



Tiptree St Luke's Church of England VC Primary School

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know, love, serve; God, Ourselves & Others

Data protection: Please notify the office if you change your details or change your mind about consent.

Friday 28th February 2025

School Council Non-Uniform Day Reminder

The School Council voted to hold a non-uniform day on Friday 7th March 2025; all money raised will go towards their garden renovation to purchase outdoor paint, planters, window transfers and plants.

It was difficult for the school council members to agree on a theme, so they voted for the following options!

- 1- Children can dress up or wear clothes linked to their favourite film, game or television character. These must be age appropriate.
- 2- Children can wear their pyjamas/cosy clothes/lounge-wear.

If your child wishes to take part in the non-uniform day, the School Council are asking for a voluntary contribution of £1.



Outdoor Gym Equipment

A huge thank you to the wonderful PTFA, who have organised various events to raise money for the outdoor gym equipment chosen by the School Council last year. This would also not be possible without the support of all the families. The children are thoroughly enjoying using it!



Local Opportunities for the Children

Information on [church events](#) and [local clubs and activities which are available to our children](#) are published on the school website. This now includes information on Colchester United's summer program of events.

Well done!

Over the half term, Molly W was very busy! She received player of the week at rugby for some great tackles and great teamwork. She also competed in dance competitions over 5 days winning medals and the trophy for highest score of the competition- we are very proud of you!



School Council

The School Council met this week and started clearing the garden and they were very pleased that the new planters they had ordered had been delivered over the half term holiday!



Special Achievement Award

Congratulations to the following children who have received a Special Achievement Award in this week's celebration worship: Daisy C, Jaxon, Vinny, Max E-S, Lacie, Sadie, Skye R, Harrison, Arthur, Michael, Charlie P, Lorelei, Matilda, Felix W, Sophie K, Imogen P, Teddy P and Harry N.

Reminders & Dates for the Diary

Staff will aim to deal with any **emailed queries** in three working days however if you haven't received a response, please contact admin@stlukesschool.co.uk who will investigate the matter for you.

When reporting your child's absence, you must leave a message on the **absence phone line** (01621 815456 option 2). This is the first line of communication that is checked in the morning and if you email the office, staff will not see this until registers have been processed.

Second-hand uniform is available every Tuesday opposite the main reception area between 3pm-3.30pm

If your child is missing any items of clothing, parents are able to check the **lost property box** at the end of the school day via the main office.

School Dates:

The new academic year dates and INSET days for 2025/2026 are published on our website.

EYFS – Reception Conker and Acorn	KSI – Years 1 & 2 Oak, Silver Birch, Sycamore	LKS2 – Year 3 & 4 Plum, Apple, Elder	UKS2 – Years 5 & 6 Acacia and Baobab
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		Event	Parents Invited / Additional
March	5 th March	Great Fire of London Experience (year 1 and 2)	
	7 th March	Non- uniform Day- School Council Fundraiser	

	10 th March	UKS2 School trip to Barleylands	
	13 th March	Quiz Night, £5 per person, 7.30pm in school hall- more information to follow	All welcome
	14 th March	INSET DAY	
	21 st March	Red Nose Day- Break the Rules Day!	
	21 st March	PTFA Magician Show after school- book on PTFA website	
	26 th March	Year 1 and 2 Great Fire of London Event	Year 1 and 2 parent/carers welcome
	26 th March	PTFA Wonderful Women's Gift Shop	
	27 th March	PTFA Wonderful Women's Gift Shop	
	28 th March	Year 3 and 4 school trip to Abberton	
April	2 nd April	Trunk Theatre Company- Great Fire of London (Year 1 and 2)	
	4 th April	Conker Class Assembly	Parent/Carers welcome
	24 th April	Sahabi Class Model Write To The Top lesson- 9am	Sahabi Class Parent/Carers welcome
	25 th April	Cedar Class Model Write To The Top lesson- 9am	Cedar Class parent/carers welcome
May	1 st May	Pear Class Model Write To The Top lesson- 2.15pm	Pear Class parent/carers welcome
May	2 nd May	Year 1 Phonics Screening Parent Meeting- 8.45am in the hall	Year 1 parent/carers
	2 nd May	Cherry Class Model Write To The Top lesson- 1.45pm	Cherry Class Parent/Carers welcome
	2 nd May	Mulberry Class Model Write To The Top lesson- 2.20pm	Mulberry Class Parent/Carers welcome
	5 th May	PTFA Late Riser Boot Sale (more information to follow)	All welcome
	8 th May	VE Day Activities in school	
	12 th -15 th May	Year 6 Relaxed SATS breakfast 8.15-8.35am	
	23 rd May	Class photographs, year 6 photos and whole school photo	
June	6 th June	Sports Day	Parents/carers welcome
	10 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check and Year 2 re-take Phonics Check	
	10 th June	Year 3 and 4 Roman Day (more information to follow)	
	10 th June	Year 6 Crucial Crew trip 9am- 11am (more information to follow)	
	11 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check and Year 2 re-take Phonics Check	

