



# Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026



## 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: **Indie H** in **Axolotl**.

### Lunchtime Cup

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

### House Points

Fenn	65
Shaw	52
Tabrums	47
Marsh	42



## Kindness Star of the Week

Well done to:

**Hedgehog – Keaton**

**Eagle – Isla-May**

**Axolotl – Blanca**

**Rabbit – Eloise**

**Tiger – Louis**

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 Axolotl class.

### Axolotl Class Summary

#### Another Busy and Brilliant Week in Axolotl Class

On Tuesday, we stepped back in time for a fantastic Egyptian morning filled with hands-on learning and delicious discoveries! The children explored the flavours of ancient Egypt by tasting a variety of traditional fruits, including juicy pomegranates, sweet figs, and chewy dates. It was wonderful to see everyone trying new foods and sharing their thoughts about the different tastes and textures.



A real highlight of the morning was designing and creating a pneumatics-powered sarcophagus! The children worked brilliantly to build and test their designs, learning how air pressure can be used to create movement. Their creativity and teamwork truly shone through.



We were incredibly fortunate to have Jonathan and Lizzie join us for the session. They generously gave their time to support the children with their designs and construction, offering guidance, encouragement, and expertise throughout. Their kindness and help made a huge difference to the success of the morning — thank you both so much!

Mrs Woolley worked with the children to create some delicious sweet bread — and I must say, they turned out beautifully! The children were very proud of their efforts and assured us they tasted just as good as they looked, which was lovely to hear.



On Wednesday, we also enjoyed a fantastic trip to Saffron Walden Museum where the children were able to consolidate their learning about Ancient Egypt. They even had the opportunity to handle artefacts that were over 3,000 years old — I'll admit, I was quietly praying that nothing got broken! The children were incredibly sensible and thoroughly fascinated by the experience.

One of the highlights of the visit was when Maddie was chosen to be "mummified." The children took turns carrying out each step of the process, and it was absolutely hilarious to watch. We certainly have some budding actors and actresses in our class!



We have also begun the process of mummifying a tomato as part of our ongoing experiment. Each week, the children will continue the process of drying it out, just like the Ancient Egyptians would have done.



To top off an already busy week, the children have loved dressing up and designing their own ridiculous stories to celebrate World Book Day — with the added challenge of using exactly 100 words! Their creativity has truly shone through.

It has certainly been a very busy week, but hopefully a thoroughly enjoyable one for the children.

## Attendance

Congratulations to **Axolotl** class who have the highest attendance this week, with an attendance of **98.71%**. Whole school attendance is **96.35%**.

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.

## New Absence Reporting Option - Arbor Parent Portal

We're pleased to announce that parents have an additional way to report their child's absence from school.

You are now able to log your child's absence directly through the Arbor Parent Portal and Arbor App. This is a new option that we're trialling to make reporting absences more convenient for you.

You can continue to report absences using: Studybugs & Telephone.

The Arbor Parent Portal and App will simply be an additional option for you to use. Please remember that we do not accept emails for reporting absence.

If you'd like to try this new method, you can find step-by-step instructions on how to log an absence here: [Logging absences on the Parent Portal and Arbor App](#)

If you have any questions about reporting absences, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

## **General Reminders**

### **Donations**

We are reaching out to our wonderful school community to ask for your help in collecting donations of indoor games such as Connect 4, Uno, Backgammon, Snakes and Ladders, Ludo etc that can be used during wet break and lunchtimes.

If you have any board games, card games, or other fun activities that you could spare, we would be incredibly grateful for your support.

### **The Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows for all schools**

The roadshows start next week. These are for parent/carers to visit and ask questions about SEND.

- Monday 9 March - Harlow
- Wednesday 11 March - Chelmsford
- Tuesday 17 March - Basildon
- Sunday 22 March - Braintree
- Wednesday 25 March - Colchester
- Saturday 18 April - Brentwood

The roadshows are for parents/carers of children with SEND aged 0 to 25. No booking needed, just drop in. For further information about what to expect from a roadshow and who will be there [visit the local offer website](#).

### **Vacancy**

We are looking for a friendly and enthusiastic midday assistant to join our team from the summer term.

