

**OUR VISION**  
RESPECT HONESTY  
LOVE

We are an inclusive, aspirational school that  
builds a kind and resilient community.



**Holy Trinity  
C of E (VC)  
Primary School**

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The Church of England  
in Essex and East London  
Diocese of Chelmsford



Association  
Character Education  
Member



**13th December 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

This time of year must be the most-heartwarming, yet busiest times in primary schools! Glitter and tinsel adorns our classrooms and festive music and singing can be heard everywhere. It really is magical!

A big congratulations goes to our Year 6 enterprise teams who did a sterling job in raising money for the school in so many inventive ways. A particular mention must be given to the winning team, The Christmas Bananas, who raised £161.63!

Then we were treated to a delightful performance of Prickly Hay at the Empire Theatre by our younger Key Stage One and EYFS children. The children's hard work and dedication to learning their lines, songs, and actions were evident in every moment. They should all be incredibly proud of themselves!

Our Christmas service at St Andrew's Church was also a special time, lovely to join together to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with our Holy Trinity families. Thank you to all who joined us.

Recently, we have also had a toots performance in Year 3 that has been highly commended by parents and an art exhibition curated by Awesome Art Club. I was impressed by the wide range of different art media that the children showcased at the event.

My hard-working team and I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you Monday 6th January.

Kind regards,  
*S. Rowe*



**WINNER**

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## Give the #GiftOfMusic this Christmas!

For those children who have had Essex Music Service's Play-It! this term at our school, there's a special opportunity to continue their music through our Juniors programme at our Community Music Venue in Colchester (Saturday mornings) and/or Chelmsford (Tuesdays after school)!

Led by their expert staff, it's open to all children in Key Stage 2, and works as an excellent and happy follow-on from the classroom lessons in supporting and developing their musicianship in one of our local centres.

The Music Service's centres are busy, thriving places where children from the local area come together to sing, make music and friends, and take the next steps in becoming a well-rounded musician!

Each session is for 90 minutes, and costs £65 for 10 sessions per term (£6.50 a week). Additional funding has been put into the Juniors Programmes to make sure that as many as possible can continue to develop their music-making and -learning both in and out of school with others.

To register please follow this link, select your chosen Venue, and then click 'Register your interest', and select 'Junior Programme': <https://www.essexmusicservice.org.uk/site/parents-carers/making-music-near-you>.



Wildcat Class sang Christmas carols to our friends in France in English and they sang Winter Wonderland to us in French.

They also opened the parcel of Christmas cards that we posted to them- our children were so excited to see the parcel that we had posted had arrived!

### Secondary School Admissions

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round opened on Thursday 12 September 2024 for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2025.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 31 October 2024.

Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions). 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

Please see the secondary school's website for further details on their open days.

### Primary School Admissions

Applications for primary school places are open until 15th January 2025.



CALENDAR DATES - <https://www.essexmusicservice.org.uk/site/parents-carers/making-music-near-you> & APP  
NEW DATES ARE HIGHLIGHTED AND IN BOLD

Autumn Term and Spring Term Dates (Further dates will be added soon)

17.12.2024	Christmas Service KS2 in church 1.45pm
19.12.2024	Christmas Film at the Empire Theatre
20.12.2024	<b>Non Pupil Day</b>
21.12.2024	Christmas holidays
06.01.2025	Term starts
07.01.2025	Open Morning for new intake 2025
17.01.2025	Musical theatre workshops
20.01.2025	Year 5 focus day Martin Luther King Jr Day
11.02.2025	Safer Internet Day
07.02.2025	PTFA disco
17.02.2025	Half term holiday (1 week)
20.02.2025	Year 6 focus day World Social Justice Day
06.03.2025	World Book Day
07.04.2025	Easter holidays (2 weeks)

All term dates, and INSET days for 2024/25 can be found at [www.https://www.essexmusicservice.org.uk/site/parents-carers/making-music-near-you](https://www.essexmusicservice.org.uk/site/parents-carers/making-music-near-you)

