



Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School



Friday 5th December 2025



DEDICATION



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	28
Shaw	51
Tabrums	95
Marsh	98



Kindness Star of the Week

Well done to:

Hedgehog – Darcey

Eagle – Albie

Axolotl – Charlie

Rabbit – George

Tiger – Oscar

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.

Adventures of the official office elfer Derek Elfison – he's back!



Class Summary

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

This week we share an insight into Tiger class.

Tiger Class Summary

Our wonderful Tiger class children have returned to school following half-term with their usual enthusiasm for learning. It has been a very fast-paced, busy term so far and everyone has been trying their absolute best.

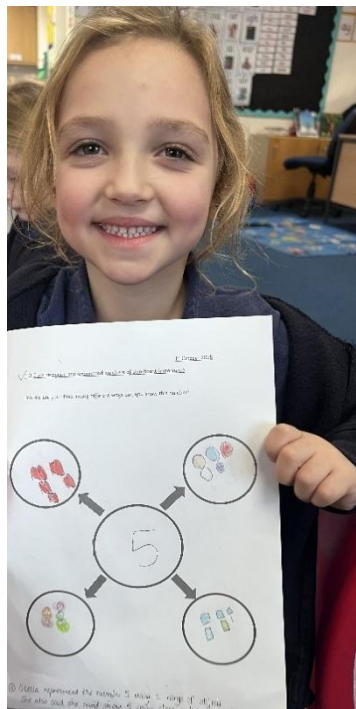
The children have been enjoying our Winter Wonderland topic and have demonstrated excellent observational skills when looking for signs of seasonal change. In addition to learning about what happens to trees and plants during Autumn, the whole class also had a fantastic time taking advantage of all the fallen leaves in our outside area! It was so lovely to hear them giggling as they jumped in the crunchy leaves and threw them like confetti!

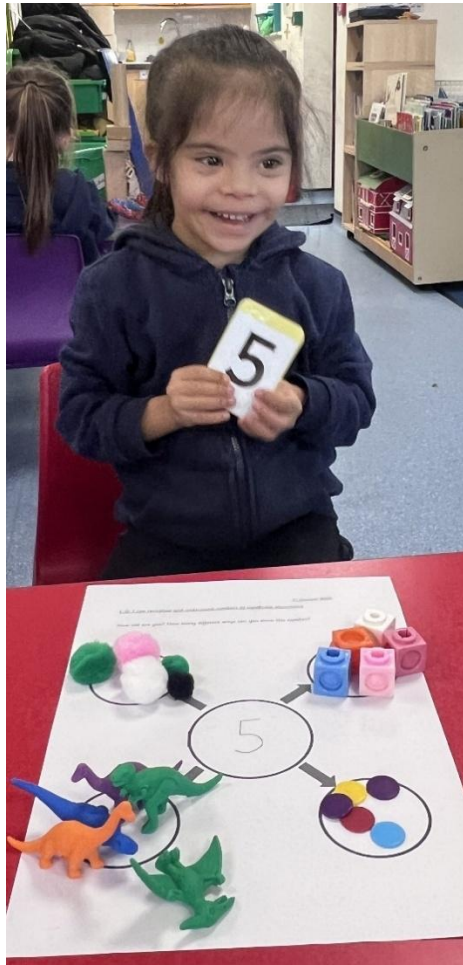


It was also great to see lots of children independently create a habitat for animals who live in colder climates and to listen to them talk about how each animal has adapted to its environment.
Great work!



In our maths lessons the children have been covering a wide range of topics, including understanding the value of number, recognising, sorting and describing the properties of 2D shapes, understanding number bonds, solving part whole challenges and writing their own addition stem sentences. I have also been impressed with the children's problem solving and reasoning skills. Keep up this great work everyone!





In addition to our usual P.E lessons the children had great fun when Mr. North came in to deliver a very fun and hectic cup stacking session. The children listened carefully as Mr. North explained the rules and then had a great time demonstrating some excellent fine motor skills stacking, balancing and unstacking the cups as quickly and accurately as possible.



