

Tudor Court Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026



Issue Number 005



Inspire - Challenge - Succeed

School Contact Details

Enquires: 01375 480662

Website: www.tudorcourtprimary.com

Email: office@tudorcourtprimary.com

Message from the Deputy Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy and exciting spring term it has been! Although it has been a shorter term, we have certainly packed a great deal into it to make learning both memorable and enjoyable. Our children and staff have worked incredibly hard to ensure that learning, behaviour and personal development continue to be of a high standard across the school.

This term has been full of wonderful events and achievements. We enjoyed celebrating World Book Day, and it was fantastic to see so many of you at our Reading Café - thank you for joining us and sharing in the joy of reading with the children.

It was also lovely to see so many of you attend our parent consultation meetings this week. These opportunities to share your child's progress and work together are incredibly valuable, and we appreciate your time, support and engagement in your children's learning.

During British Science Week, children explored the theme "Curiosity: What's Your Question?" From our youngest learners investigating floating and sinking, to older pupils thinking about the possibility of life on Mars, the week was a brilliant celebration of curiosity, teamwork and scientific thinking.

We were also very fortunate to welcome Saffron Seven, an accomplished rhythmic gymnast, British Champion and Commonwealth Games bronze medallist, who led the children through sponsored circuit sessions. The energy and enthusiasm shown by the children was fantastic to see!

We are incredibly proud of all the children who took part in the Poetry and Mathletics competitions. We are delighted to share that both our Year 2 Large Group and Year 3/4 Large Group progressed to the finals held on 19th March.

A special congratulations to our Year 3/4 team, who were the overall winners - a fantastic achievement! Our Year 5 Mathletics team also worked extremely hard and achieved an impressive 8th place out of 21 Thurrock schools.

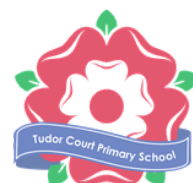
We ended the term on a high with three wonderful Year 4 Easter assemblies from Classes 15, 16 and 17. I am sure everyone who attended would agree that the performances were of a very high standard. It was a lovely way to bring the school together and get everyone into the Easter spirit.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a scooter-free school site. As the weather becomes warmer, we still encourage children to walk or ride scooters to school; however, scooters must be dismounted outside the school gates in the designated areas. Our playgrounds are very busy, and this helps us ensure everyone stays safe.

Finally, I would like to congratulate our staff, pupils and parents for their continued dedication and hard work this term. Your support and commitment make our school such a positive and thriving community.

Debra Nemhara

Deputy Head teacher



What's been going on in school this half term?



Nursery

In Nursery, we have been stepping into a magical world of stories and maths through traditional tales such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Three Little Pigs, and The Gingerbread Man. These stories have supported the children in exploring the number 3, as they counted pigs, bears, and bowls of porridge, while also developing their understanding of size through “small”, “medium”, and “big”.

Our little builders have been busy constructing bridges and strong houses to keep characters safe, while our young artists have enjoyed drawing challenges, carefully capturing the unique features of trolls and wolves.

To bring the stories to life, we used our senses to smell and taste ginger, describing its spicy scent and crunchy texture as we followed the Gingerbread Man's trail!

Reception

We have had a very busy and exciting half term. We began our new topic, 'Big Wide World', and particularly enjoyed exploring Google Earth, where the children looked for familiar landmarks in our local community. This helped develop their understanding of the world, as well as their confidence in talking about their own experiences.

It was fantastic to welcome so many parents into school for World Book Day. The children were so proud to have you in their classrooms and showed great enthusiasm, developing their speaking, listening, and love of reading.

During Science Week, the children explored what happened to seeds in different environments (Earth and the Moon). They showed real curiosity, making predictions, observing changes, and beginning to understand how things grow, while also developing their early recording skills.

With some warmer weather, the children had great fun creating waterways using guttering and ramps, showing fantastic problem-solving and teamwork. They also built obstacle courses using tyres and crates, developing their strength, coordination, and resilience.

Well done, Reception – we are so proud of all of you!

Year 1

It has been another busy and exciting half term in Year 1, filled with learning, discovery and fun.

We have begun our new History-focused topic, 'How do I get my name in the history books?'. The children started by exploring what makes a person historically significant, using statements from Dawson's Model to guide their thinking. They are enjoying learning about aviation pioneers, exploring their achievements and understanding how their ideas continue to influence the world today. We are very much looking forward to sharing this learning with you at our Year 1 Sharing Afternoon in May, as well as working together on our DT project, 'Mechanisms: Sliders and Levers'.

World Book Day was a wonderful celebration, centred around developing a love of reading. Using the story 'Frank and Bert: The One with the Missing Cookies' as our focus, the children designed their own t-shirts to wear on the day—an exciting way to begin the week. They made predictions, took part in hot seating as characters, and even baked their own chocolate chip cookies. It was a pleasure to share these with you during our Year 1 Starbooks Reading Café, and we thoroughly enjoyed welcoming you into our classrooms.