Introducing our **NEW wraparound** for September

# LITTLE TREASURES

Wraparound and After School clubs

**ALL WELCOME**  
Come and join us  
7.45 - 8.45 and 3.15 - 4.15  
And longer hours once fully registered

Email us on [littletreasures.ht@outlook.com](mailto:littletreasures.ht@outlook.com) to register and secure your place

Play Fun. Explore

£5.50 AN HOUR AND ALL CHILDREN RECEIVE BREAKFAST OR SNACK AND A DRINK

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During the ten weeks of art club we have achieved and learnt so much together including; clay modelling, paper collage, ink printing, observational drawing and we even made bowls using fabric. The results were inspiring and their growth over the ten weeks was undeniable. I would like to thank all of my Art club artists for their efforts and creativity over the 10 weeks of art club. All of their fabulous creations were displayed and admired by the artists' families during our open Art gallery event. It was great to share and celebrate such amazing creative talent, especially with a mince pie! Mrs Kemp



**YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY**

**HT PS**

**WE'VE LAUNCHED A LOTTERY**

Buy your tickets now to help our fundraising

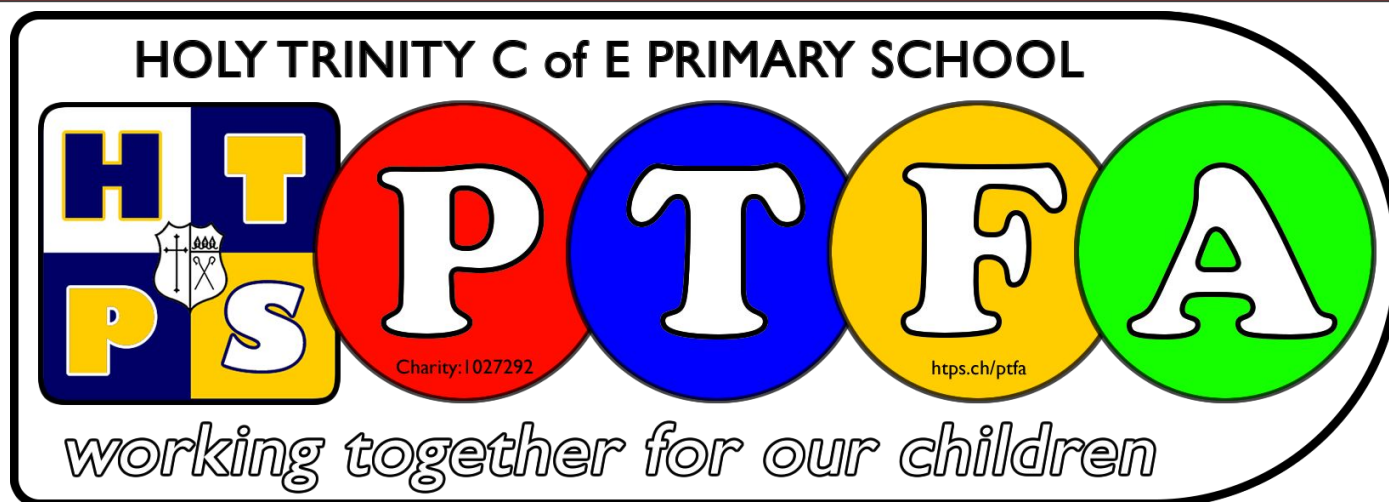
- Tickets cost just £1
- All profits go to our school
- Local cash prize every week
- Chance to win the £25,000 jackpot!

To start supporting, visit:  
[yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://yourschoollottery.co.uk)  
 and search for: Holy Trinity

GambleAware 18+

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It's Christmas!!!! The PTFA have been in the Christmas spirit this half term, organising lots of Christmas events and activities. We have a few PTFA sponsored events still to come.

Dates for your diary:

**Wednesday 18th December 2024** - Santa is coming to school, to visit the children and give them each a selection box.

**Thursday 19th December 2024** - The PTFA have sponsored a whole school trip to watch 'Polar Express' at the Empire. Christmas Bazaar:

We would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to all of you that attended and supported the Christmas Bazaar this year, and to all of those that volunteered to help at the Bazaar or donated a raffle prize.

