



Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School



Friday 13th March 2026



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 **Felix** in **Axolotl** class, for demonstrating our Christian Values. Well done!

House Points

Fenn	78
Shaw	58
Tabrums	55
Marsh	55



Kindness Star of the Week

Well done to:

Hedgehog – Thomas H

Eagle – Zachary

Axolotl – Archie

Rabbit – Sofia

Tiger – Charlotte

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

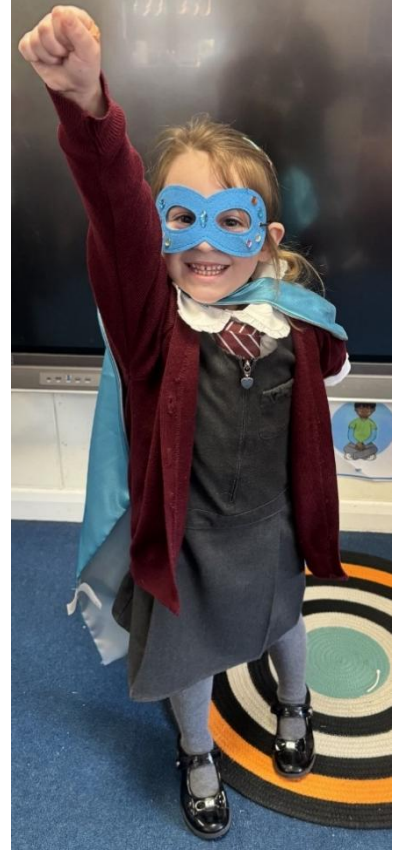
Each week we will be highlighting what one class has been up to in school.

This week we share an insight into Tiger class.

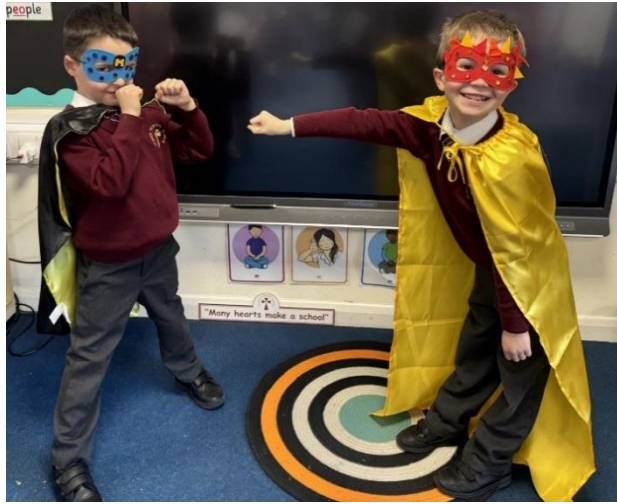
Tiger Class Summary

The second half of this term has already been a busy one. We have continued our topic on Superheroes. The children researched lots of different superhero characters and looked at their costumes and logos. Being very creative, the children then created their own superhero personality. Focusing on their traits and powers, they designed their own logos. All the children added information labels and the year ones also wrote about their superhero. As part of our DT lessons, the children then had to work really hard to follow their design and make their logo in the style and colours they designed, using the materials they had planned. There was much excitement when the children added their logos to their very own superhero capes! To be doubly sure their alter-ego was properly protected, the children then made their own superhero masks! With their costumes complete, it was time to go and combat crime and to help spread happiness and kindness! The children absolutely loved playing in their handmade costumes and it was fabulous to see their clever designs completed.





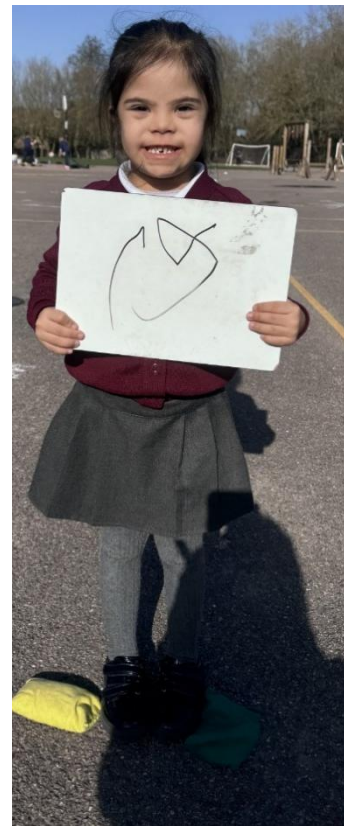






In maths the children in year one have been working hard to learn their 2, 5 and 10-times table. They are all getting very good at singing along to our times table songs and are working equally hard to develop their rapid recall skills. The Reception children have been continuing their work on measuring.

