

OUR VISION

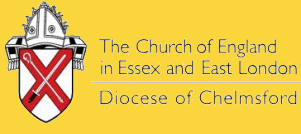
We are an inclusive, aspirational school that builds a kind and resilient community.

RESPECT HONESTY LOVE



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

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admin@holytrinityhalstead.com
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https://ch/ool



Friday 27th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful term it has been. The past few weeks have been especially joyful, with our Easter services providing uplifting moments for all who attended. Visitors commented on the children's excellent behaviour and their thoughtful, wholehearted participation in the church.

The hatching of our Easter chicks has also brought great excitement across the school, helping to reinforce the true meaning of Easter for Christians - a celebration of new life and hope.

We have ended the term on a high note with our annual PTA Easter egg hunt, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. This term has been full of memorable experiences, including the Toots performance, the Rock Steady concert, World Water Day led by Comet Class, Book Cafés, and a range of sporting competitions, alongside our rich day-to-day learning.

As we look ahead to next term, please take note of the new diary dates included in this letter. We are also inviting expressions of interest from anyone who may wish to join our governing body - further details can be found below.

Finally, we say a fond farewell to Mrs Jones, one of our valued teaching assistants, who is leaving to take on a new role. We thank her sincerely for her dedication and support for the children at Holy Trinity; she will be greatly missed, and we wish her every success in the future.

Wishing you all a happy and restful Easter break from all of us at Holy Trinity.

S. Rowe



Manners and Kindness Cup Winners



May the spirit of Easter fill your home with love, happiness, and blessings.

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INFORMATION PAGE BY HOLY TRINITY GOVERNORS

School Governors' BIO



I am Daniel Williams, Chair of Governors at HTPS, and have lived in the local community for over ten years. I have a son who previously attended the school and a daughter currently in Year 5, both of whom have thrived at HTPS.

I am married to a teacher, which gives me insight into the challenges and rewards of working in education. Professionally, I am a Principal Engineer at National Highways in the East Region, managing electrical supplies to roadside assets and delivering technology projects across the strategic road network.

While I am not at school drop-off and pick-up as often as I once was, I remain approachable and engaged in the school community. Should you see me at HTPS, please feel free to speak with me regarding any questions, feedback, or positive experiences. I can also be contacted directly if needed at dwilliams@governors.htps.ch

THE ROLE OF GOVERNORS IN SCHOOL

We thought you might like to know about the role of the school's governing body and what we actually do 'behind the scenes' to support your children's education.

The short answer is that school governors are volunteers from our community including parents, staff and local residents who work together to ensure the school is run effectively and that every child receives the best possible education.

So, what do we do? Our role is strategic not operational. While the Headteacher and staff run the school on a day to day basis governors focus on three key functions:-

- **The vision** – working with school leaders to define the school's long term goals, values and strategy.
- **Accountability** – we act as a "critical friend", supporting the Headteacher but also asking challenging questions to ensure the best possible standards of teaching and pupil progress.
- **Budgetary oversight** – we oversee the school's budget ensuring the money available to the school is spent wisely on things that will have the most positive impact on our pupils.

What don't we do?

- We don't run the school day to day – we don't make decisions about individual classroom issues, teacher placements or specific pupil issues.
- We aren't the PTA – we don't focus on fundraising; our focus is on the school's overall performance and governance.

Think you might be interested in becoming a governor at our school?

Please contact Mrs S Rowe or Mr D Williams for further information.



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Dear Parents,

I am writing to invite you to consider joining the HTPS Governing Board. As our school continues to develop and respond to the new Ofsted framework, we are strengthening our governing team to ensure a robust strategic oversight of the school.

In particular, we are looking for individuals with experience or expertise in IT and web-based systems, or finance, whose knowledge and insight would make a valuable contribution to our governing board. However, all candidates from the community are very welcome. Strengthening our team in these areas will help ensure our governance continues to develop and that we are well prepared to meet the expectations of the new Ofsted framework. This opportunity extends beyond parents, so if there are family members or colleagues who might be interested, please feel free to discuss it with them.

The role is voluntary but highly rewarding and as Governors we typically attend one full governing board meeting per term, one finance meeting per term, and may take part in focused monitoring visits.

I would be delighted to speak with you further about the role and what being a governor involves. Please do not hesitate to contact me or the school if you would like more information in supporting the school in this important way.

Yours Sincerely,

Daniel Williams

Chair of Governors

Building Futures Together for Every Child



HTPS
GOVERNORS

RESPECT.

HONESTY.

LOVE.

OUR VISION
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WORSHIP THEME EASTER

"He is not here; He has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."

Matthew 28:6

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The Three Saints Church Services

Sunday 29 March 10.30am 3 Saints service for Palm Sunday – St Andrew's

Thursday 2 April 10am Maundy Holy Communion – St Andrew's

7.30pm Holy Communion with Hand Washing – St Catherine's

Friday 3 April 12noon An Hour at the Cross – St James'

1pm An Hour at the Cross – St Catherine's

5pm Tenebrae - St Andrew's

Sunday 5 April 5.45am Dawn Holy Communion – St Andrew's

10am Holy Communion - St James'

10.30am Holy Communion – St Catherine's

10.30am Holy Communion – St Andrew's

Sunday 12 April 10am Team Service – St Andrew's, Earls Colne



Craft and Christ

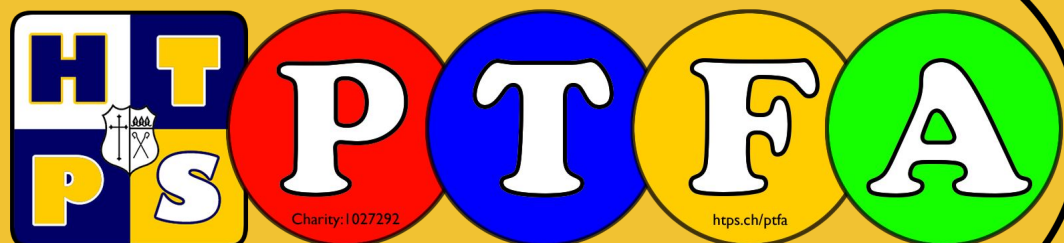
St Andrew's Church, Halstead

11am – 12:30pm

A series of themed events with activities, refreshments and conversation. Suitable for all ages.