This half term also included British Science Week, where the children embraced their inner scientists. Through a range of investigations, they explored the question, 'How does curiosity help us discover how the world works?'. Highlights included testing which pegs, based on their materials, were most effective at keeping washing on a line and considering whether it would be possible to grow food on the moon.

We are incredibly proud of all the children's achievements this half term and are excited to continue our learning journey in the next. Please continue to support your child at home through regular reading and practising their Common Exception Words.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. We wish you a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

Year 2

It has been a wonderfully busy and fun-filled half term, with so many memorable moments for the children to enjoy and learn from.

We began by celebrating World Book Day, which brought a real buzz of excitement to our classroom. One of the highlights was our Reading Café, where the children had the opportunity to share a book and a biscuit with their grown-ups. It was a lovely way to celebrate reading together and to see the children so excited to share their favourite stories. As part of the celebrations, the children also designed their own T-shirts inspired by their favourite book covers—showcasing fantastic creativity and a real love of reading. We also introduced buddy reading with Year 6, which has been a wonderful experience for all involved, helping to build confidence and a strong sense of community.

In our topic work, we have begun an exciting new unit on the Great Fire of London, exploring the critical question: What was great about the Great Fire of London? The children have been thoroughly engaged, learning about the key events and important figures involved. They especially enjoyed bringing history to life by re-enacting how people worked together to put out the fire, forming an assembly line to pass buckets of water—just as they would have done in 1666.

During Science Week, the children embraced their roles as young investigators with great enthusiasm. They carried out two exciting investigations: first, exploring whether the shape of fruit affects its taste—concluding that there was very little difference! They then put their design and problem-solving skills to the test by creating paper aeroplanes, aiming to build the one that could fly the furthest. It was fantastic to see their curiosity, teamwork and resilience throughout these activities.

Alongside all of this, the children also completed Assessment Week. We were incredibly impressed with the maturity and determination they showed, approaching each task with focus and a positive attitude. They handled the week with great resilience and should feel very proud of their efforts.

We are incredibly proud of how hard the children have worked. They have shown great enthusiasm, and embraced every opportunity to learn. They truly deserve a well-earned rest over the Easter break.

We hope you all enjoy the season. Happy Easter!



Year 3

How quickly have the past 5 weeks flown by?

Year 3 had a super Book Week, where they had the opportunity to look at a wide range of books, give presentations about a family member's favourite book and a share book with their buddy reader in Year 5. In addition to this, children have started to record stories on Garage Band, adding sound effects.

They also loved exploring the enquiry question, 'How do birds build their nests' as part of Science week. As part of this exploration the children gathered twigs and leaves and then created their own birds' nests. These were then tested against wind and rain to see if they could withstand a storm.

In English, the children have been writing about The Blue Umbrella, we are so proud of how creative their writing has been and can see so much improvement in their language choices and sentence structure.

As part of our maths curriculum, children have been working on their 4 and 8 times tables and learning to tell the time- both skills that we hope they will continue to practise and gain confidence.

We wish you a wonderful Easter holiday- enjoy the chocolate and time together with your wonderful children.



Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic and busy half term filled with exciting learning opportunities. We dived back into history with our new topic on Ancient Greece, exploring its influence on the modern world. The children also took part in an engaging Greek workshop, where they learned about daily life in Ancient Greece, enjoyed performance drama and even created their own Greek pottery.

In science, pupils are exploring the topic of sound and also enthusiastically participated in British Science Week. They designed and tested paper aeroplanes, investigating which creations could fly the fastest and travel the furthest - a fun and competitive challenge!

We also thoroughly enjoyed celebrating World Book Day, focusing on author and illustrator Anthony Browne and his use of hidden messages within illustrations. The children loved hosting a special reading café for parents, sharing stories together in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

To finish the half term, Year 4 delivered an incredible Easter performance. Every class exceeded expectations and performed a remarkable show filled with wonderful singing and confident acting.

A brilliant half term was had by all in Year 4!



Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed a busy but fun-filled half term. The children have fully immersed themselves in our new topic, “*How have British monarchs’ powers changed over time?*” There have been many engaging discussions in the classroom and we are looking forward to continuing this topic after the break. World Book Day was a great success and the children thoroughly enjoyed having their adult read with them.

We would also like to congratulate our Athletics Team, who competed against 21 schools in Thurrock and achieved an impressive 8th place overall - we are extremely proud of them. The term ended with a visit from Saffron Severn, who won the title of Junior Rhythmic Gymnastics Champion for Great Britain in 2019. The children took part in a fun and energetic exercise session during her visit. It was lovely to meet with you during parents’ evenings this week and we thank you for your continued support.