**The Christmas Bazaar raised a grand total of, £1967.76, a fantastic amount!**

We would also like to thank all of the parents and guardians who purchased Christmas cards, mugs, bears, tea towels etc, from class fundraising. Through your orders we have further raised an estimated £160, though this is to be confirmed.

Where does the money we raise go?

The money we raise through our events allows us to fund different projects and activities throughout the school, enhancing our children's daily school experience. This week the PTFA wanted to spread Christmas cheer. With help from Santa's Christmas elves, we purchased tablecloths, Christmas cups and serviettes, to make this year's Christmas dinner extra festive.

This term we have provided new games for playtime, such as building blocks, skittles and a giant snakes and ladders board. We have also been working with the school to enhance the forest school area, providing a new sign to help each child learn more about nature. Year 3's Bee Byway is still under construction, however the PTFA have purchased a beautiful signpost for this area.

What's coming up?

Moving into the new year we are hoping to host many exciting events. Alongside the next school disco, we are in the planning stages of a wellbeing event and a much anticipated quiz night.

We would warmly welcome anyone who would like to join our PTFA meetings or team, to help with fundraising ideas and upcoming events. If you have any questions or would like to join, please email us on [ptfa@holytrintyhalstead.com](mailto:ptfa@holytrintyhalstead.com).

**The PTFA Team**

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Merry Christmas



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Manners Medals



Kindness Cup



Year 3 has been lucky enough to learn how to play the 'Toot'. This was a fun and engaging way for the children to learn basic music skills while playing a simple wind instrument. The toot is a small, plastic instrument that combines the elements of a recorder and a flute. During the lessons, the children were able to explore how to produce clear notes, practice simple melodies and develop their understanding of rhythm and pitch. The toot lessons provided a great introduction to music, helped build confidence and fostered a love for playing an instrument. The lessons culminated in a performance for the Year 3 families. Wildcats, you were magnificent!



**IT'S GOOD TO TALK**

CHILDLINE 0800 1111  
 MIND 0300 123 3393  
 SAMARITANS 116 123  
 CITIZENS ADVICE 0800 144 8848  
 NHS DIRECT 111  
 Text 'SHOUT' to 85258  
 CALM 0800 58 58 58

**WORSHIP THEME:  
 The Birth of Christ**

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**John 3:16**

**Workshops**

**the MAZE Group**

We are offering **FREE** monthly workshops for parents/carers of children with **SEND/additional needs** in northeast Essex at Mistley Village Hall on:

- 7.10.24 - Sensory processing with Monette Dormant
- 4.11.24 - EHCNA request with Families InFocus
- 2.12.24 - Sensory processing with Monette Dormant
- 6.1.25 - DLA/PIP with DAWN Support
- 3.2.25 - Refusal to assess with Families InFocus
- 3.3.25 - FIF workshop (topic tbc)
- 12.5.25 - Sensory processing with Monette Dormant
- 2.6.25 - Transitions with Families InFocus
- 7.7.25 - Sensory processing with Monette Dormant

Booking via Eventbrite.

For more information and booking, follow us on Facebook and see our website:  
[www.themazegroup.co.uk/coffee\\_morning](http://www.themazegroup.co.uk/coffee_morning)

**VISIT OUR WARM AND WELCOMING SCHOOL**

**SCHOOL TOUR**  
 Tour with School Council representatives.

**MEET THE TEAM**  
 Meet members of EYFS setting.

**HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION**  
 Find out about the school's offer and future plans.

**Open Days**

**GOOD**

Due to demand  
 extra open day  
 7th January  
 Bookings Open  
 Now

**FIND OUT WHAT LEARNING IS ALL ABOUT DURING OUR SCHOOL OPEN DAYS!**

**GET IN TOUCH**

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[www.holytrinityhalstead.com](http://www.holytrinityhalstead.com)  
[admin@holyltrinityhalstead.com](mailto:admin@holyltrinityhalstead.com)