thrown themselves into our science topic on light. We explored the dangers of the sun and how to protect our eyes and skin in the sun. The children enjoyed sharing their experiences in the sun and how protective measures have helped them to stay sun safe in the past. To develop our understanding of light we explored different light sources and determined which light sources were artificial, and which were natural sources of light. This week the children showed enthusiasm in planning their experiment on reflective materials. They had a go at creating a list of equipment needed for their experiment as well as writing their predicted outcomes. We look forward to testing out their predictions in our experiment next week!

In music, inspired by a song by Abba, we explored listening and appraising music. The class appraised the song then had a go at using the glockenspiels to play along to the beat of the song. They were encouraged to follow the tempo and then try to play to the song. After a short practice the children enjoyed performing the song using their voices and the instruments.

The children have enjoyed reading our new story this week 'What happened to you?' By James Catchpole and Karen George. At the beginning of the week the children had an oracy focused lesson, focusing on discussing the feelings of the main character in the story. To encourage these discussions the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a hot seating activity. This allowed them to embrace the main character of the story and see the world through their eyes. We look forward to creating a retelling of the story towards the end of the week.

In RE we began discussions on The Holy Trinity. The children reflected on their prior knowledge from the Collective Worship they had been a part of during the week and engaged in great class discussions on the meaning of The Holy Trinity. The children enjoyed using imagery to represent each part of The Holy Trinity and how they link together. The children created some beautiful images of The Holy Trinity and are working hard to create a piece of text to describe what The Holy Trinity is and why it is important to Christians.

The children are starting to get into the festive spirit and are enjoying the countdown to Christmas. Rabbit class is filled with excitement for the Christmas concerts and the nativity show! We are looking forward to working hard and enjoying the last few weeks of the term!



Town Council Christmas Fayre

On Saturday our fabulous choir performed on the main stage at the Town Council Christmas Fayre. Despite the freezing cold rain, all the children sang and danced with bounds of enthusiasm. They took performing in front of a huge audience in their stride, and it was wonderful to see their smiles on their faces as they sang their hearts out.

In addition to bringing lots of Christmas cheer to the event, I was also especially proud of the way all the children supported each other and of their excellent behaviour. They were a credit to the school. Well done everyone. Many thanks to Mrs. Graham for accompanying us and for all her help at the event.

A big thank you to Mrs Simmons for running the tombola stall on behalf of TSM and for all the donations sent in, to make it possible to raise funds for the church.

Mrs. Allan

Boccia WDF

A huge well done and big thank you to Miss Hoy and Mrs Wooley and our KS2 children; **Felix, Rachel, Lydia, Jesse S, Oliver CM, Emi, Connor** and **Oscar B** that participated on Wednesday morning in the sporting event at WDF. TSM have been put through to the Boccia County Final due to their hard work and great effort! What a fab achievement.



Rota-Kids Tree of Joy



Our Rota-Kids Tree of Joy project has come to an end this week. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our families. Our tree has the most amazing array of toys and books under it. The Rota Kids would like to thank everyone who took part in this project. Your kindness will make a big difference to the lives of disadvantaged children in our community. We will let you know just how many presents have been donated, when they are collected by the Rotary.

Many thanks to everyone involved and a huge well done to the Rota-Kids for a very successful project.

Mrs. Allan



Attendance

Congratulations to **Tiger** class who have the highest attendance this week, with an attendance of **95.63%**. Whole school attendance is **93.26%**.

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

Reception admissions for academic year starting in September 2026

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 10 November 2025**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2026 - even if your child already has a sibling at the school, you will need to apply.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2026**. Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. All of the application information is available on the website above.

Parking Reminder

Please may we remind all parents to be mindful of parking in the area, especially in the mornings for dropping off for Breakfast Club. Please do not block access to the pavements for other pedestrians/park on double yellow lines or corners. There is a free public car park available across the road for drop off and pick up times. Thank you.

Hair

Please note in our Uniform Policy, **shoulder length hair must be tied up**. Thank you.

Letters Emailed Home

Bikeability Year 5 for Year 6 Autumn 26

Upcoming Choir Events

Rocksteady Christmas Concert

Rabbit Class

KS2 Christmas Jumper for Christmas Rehearsal

Santa Dash – P.E. Kit

Collective Worship

On Monday, Miss Hoy discussed the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament. We spoke about Jesus' arrival and the impact this had on people. We looked at stories like when Jesus fed the 5000 which showed us the influence Jesus had on the world.

Wednesday - Collective Worship was based on the story of the Good Samaritan. We read through the story and discussed how we can use the message within our lives today. We learnt that kindness can be done without needing a reward, but just to help someone.

On Thursday, Miss Mason shared a story from the New Testament of The Lost Sheep. It involved a shepherd who leaves ninety-nine sheep to search for one that has wandered off. When he finds it, he joyfully carries it home. Jesus used the parable to show that every person matters to God.



Headteacher Summary

It is beginning to feel a lot like Christmas! I hope you all enjoyed our craft morning on Tuesday. It was a hive of activity in every classroom which was lovely to see. I could see so many smiles from children and adults, I heard Christmas music as I came around and the glitter was out. It was a lovely morning. I would like to thank our teachers for planning such a wonderful event. Our school became a little more Christmassy today as members of FOTSMS came in to decorate the school – thank you FOTSMS.

It was fantastic to see so many of our children enjoying the discos yesterday. Thank you to FOTSMS for organising this event - there were certainly lots of excitable children enjoying themselves.

To finish off the week, Essex Kids Camp led cup stacking sessions for all of the children. This activity always puts a smile on my face as the children thoroughly enjoy the activity and it can get a little bit competitive!

We will be saying goodbye to Mrs Rix and Miss Morrison-Nicol at the end of this term. We wish them both the very best for the future. Mrs Elliott, an experienced SENDCO, will be joining our staffing team from January. Mrs O'Brien will teach Rabbit class for the Spring and Summer term on a full-time basis (subject to checks).

Have a fabulous 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	
2 nd December 2025	Essex County Fire & Rescue Service - Year 3 Home Safety
3 rd December 2025	Choir @ Tylers Ride
5 th December 2025	Santa Dash – P.E. Kit
5 th December 2025	Whole School Panto
9 th December 2025	Rocksteady Christmas Concert 10.30am
9 th December 2025	Choir – Clements Court
10 th December 2025	Tiger Class Colchester Zoo Trip
11 th December 2025	Christmas Lunch
11 th December 2025	Carols by Candlelight 6pm
12 th December 2025	KS2 Christmas Dress Rehearsal to KS1 (KS2 Christmas jumpers needed)
15 th December 2025	Reception & KS1 Dress Rehearsal to KS2
15 th December 2025	KS2 Christmas Performance 2pm & 6.30pm - Church
16 th December 2025	Reception & KS1 Christmas Performance 2pm & 6.30pm – Hall
17 th December 2025	Rotary Father Christmas Sleigh Visit 4pm- 5pm
18 th December 2025	Choir Town Council Carol Service
22 nd December 2025 – 2 nd January 2026	Christmas Holidays
Spring Term	
5 th January 2026	Inset Day
19 th January 2026	Road Safety – Reception, Year 1 & Year 5
2 nd – 6 th February 2026	TSM & National Story Telling Week
4 th February 2026	Author Visit
10 th February 2026	Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Year 6 Respect Session
12 th February 2026	Year 5 & 6 Gambling Workshop
16 th – 20 th February 2026	Half Term