We wish you a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break. Year 5 team.



Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy and exciting few weeks! We were thrilled to take the children to London to watch The Lion King theatre production. Their behaviour throughout the trip was exemplary, and they were a real credit to the school. The children thoroughly enjoyed the performance and were captivated by the music, costumes, and storytelling.

In the classroom, we have begun our new History unit on British Migration. The children have already shown great curiosity and are engaging thoughtfully with the topic as we explore how migration has shaped Britain over time. In Science, we have been learning about animal classification. The children were particularly surprised to discover that octopuses are classified as molluscs and that whales are mammals-just like humans!

With SATs approaching, the children have been working incredibly hard in their revision sessions this week. They are showing fantastic dedication and maturity, and we are very proud of their efforts. Finally, with the arrival of sunnier weather, we have been making the most of our PE lessons by learning to play rounders. The children have already begun an exciting inter-class tournament, demonstrating teamwork, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship. Well done, Year 6—keep up the excellent work!

School News

Houses

As the Spring term comes to end it is time to announce our winning house for this term...

Shakespeare House!

The children from this house will enjoyed an art based reward after the holiday.

The current running scores for this year are:

<i>Blanke</i>	<i>Francis</i>	<i>Shakespeare</i>	<i>Tudor</i>
54	39	62	56

End of Term Attendance Winners

Year	Class	Teacher	Number of wins this term
R	3	Mrs Lockett	9
1	7	Mrs Waller	16
2	10	Miss Lavinier	11
3	14	Mrs Goldsmith	12
4	17	Mrs Mehmud	10
5	19 & 20	Miss Comley/Mrs Freese	10
6	23	Mr Kais	14

SEND

This term we have worked alongside The Essex PINS project to access a range of training for all stakeholders in the schools. The training has provided opportunities for staff to find out more about Autism and Masking, Neurodiversity and Sleep, Emotional Based School Avoidance, Mental Health and Neurodiversity, Communication Strategies and Positive Playtimes. Staff have had the chance to access the Autism Reality Experience where a simulation provided the opportunity to see how people with autism might find everyday tasks. As part of the project, we have also offered 4 workshops for parents to develop an understanding of neurodiversity. The training this term has developed a deeper understanding in our staff to enable us to support children with a variety of neurodiverse needs.

We are working hard to continue to develop our nurture provisions and have now had confirmation that our sensory room and calm area will be installed in the Easter break. When the project is finished, the space will allow children from across the school to access these areas to regulate and focus.

Sports

A Huge congratulations to the boys football team who won their final league game of the season 2-1 at home to Stifford Clays! Well done to the year 3&4 children who competed in the Tag Rugby festival, winning 3, drawing 2 and losing only 1!

Another well done to all 17 year 3&4 children who competed in the indoor athletics event, securing multiple 1st and 2nd places in their events!

A final big well done to the year 5 boys who competed in a very tough Essex Schools Cross Country final race showing real determination and resilience!

Visit from an Athlete



This half term, we were incredibly fortunate to welcome one of Britain's outstanding athletes to our school. On Monday, we were joined by Saffron Seven, an accomplished Rhythmic Gymnast, British Champion, and Commonwealth Games Bronze medallist.

Saffron brought energy and excitement to the day as she led the children through their sponsored circuit sessions, which were both high-energy and great fun. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, with children encouraging and cheering one another on throughout.

During assemblies, Saffron spoke passionately about her journey in gymnastics, sharing not only her successes but also the challenges she has overcome along the way. Her honesty and determination were truly inspiring for everyone who listened. Most importantly, she left us with a powerful message that we can all carry with us:

I am resilient, brave and strong.



World Book Day



Earlier this month, we were delighted to celebrate World Book Day across the school. It was a wonderful week dedicated to immersing our children in the joy of reading, exploring a wide range of stories and expressing creativity.

Each year group took part in activities with a slightly different focus, all linked by our shared aim of celebrating and promoting a love of reading. Thanks to funds raised at previous Book Fairs, our School Councillors selected a range of new books, which are now available in the library and already proving popular with the children.

A particular highlight was seeing the children's book-themed T-shirts, which they designed and decorated themselves. It was fantastic to see their creativity on display as they proudly wore them on World Book Day.

We loved inviting parents in to our first Reading Café. It was lovely for the children to be able to share a story with you and to hear you reading to them too. This is something that we would like to host each term so if you have any feedback about this event to make it even better please drop an email to the office – office@tudorcourtprimary.com.

We encourage you to continue supporting reading at home by sharing stories together and inspiring your children to explore new books.