Working outside they had to throw two beanbags and then compare the distances they had landed. Using some great mathematical language, they spoke about which was the shortest or longest distance. The children then had to measure the distance to make sure they were correct.



In R.E. the children have been learning all about Easter. They listened carefully to the story. I was very impressed listening to the children talk knowledgeably about what happened to Jesus and using some excellent vocabulary including crucifixion, resurrection and ascension! Well done Tiger class. The children then discussed why the symbol of the cross is so important to Christians. Using a variety of colour mixing techniques, they made their own relief cross Easter Egg to represent the Easter Story.



World Book Day was also full of fun in Tiger Class. It was fabulous to see all the children dressed up. All of the children entered the Young Writer 'Monster Mayhem' competition creating a fabulous range of very funny monsters. Some of the children used some great alliteration when naming their monsters such as; Silly Simon, Batty Bob, Silly Socks, Tickling Triangle and Zany Zach, to name but a few!



Using their favourite book character, the children had even more fun designing and making their own wooden spoon puppet. They used brilliant observation skills to decide on the colours they needed and the extra features they needed to add. It was quite a tricky activity, but the children were all very enthusiastic to try and get their puppets looking exactly like their character. I think they all did an amazing job. It was very easy to see what character they had made. Great work Tiger team!



In P.E the children have been learning about Team Building Skills. They have worked hard to listen carefully, follow instructions and work collaboratively with a partner, in small groups or even as a whole class. They loved playing a variety of parachute games and as they got more confident, the instructions they had to follow became more complicated. Using their super team skills, the games were a great success!



Once again, I have been very impressed with all the children and their enthusiasm, dedication and super attitude to learning. Well done Tiger class, I am very proud of you. I am looking forward to seeing all your progress next term too. Well done to every one of you!

Mrs Allan

Swallows Gymnastics Training Session

On Wednesday a fabulous group of our pupils attended a training session at Swallows Gymnastics. The children were put through their paces from the moment they arrived, completing a very energetic warm up before moving on to learning how to do handstands, cartwheels and forward rolls. After this the children worked with a Swallows Coach to learn how to use the beam, the bars and the trampoline and horse. After a few initial nerves, all of the children quickly grew in confidence and were able to demonstrate some fantastic skills on all the equipment. In addition to seeing the children make great progress, it was also fabulous to see the huge smiles on their faces for the whole session. The children all behaved beautifully and were a real credit to our school. Well done everyone!





Rabbit Class Colchester Castle Trip



Attendance

Congratulations to **Rabbit** class who have the highest attendance this week, with an attendance of **98.26%**. Whole school attendance is **94.94%**.

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

Vacancy

We're recruiting a breakfast club assistant to work with a 1:1 child, please follow the link below to apply:

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=117483>

Parking Reminder

Please may we remind all parents/carers to be mindful of parking in the area, especially during drop off and pick up times. Please do not block access to the pavements for other pedestrians/park on double yellow lines or block local residents' driveways. Thank you.

Letters Emailed Home

Essex Kids Camp 20/3, Rocksteady Easter Concert, Forest School – Rabbit & Axolotl, Parent Consultation Meetings – April, Eagle Class Maya-themed Day.

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Year 6 Online Safety Session

We had Neil come in and talk to us about all of the different safety measures we can take when being online. The session started with a quiz on the most used apps by children, with WhatsApp being the most popular! However, we were then shown the age limits on these apps and discussed why these restrictions are in place - WhatsApp, Snapchat and TikTok are all 13+ which was a shock for some of us! Over 20,000 messages are sent on Snapchat every second!

We looked at some precautions to take when using social media:

Ghost Mode: On Snapchat, you can turn your location off so that nobody can see where you are.

Privacy settings: You can change these in most apps - On WhatsApp, you can turn on a setting so that only people in your contacts can message you and you have to request to invite someone to a group chat.

Contacts: Regularly check and update our contacts to ensure we limit who has our information.

Safer choices: Do not talk to strangers online. Do not download from an unknown source as this can include spy ware or viruses.

Biometrics: Using thumb print and face ID for as much as we can!

We also watched a video of a girl who had no privacy settings on, and all of her posts were available to strangers online. It was scary to see the number of people who could see things on the internet and how easy it is to gather information. For example, someone can offer to send you a gift, but they may actually be looking to gain your address.