Our midday assistants play a vital role in ensuring our pupils have a safe, happy and positive lunchtime experience. This role involves supervising children during lunch, supporting good behaviour, and helping to create a calm and enjoyable environment for all.

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in joining our school community in this important role, please visit:

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=117361>

## Letters Emailed Home

Year 6 Online Safety Letter

Year 6 Concrete Canvas Workshops Invite

RotaKids – Swimarathon

Swimarathon Meeting

Head Lice

Residential 2027

## WDF Cross Country Final

Well done to **Nelle, Amelia, Charlie H, Otis, Kieran C, Thomas H** and **Theo** who took part in the SSP Cross Country Finals on Tuesday at William de Ferrers.

There was a big turnout from lots of schools in the local area and to our delight, the sun was shining instead of pouring rain! Everyone tried their best and showed fantastic stamina and speed. The run was long and there was fierce competition from the other schools but our Trinity St Mary's runners put in all their effort and achieved some great placings in the races!

## Collective Worship

**Monday** - Miss Hoy / Story - Daniel and the Lion's Den

Daniel was put in charge of Darius' governors. The governors were jealous and planned to get rid of him. They made a new law that anyone who worshipped anyone but the king would be thrown into the lion's den.

The next morning Daniel prayed to his God and was thrown in the lion's den. When the king came back the next day, Daniel was still alive. God had helped Daniel.

**Tuesday** - Miss Hume / Perseverance and trust

Perseverance means: keep going.

When have you persevered? Reading, football, rugby.

We watched a video on how perseverance isn't perfect, it's about never giving up. JK Rowling, the author of Harry Potter is an example of this.

James 1:72 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life.

When we get bored or lose a game, same with our school work, we should try and try again!

### Wednesday - Open the Book

John was living in the wilderness, but one day he started shouting: 'someone special is coming. God is sending someone special.'

He explained to them how to get ready for him. John dipped people in the river to show them that this would cleanse their sins.

Jesus came and asked John to baptise him as well, skies parted and a spirit landed on his shoulder.

### Thursday - Miss Cosgrove

What do you find fun?

E.g. pets, reading, dressing up, holidays, the park and drawing.

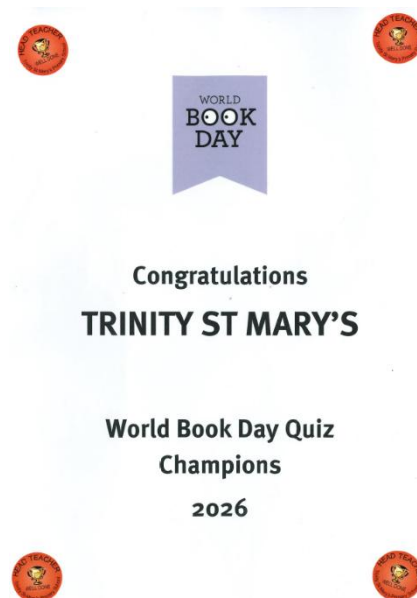
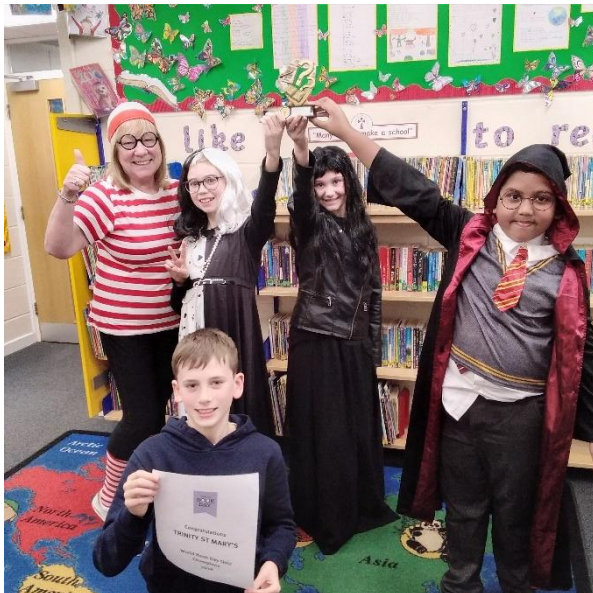
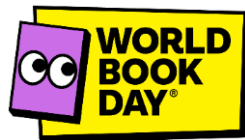
What does fun mean?