	11 th June	Year 6 Community Challenge Team Building Day (more information to follow)	
	13 th June	Reserve Sports Day	Parent/carers welcome
	21 st June	PTFA Summer Fair (more information to follow)	All welcome
	23 rd June	Year 5 Camp Day and overnight Year 6 Camp Day (normal school hours)	
	24 th June	Year 1 and 2 Camp Day (normal school hours)	
	25 th June	Conker Class Camp Day (normal hours)	
	26 th June	Year 3 Camp Day (normal school hours) Year 4 Camp Day (Evening pick up)	
	26 th June	Year 6 Induction Day at Thurstable	
July	1 st July	Parents Evening (more information to follow)	Parents/Carers welcome
	2 nd July	Year 1 and 2 visit to Hyde Hall RHS Gardens	
	3 rd July	Parents Evening (more information to follow)	Parent/carers welcome
	10 th July	Conker Class Pirate Trip to Danbury Country Park (more information to follow)	
	11 th July	Year 6 Production at the Headgate Theatre (more information to follow)	Year 6 Parent/Carers welcome
Nov	1 st Nov	PTFA Fireworks Event (more information to follow)	All welcome



Marvellous Me is an opportunity for us to share the great work and amazing attitude that the children show daily in school. Access codes can be collected at the school office. Links to download the app on iOS or Android can be found here: <https://marvellousme.com/parents/>

Learning Characteristics

Taking Risk

Being Inquisitive

Making Links

Co-operation

Resilience

Reflecting

Christian Values

Thankfulness

Responsibility

Compassion

Faith

Forgiveness

Hope

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

SNAP STREAK
97
DAYS

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

Essex County Council School Term and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - Academic Year 2025-2026

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							December 2025						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
									1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				
29	30																										

January 2026							February 2026							March 2026							April 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30					
														30	31												

May 2026							June 2026							July 2026							August 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5							1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31									
																				31							

- ☐ = Schooldays
- ☐ = School holidays
- ☐ = Bank holidays
- ☐ = Weekends
- ☐ = School INSET

Come to Tiptree Community Hub!

At Tiptree Community Hub, we are all about reducing waste, supporting families, and bringing our community together!

Our mission is simple: STOP good food from going to landfill and make it available to those who need it.

In the past two years, we've saved over **fifty tonnes** of food, helping households save money while tackling food waste.

Each time you visit and for just **£2**, you can fill a basket with surplus food, plus you can have **four larder items, two freezer items, and six eggs** — a small contribution that helps us keep the hub running while making food affordable for everyone.

But we don't stop at food! We also run a **free school uniform bank**, collecting, recycling, and reusing uniforms to support local families and reduce clothing waste.

Everyone is welcome, so come along, grab a basket, and be part of something amazing! Together, we are making Tiptree and the surrounding villages a greener, more connected community.

Tiptree Community Hub Unit4 ,20 Station Road, Tiptree CO5 0AD 07493 722427



Help Us Choose Our Next School Project

All ideas are welcome!

New playground markings

Outdoor improvements

Exciting experiences

An onsite defibrillator (AED)

Well-being initiatives

Indoor enhancements

well-being resources

Drop your ideas
in the post box
by 3rd April

A sensory garden

Opal: playtime program

outdoor equipment, or nature projects

visiting authors or guest speakers

New playground equipment

Let's Make a Difference—Together!