In R.E we have been learning about probably the most famous story in the Bible, the birth of Jesus. The children have looked in detail at each part of the Incarnation of Christ story, from when Angel Gabriel brought Mary the 'good news' that she was going to have a baby; to the tricky journey to Bethlehem; the role of the Shepherds and the Three Wise Men; and to the miraculous birth of the baby Jesus in the lowly stable. The children made their own Angel Gabriel and had to work really hard with their fine motor skills to create the intricate wings. We also had a class discussion about when the children had received their own 'good news'. There were some lovely ideas including remembering being told they were going to have a new baby in the family; being surprised with a special holiday; or going to visit a friend, grandparent or cousin. It was sweet to listen to how happy the news made the children feel and to share in these special memories.



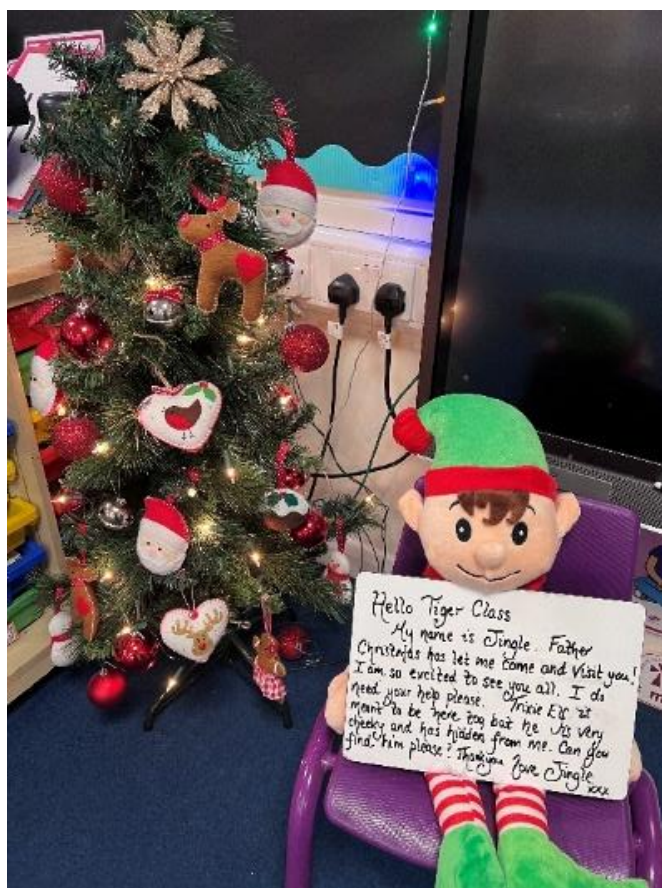
We have also been rehearsing our Nativity ready for our performance on the 16th December. All of the children have worked so hard to learn the words and actions to all their songs. Watching them all sing with enthusiasm always brings a huge smile to my face. I know the children are looking forward to their grown ups coming to watch. It is all very exciting!

Thank you to all the parents who were able to join us for our Christmas craft session. In preparation for our upcoming visit to the zoo we had a 'Reindeer' theme to our activities. The children (and adults!) followed all the instructions brilliantly to make Rudolph Hot Chocolate, Magic Reindeer food and their Rudolph collage pictures. Don't forget to sprinkle your Magic Reindeer food outside on Christmas Eve. I hope it brings you all a very magical Christmas!





And....as if the craft morning wasn't Christmassy enough, the children were very surprised on Monday morning to find that over the weekend our room had been decorated and that we have a new member to our class! Whilst we know these visitors sometimes have a bit of a reputation for being a little cheeky, all the children have said that they will help show them the right way to behave in school! They are all the most amazing role models, so hopefully our classroom will remain safe!



Well done to everyone in Tiger class, you have all made me very proud over the last few weeks and I am very much looking forward to spending the rest of this exciting term with you.

Mrs. Allan

Rota Kids - Tree of Joy success



The Rotary Club of SWF was delighted with the wonderful contribution of toys and books that were kindly donated by our fabulous families. We have received the following emails of thanks. As you can see, your generosity has made a huge difference.

Thank you so much for supporting this Rota Kids project.

Mrs. Allan

To all the families of Trinity St Mary's C of E Primary School

The Rotary Club of SWF sincerely thank the parents and all at Trinity St. Mary's C of E Primary for their contributions to our Trees of Joy this year and to the amazing RotaKids club for their initiative in setting up their Tree.

Please see the below copies of "thank you" emails confirming the scope of the joy for disadvantaged children which will result.

Kind regards

David (The Rotary Club of SWF)

Hi David,

I just wanted to extend our thanks again for all the wonderful gift donations collected today. The team and I were overwhelmed with the generosity of the community and grateful to you for thinking of our charity to share them with. We know there will be a lot of families who will be very thankful for these gifts, and we are looking forward to wrapping and distributing them over the next couple of weeks.