E.g. laughing and joking, being happy, doing something you like.

Book suggestions: Lottie Brooks, The Beast of Buckingham Palace, Escape Room.

We spoke about when reading is fun and when reading can be hard and how we can overcome these and find things we love to read!

### World Book Day



### Y5/6 Library Challenge

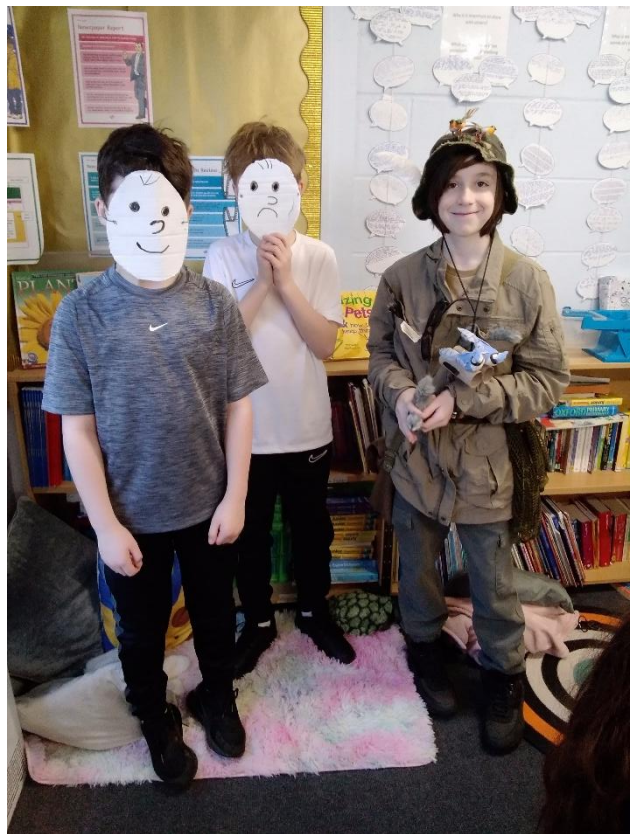
Congratulations to **Thomas H, Ophelia, Maddie & Sasen** who took part in a bumper book themed quiz at South Woodham Ferrers Library Primary School Challenge on Thursday and through great teamwork became this year's champions! Well done!

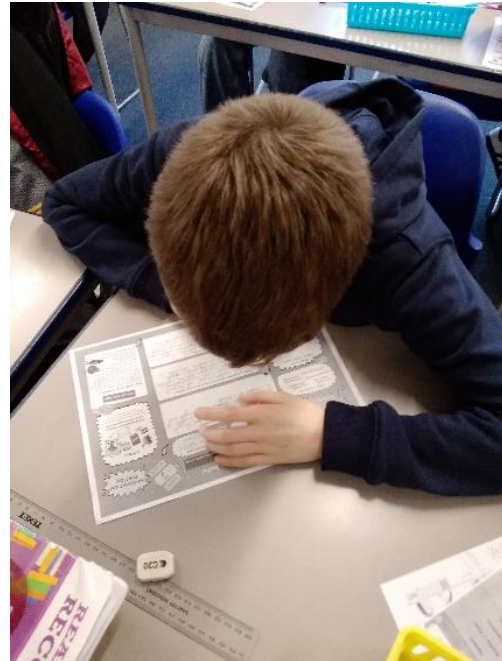
Also, a big thank you to Mrs Simmons for accompanying the children.

## Hedgehog Class World Book Day

In Hedgehog class, we have absolutely loved diving into the Ridiculous Writers competition! Our classroom was buzzing with creativity as we brainstormed the wildest titles possible. It turns out we are a very food-driven group, as our discussions sparked some truly silly stories involving everything from flying chicken nuggets to explosive popcorn!

The biggest challenge wasn't coming up with ideas—it was sticking to the 100-word limit. We had so much to say that some of us found it tough to trim down, while a few over-enthusiastic editors ended up with room to spare! Despite the word-count struggles, everyone worked incredibly hard to polish their prose. We are so proud of the marvellous mini-sagas we've created!