30 May	Pentecost
25 July	Summer Fun
29 August	Environment
31 October	All Hallows – Light Celebration
2027	
13 February	God's Love
10 April	Easter

HOLY TRINITY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



working together for our children

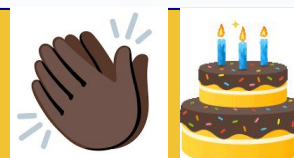


The children were delighted to receive a special visit from the Easter Bunny! Everyone had great fun taking part in the egg hunt and exchanging their finds for a chocolate treat. We hope you all enjoy them.

After the half term break, we will be stepping up our preparations for the summer fête. As part of this, we will be seeking donations for our raffle. We would be very grateful for any new items such as gift sets, boxes of chocolates or vouchers. All donors will be acknowledged in the newsletter and on our Facebook page, so if the company you work for would appreciate a mention, please do encourage them to support us.

Every penny raised by the PTA goes directly back into supporting our school community—whether that's providing treats like the Easter eggs or funding memorable experiences for the children, such as workshops from organisations like West End in Schools.

We have some exciting plans ahead, so please watch this space!



So far we have raised £1275 for new books from our recent sponsored event from World Book Day!!

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ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Minutes lost per day

5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes	25 minutes
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equates to a yearly loss of:

3 days lost	6.5 days lost	10 days lost	13 days lost	19 days lost
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Five minutes late per day adds up to three learning days lost in a school year
If 15 minutes late each day you will miss two full weeks of school in one year

Where does your child sit on the attendance mountain?

- Excellent** 100% attendance
- Good** 98% attendance = 48% attendance = Four whole days absent in the school year and 20 hours of lost learning
- Cause for concern** 95% attendance = 9.5 whole days absent in the school year and 47.5 hours of lost learning
- Unsatisfactory** 90% attendance = 10 whole days absent in the school year and 50 hours of lost learning
- Critical** Less than 85% attendance = 28.5 whole days absent in the school year and 142.5 hours of lost learning

- CALENDAR DATES - <https://ch/calendar> & APP
- 30.03.2026 Easter holidays start
 - 13.04.2026 Summer term starts
 - 22.04.2026 KS1 Earth Day
 - 01.05.2026 Non-Pupil Day
 - 07.05.2026 School Closed for Polling Day
 - 11.05.2026 Year 6 SATs test week
 - 15.05.2026 Year 6 Bowling Trip
 - 25.05.2026 Half Term holidays start (1 week)
 - 01.06.2026 Term starts
 - 01.06.2026 Year 4 Multiplication Tables Checks
 - 11.06.2026 New reception intake 'Stay and Play' sessions.
 - 15.06.2026 School class photos
 - 17.06.2026 Sports Day (KS1 AM and KS2 PM)
 - 22.06.2026 Reserve Sports Day
 - 23.06.2026 Food and Farming Day
 - 29.06.2026 Multicultural Arts Week

All term dates, and INSET days for 2026 / 27 can be found on the Piota app.

Poor timekeeping means less chance of success!

STAR CLASS	CL	97.5%
TITAN CLASS	DR	94.5%
APOLLO CLASS	JT	95.4%
ZODIAC CLASS	MR	94.5%
SUPERNOVA CLASS	NN	95.4%
COMET CLASS	SD	93.7%
NEBULA CLASS	ST	95.9%

Essex national average for attendance is 95.3% and schools are expected to be at or above this figure. Well done to **Star Class, Apollo Class, Supernova Class and Nebula Class** who have data above this threshold this term. In every class a child will be given a certificate for high attendance rates and for improving attendance. Please support us in improving Holy Trinity attendance rates where possible.

Data does not include pupils on part-time timetables or children under 5.

Free spaces for eligible children can be booked with their emailed HolidayActivities voucher code

Essex Music Service is excited to offer **free** music holiday club spaces through Essex ActivAte (the government-funded Holiday Activity and Food programme). Sessions will run in Basildon, Tendring and Chelmsford for secondary school children aged 11-16, and no musical experience is needed. Choose from the following activities - Rock Band from Scratch, Singing for Fun, DJ, Samba, Songwriting.



Free mental health support for children and families

Learn about what we do in your community:

- Community outreach workshops
- Early intervention therapy support
- School engagement programmes

Email communityengagement@kidsinspire.org.uk

Our current areas are Essex, Ipswich and West Suffolk.

Scan for more info:

Kids Inspire
Therapy opportunity. Not a cure.

Year 2 Pizza Making in Design and Technology

Year 1 Weighing and Measuring In Maths

Well done to both our basketball team and hockey team who took part recently in tournaments against local schools. In both competitions Holy Trinity came second by the finest of margins. All of our children were complimented for representing the school well.



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