Remember to keep safe online!

Notes taken by **Effie, Theo and Gracie.**

Collective Worship

Monday - Miss Hoy taught us about Saint Patrick's Day! We learned that the day is celebrated on the 17th of March and it most recognised in Ireland. St Patrick grew up in Cornwall and was born around 390 AD. He was actually kidnapped by Irish raiders to be made a slave. He is a Saint because of how far he spread the word of God through Ireland.

Tuesday - Mrs Greenyer-Smith focused on Saint Joseph, who cared for Mary, the mother of Jesus. He is a saint for his care and kindness even during chaos. St Joseph's day is celebrated in lots of ways around the world and we can use the message to be kind and caring in our lives today.

Wednesday - Miss Mason talked to us about Saint Isadore who lived over 1,400 years ago in Spain! We spoke about how we learn new things in the modern world, and how St. Isadore spent his life studying and writing books about the world. He was known for helping the poor and showing kindness. We reflected on how what we learn can shape who we become.

Thursday - Reverend Jacqui led this collective worship with the image of salt grains. She discussed how something so small can make such a huge difference! We looked at examples of when a little bit of kindness can have a huge impact. We also spoke about what 'being the salt of the Earth' means in Matthew's Gospel. We are all part of something bigger but we are all important grains of God's image!

Headteacher Summary



Year 5 & 6 have now completed the four-week Wild Schools environmental education programme that has been led by the Wilderness Foundation. The programme was designed to inspire young people to make a positive difference to the world around them.

Reception & Year 3 had a visit from Dental Beauty as part of a programme led by the NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board (MSE ICB), to help improve children and young people's oral health and to help them learn how to take care of their teeth and mouths. Thank you to those that consented, the children took part in a free oral health mouth check in school and a fun interactive lesson on how to look after their oral health.



Rabbit class enjoyed a trip to Colchester Castle on Wednesday. The trip linked wonderfully with their current topic Castles and Dragons. Their trip allowed them to explore the history and construction of Colchester Castle. The class behaved beautifully and Mrs O'Brien said that they were a pleasure to take on the trip and it was a lovely experience.

Thank you to everyone who attended the SATS Information Session – parents, grandparents and children. The session was led by Miss Cosgrove and Miss Hume. I hope you all found this session valuable and informative. If you would like any further support on understanding the assessments and/ or discussing your child’s progress then please request a meeting.



Thank you to FOTSMS for holding a Mother’s Day Sale today.

I wish you all a lovely weekend and I hope you enjoy celebrating Mother’s Day.

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.

Spring Term	
17 th March 2026	Rocksteady Music Easter Concert
20 th March 2026	Essex Kids Camp – Frisbee Golf (P.E. Kit)
20 th March 2026	FOTSMS Cuppa & Company Morning
21 st March 2026	Rotary Swimathon
23 rd – 25 th March 2026	Year 6 Residential
26 th March 2026	Great British Spring Clean Eco Committee Litter Pick
27 th March 2026	Eagle Class Maya-themed Day
30 th March – 10 th April 2026	Easter Holidays
13 th April – 15 th April 2026	FOTSMS Clothing Collection
20 th April 2026	The Ripple Effect Workshop – Axolotl & Eagle
29 th – 30 th April 2026	Parents Evening
4 th May 2026	Bank Holiday
7 th May 2026	The Children’s Society Year 6 Transition Workshop
11 th – 14 th May 2026	SATS Week
13 th May 2026	Tiger Class Library Visit
25 th – 29 th May 2026	Half Term
Summer Term	
9 th June 2026	Year 6 Chelmsford Cathedral Leavers Service
12 th June 2026	Carmel Jane – Class/Group Photos
15 th – 19 th June 2026	TSM Sports Week
19 th June 2026	TSM Summer Fete
22 nd – 26 th June 2026	Secondary School Transition Week
29 th June – 3 rd July 2026	Wellbeing Week

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Is your child registered for
SCHOOL MILK?

Child
UNDER 5

Every child under the age of five is entitled to free school milk. Simply register your child online.



Child
OVER 5

Every child over the age of five is entitled to milk at a subsidised cost of around £20 per term. Register your child and pay online.

Children in receipt of benefits-based free school meals are eligible for free school milk. Speak to the school for further information.

Free milk for under 5s is funded by the Department of Health and milk for over 5s is subsidised by DEFRA.

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or give us a call on **0800 321 3248**

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