**PUPIL ENTRY FORM**

Name: Aurecon Age: 11  
 Teacher's Name: Mrs Co Signore Postcode: CM35JX  
 School Name: Trinity St Marys

Write your mini saga in the 100-word grid below

Story title: The rich Pflorn

There	was	a	Small	Pflorn
That	had	Just	up	was
and	he	reached	he	to
rich	so	he	went	all
School	of	and	to	he
of	his	Friends	the	cinema
created	them	to	work	to
so	they	all	there	was
the	man	and	Pflorn	and
is	thought	pouring	looks	Fun
he	he	that	in	and
So	he	got	scooped	the
Burn	he	went	to	passed
be	Pflorn	the	Pflorn	and
the	on	his	so	he
bottoms	it	up	top	and
honey	at	the	got	cabin
showered	about	to		
was				

**PUPIL ENTRY FORM**

Name: Isabelle Age: 10  
 Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
 School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Write your mini saga in the 100-word grid below

Story title: The ridiculous pig

It	was	Just	a	lazy
day	when	a	wined	looking
pig	went	for	a	and
walked	So	he	went	peppery
It	down	he	a	unbil...
He	was	very	new	very
wet	came	across	peppery	He
thought	to	muddy	splodge	what
about	I	himself	what	how
if	to	got	about?	what
to	my	family?	There	home
a	path	on	he	was
but	clearly	he	and	side
so	slipped	he	did	was
had	to	do	what	realise
there	something	to	do	he
he	Just	went	do	standing
			through	of
				finally
				hit

## Eagle Class World Book Day

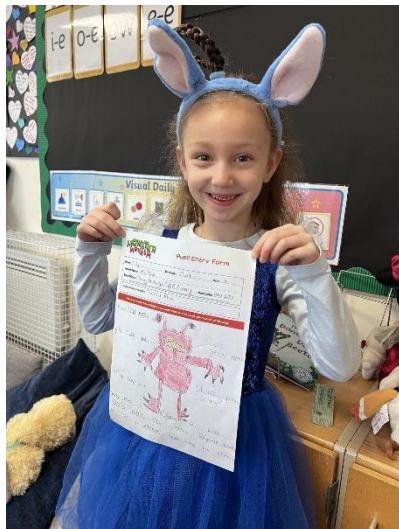
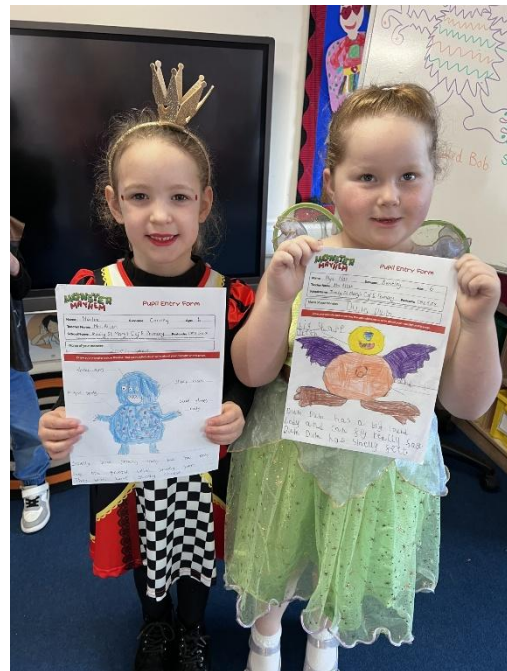
In Eagle class, the children took part in the *Ridiculous Writers* challenge and had great fun letting their imaginations run wild. They wrote several short stories, each limited to just 100 words, which encouraged them to think carefully about their ideas and word choices.

The theme inspired some wonderfully silly and creative plots, including chicken nuggets taking over the world, a bean-loving queen with a rather unfortunate habit of farting, and a penguin who ate so much it turned into a beach ball. The children really enjoyed the challenge and were proud of the imaginative stories they created.





# Tiger Class World Book Day





Tiger class had an amazing time on World Book Day. The children all looked fantastic in their costumes and loved talking about their character and why they were their favourite. Mrs. Allan read one of her favourite stories, 'Ten Delicious Teachers'. The children loved seeing what happened to each teacher as they tried to find their way home. Using this story as their inspiration, the children then participated in the Young Writers Competition, 'Monster Mayhem'.