Best Regards,

Tracey Prior

MyOTAS

To The Rotary Club of South Woodham Ferrers.

Thank you so very much for choosing our charity to support the community with Christmas presents this year. They were gratefully received.

We have over 300 families on our list that we support every year at Christmas time.

Your contribution has really helped to provide the smiles on Christmas morning.

Many families struggle to provide items for their children, especially at Christmas. You have been able to reduce the parent's guilt and pressure put on parents today. They are very appreciative of the help and support.

Thank you once again.

Laura Bartlett

Admin – Hub@MegacentreRayleigh

Attendance

Congratulations to Hedgehog class who have the highest attendance this week, with an attendance of **97.09%**. Whole school attendance is **94.81%**.

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.

Letters Emailed Home

Worship Warriors – Candles by Candlelight

Year 5/6 WDF Netball Postponed

Selected pupils – Boccia Final

Proposed School Uniform Changes – Sep 26

FOTSMS Cuppa & Company

Collective Worship

On Monday we looked at different miracles in the Bible with a focus on the feeding of the 5000 and Jesus walking on water. We spoke about how Peter followed Jesus into the water but lost focus and fell. This symbolised how we should always have faith in God because he will guide us. We should trust him, have faith and remain focused.

Tuesday - Miss Frith helped us to reflect on our school vision of Matthew 7:24-25. We started with a question on how solid foundations can help us throughout our lives. Some key foundations included all of our Christian values and we even uncovered many more like dreaming big, trying our best and having trust in God.

Wednesday - Open the Book told us the story of John the Baptist and how the Angel Gabriel sent the message to Elizabeth and Zechariah about their new baby. They were beyond the years of child birth but God blessed them with a child. John the Baptist grew up to be a noble preacher who spread the idea of repentance.

Thursday - Collective Worship was held in class. In Year 6, we looked at different Christmas traditions between cultures and families. We looked at what correlation this has to the Nativity story and biblical references.

Headteacher Summary

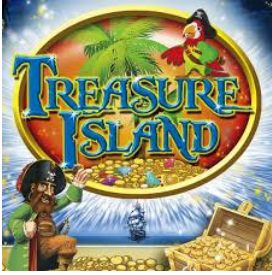
What another busy week it has been!

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service visited earlier in the week. Education Officers spoke to children in Year 3 to teach fire safety basics, involving smoke alarms and electrical safety, focusing on high-risk areas and simple habits like keeping escape routes clear and being careful with cooking/heaters.

It was so lovely to accompany the choir when they sang at Tylers Ride on Wednesday. I know that the residents from Tylers Ride thoroughly enjoy the children visiting and singing to them. They often comment to say that it is the highlight of their year.



Well done to all of the children for participating in the Santa Dash today. I was smiling as the children were walking through the gates with Christmas hats, headbands or tinsel in their hair ready for the event.



Our children thoroughly enjoyed a treat this afternoon watching Treasure Island the pantomime. Thank you to FOTSMS for organising this event.

I was told that our team that competed in dodgeball earlier in the week were superstars. I was so pleased to hear that they all supported each other and represented our school brilliantly – well done, **Emily, Ferdinand, Hareem, Jesse D, Lexi, Maxwell, Otis, Preston, Theo & Thomas H.**

Thank you to Gracie G and Theo for joining me on a Kindness Virtual Meeting with 52 Lives yesterday. This is an opportunity to share ideas with other schools and discuss how to continue spreading kindness in our school and local community.



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	
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)
12 th December 2025	FOTSMS Cuppa & Company
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
19 th December 2025	Wear Something Christmassy
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

Christmas Services 2025

Holy Trinity Church, South Woodham Ferrers

Sunday 7th December at 3pm

Nine Lessons & Carols

Thursday 18th December at 5:30pm

Town Carol Service

Sunday 21st December at 3pm

Crib service

Christmas Eve

7:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

11:30pm Midnight Holy Communion

Christmas Day

8:45 Christmas Day Mass

10:15 Christmas Morning Worship



The Crib Service on Sunday 21st December 2025 at 3pm in Trinity St Mary's Church is a family-friendly child-focused Crib Service with a C of E, Methodist and Catholic combined congregation - everybody of any age is welcome. This service is suitable for the first-ever visit to the Church.