



Tonwell St Mary's CE (VC) Primary School

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Bridgman

'CURIOSITY, COURAGE, COMPASSION'



Friday 10th November 2023

Dear parents,

We have had a busy two weeks back at school.

Our new Christian values for the half term is 'LOVE'. Children have been reflecting on people in their lives who are special to them and also what love means to them. We have been reflecting on the bible verse 'Love your neighbour as yourself' in collective worship times.

A huge well done to Angel-Rose, Ellis and Rhemy who competed in the Hertford and Ware Sports Partnership cross country event at Haileybury School last week. I was so impressed with their grit and resilience to complete the course with all of them placing well.

Next week is national Anti-Bullying Week. Awareness of bullying is something that we talk about regularly with children and cover within our curriculum. The theme for this year is 'Make a Noise about Bullying'. Children will have special assemblies and lessons in PSHE. Children are encouraged to wear odd socks to school on Monday 13th November to celebrate difference.

We will be celebrating Children in Need on Friday 17th November. School council have voted for children to have a non-uniform day and a film with popcorn for part of Friday afternoon.

Congratulations to Mrs Harrison who will be retiring at the end of this term. Mrs Harrison is a brilliant teaching assistant and we will miss her.

Kind regards,

Mrs Bridgman

Dino workshop



We had a fossil hunt workshop with baby dinosaurs entertaining our children. There were large sandboxes, where the children located and identified fossils from some of the most iconic dinosaurs of the past. Tyrannosaurus Rex, Stegosaurus, Triceratops and a few other surprises are all thrown in. The children learned when each dinosaur lived, where they came from, what they ate and much more.



Winter Reads

This event is taking place at Hertfordshire Libraries between Saturday 4th November 2023 and Saturday 24th February 2024.

Winter Reads is a fun new reading challenge designed to brighten up the winter for all ages. To take part in Winter Reads you need to be a member of the library – it's free to join. You can then pick up your challenge card from staff at the desk.

A partner in the Thundridge and Tonwell St Mary's Church Schools' Federation

'A community learning together in God's love'



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Here's how you can complete the challenge:

Step 1: Put the numbers of your chosen challenges in the boxes on your challenge card.

Step 2: Once you have completed a challenge, date it and get it stamped by a member of staff or a library volunteer.

Step 3: Challenge completers will get a Winter Reads finishing certificate, while stocks last.



Just a few notes to add: All of the books you read as part of the challenge must be from Hertfordshire Libraries, this includes audio and eBooks from [BorrowBox](#).

The challenge is flexible! If you're not a big reader, one book can help you to complete multiple challenges or you can make it more difficult and complete one book per challenge - it's up to you!

You can get multiple challenges stamped at once. We recommend you complete the challenge within a minimum of 4 visits to the library.

Achievements

Back in June, Billie went for an audition for a production of the Little Mermaid. She attended rehearsals twice a week for three months and was able to light up the stage in two of the show's performances! Well done, Billie.



Childline

The new Childline website is now active. Childline is the UK's free 24-hour service for children and young people. Run by the NSPCC, Childline gives children and young people up to the age of 19 confidential support with whatever is worrying them. The website contains a mood journal, games, coping kit plus much more. <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Children in Need

Pudsey ears are available from the school office for £2.50.

Key Dates

Monday 13 th November	Wear Odd Socks for anti-bullying week
Tuesday 14 th November	Open the Book assembly 11.45am
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need (non-uniform for £1 donation)
Thursday 23 rd November	Planetarium workshop in school
Friday 1 st December	Occasional Day - school closed
Monday 4 th December	Whole school at the Every1in Sports festival
Tuesday 12 th December	Nativity at Holy Trinity 1.30pm (no afterschool club)
Tuesday 12 th December	Open the Book assembly 11.45am
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 19 th December	Pantomime at Spotlight Theatre 1.15pm
Wednesday 20 th December	End of term 1.15pm

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