All the children designed and labelled the most spectacular monsters I have ever seen! The children assured me that their monsters were friendly, but, I hope I never meet them on my way home just incase!

Well done Tiger class!

## FOTSMS Mother's Day Sale



Our Mother's Day sale will be taking place at school on the morning of Friday 13th of March. We will be selling a selection of sustainably sourced, handmade wooden gifts made by one of our clever school families.

Payment is now able to be made on Arbor and we would really appreciate this being done in advance so that we have an idea of how many gifts are required.

Cash is also welcome on the day but pre- payment is preferred if possible.

The children will be able to choose from 7 options with a limit of 3 per child during the sale.

Any items remaining at the end will be offered to any children who would like to buy more.

Due to the gifts being handmade locally we have decided to increase the price this year to £2 which we feel reflects the quality and time invested in making them.

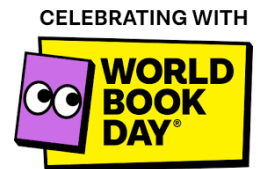
Thank you for your support as always.

FOTSMS.

## Headteacher Summary

I was so impressed with the effort that was made for World Book Day – the children looked fantastic and seemed to enjoy the day. Our World Book Day quiz team were very keen to tell me all about their time at the public library.

They described what several of the questions were like, that they worked well as a team and that they won. This is a great achievement – I can not remember the last time that TSM won!



Well done to everyone who made the cross country final. I can't say cross country was or is a strength of mine.

Year 6 benefited from The Children's Society Online Safety presentation today.

A Safe in Essex Practitioner spoke to the children about online safety: understanding the risks and the importance of being vigilant and keeping yourself safe.

The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) and Thurrock Council completed their dental survey of 5-year-old schoolchildren in reception and year 1 on Thursday. The survey is usually undertaken every 2 years, it provides information on the oral health of children and aims to support actions to improve oral health, reduce health inequalities and improve the provision of treatment services. Thank you to those children that were selected and took part in this national dental programme.



I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Miss Hoy

## TSM Key Dates 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.

<b>Spring Term</b>	
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Year 5 & 6 Climate Workshop
10 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Year 6 Online Safety Session
10 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Dental Beauty Visit – Reception & Year 3
11 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Rabbit Class Trip – Colchester Castle
11 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	SATS Info Session
13 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	FOTSMS Mother's Day Sale
17 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Rocksteady Music Easter Concert
20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Essex Kids Camp – Frisbee Golf
20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	FOTSMS Cuppa & Company Morning
21 <sup>st</sup> March 2026	Rotary Swimathon
23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Year 6 Residential
26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Great British Spring Clean Eco Committee Litter Pick
30 <sup>th</sup> March – 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Easter Holidays
29 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Parents Evening
4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Bank Holiday
7 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	The Children's Society Year 6 Transition Workshop
11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	SATS Week
25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Half Term
<b>Summer Term</b>	
9 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Year 6 Chelmsford Cathedral Leavers Service
12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Carmel Jane – Class/Group Photos
15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	TSM Sports Week
19 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	TSM Summer Fete
22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Secondary School Transition Week
29 <sup>th</sup> June – 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2026	Wellbeing Week

# RIDE FOR HELEN 2026

SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MAY

## 6 MILE BIKE RIDE



SCAN ME



We have volunteer cycling chaperones



Get ready for a day of making memories by participating in a 6 mile charity bike ride.

Here's what you can expect:

- ✓ Medal for every rider
- ✓ Family day out
- ✓ Live entertainment

6 Mile child ticket includes a **FREE** ADULT PLACE

Visit [www.helenrollason.org.uk](http://www.helenrollason.org.uk) for further details

Fundraising in aid of

Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

# RIDE FOR HELEN 2026

SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MAY



HELEN'S 70TH

Join us for a truly breathtaking cycling event starting and finishing at The Crix in Hatfield Peverel.

Choose the distance that suits you and enjoy pedalling through the beautiful countryside of Essex and Hertfordshire, all while helping to support people living with cancer.



SCAN ME

BOOK YOUR PLACE AT [www.helenrollason.org.uk](http://www.helenrollason.org.uk)  
Fundraising in aid of

Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

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Registered Charity No: 1052661