Our "Reading in an Interesting Place" competition was also a great success, with many imaginative entries. We saw children reading on top of sheds, perched on fridges, striking gymnastic poses and even in a submarine and an aeroplane cockpit! These photos will be displayed in school. Each year group has selected a winner, and the successful entrants were awarded a £10 Waterstones voucher, kindly donated by our PTA – Friends of Tudor Court. (FTCA)



Thurrock Performance Poetry Competition

We are incredibly proud of all the children who took part in the Thurrock Performance Poetry Competition heats. We had entries in every category from Year 2 through to Year 6, and the children showed remarkable dedication in learning and rehearsing their poems. Many gave up their own time at home and during lunchtimes to practise and their performances at the heats at Mossbourne Herd Lane Academy were outstanding.

We are pleased to share that both our Year 2 Large Group and Year 3/4 Large Group progressed to the finals, held on the evening of 19th March 2026.

Our Year 2 large group performed 'Night Noises' by Givase Phinn and was made up of:

Lily-Anne, Eric, Gabriela Amelia, Sophia, Jayla, Danya, Albie, Philip, Glory and Isla.

Our Year 3/4 group performed 'There's a Monster in the Garden' by D Harmer and was made up of:

Maisie, Meadow, Estelle, Iris, Mia, Fatima, Ariana, Lindsay and Maddie.

The standard of the competition was extremely high, and all performers demonstrated impressive confidence and clarity in their delivery. We are especially delighted to announce that our Year 3/4 Large Group were winners in the final.

Well done to all of our performers—we are immensely proud of you. We would also like to thank the staff who generously gave their time to prepare the children and support them throughout the competition.



Rocksteady

We have been thrilled with the fantastic response to our music lessons! Following our recent Rocksteady launch assembly, excitement has been building across the school, and it's been wonderful to see so many children inspired to get involved.

Due to this high demand, we are now pleased to offer additional afternoon sessions alongside our morning lessons.

Our current students have been thoroughly enjoying their sessions, learning to play the drums, keyboard, and electric guitar. One child summed it up perfectly:

"I feel like a rockstar!"

An Unforgettable Young Voices Experience!



On 24th February our amazing choir had the incredible opportunity to attend Young Voices 2026 at the O2 Arena. They were part of a spectacular choir of over 8,000 children!

Throughout the day, the children sang, danced, and gave it their all during both the rehearsal and the evening performance—we're still not sure how they found the energy! Their enthusiasm and dedication were truly inspiring.

Some of their favourite songs this year included There's No Such Thing as Normal around Here, Power in Me, the Wicked Medley, and Disco Fever. It was a joyful and unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

They had such a fantastic time that we are thrilled to share we have already signed up for Young Voices 2027!

British Science Week

As you are aware, the children have recently celebrated British Science Week. This year's theme, *"Curiosity: What's Your Question?"*, inspired our children to think deeply, ask meaningful questions, and explore the world around them through investigation and discovery. Our youngest children embraced the theme with great enthusiasm, asking a wide range of imaginative and thoughtful questions. They explored ideas such as which objects float and sink, and even considered whether it might be possible to grow food on the Moon. Others explored practical, everyday questions like which pegs are most effective at keeping washing on the line, while others investigated how birds build their nests. There were also some fascinating discussions about whether the way food looks can change how it tastes, leading to some surprising conclusions!

Our older children explored whether humans could live on Mars and investigated how scientists monitor the Earth from space. These inquiries encouraged them to think critically about the future and the role of science in understanding our planet and beyond.

Many children also took part in our exciting House Challenge. Pupils worked collaboratively, earning valuable house points through their scientific efforts and teamwork. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and determination across all year groups. We are proud to celebrate all of this learning on a special display board in school, showcasing the children's questions, investigations, and discoveries from the week.



TUDOR TREASURES BREAKFAST & AFTERSCHOOL CLUB RECEPTION TO YEAR 6

SIBLING DISCOUNTS OFFERED
PAY AS YOU GO – JUST BOOK BY 6PM THE DAY BEFORE

**Breakfast Club – Start the day
with a smile**

7.30am – 8.40am
£6.00 per session

- Healthy breakfast in a friendly, sociable setting
- Daily choices include cereal, toast, fruit & juice
- “Treat Fridays” – crumpets, croissants & more!
- Fun activities and time to play with friends

**Afterschool Club – A fun, safe place
after school**

3.00pm – 6.00pm
From £5.00 per session

- Wide range of indoor and outdoor activities
- Opportunity to socialise with friends afterschool
- Light meal served daily
- Fruit squash with food

Contact Us:

tudortreasures@tudorcourtprimary.com

Mobile: 07542 605936



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats enable multiple users to message in the same space, but this can also make it easier for young people to feel excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and young people may feel pressure to respond or stay engaged even when the conversation is uncomfortable or upsetting.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers are increasingly using WhatsApp to trick users into sharing personal information. Common scams include fraudsters posing as family members in an emergency or tricking users into revealing security codes. These can lead to identity theft or access to private conversations.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp offers features like disappearing messages and 'Chat Lock', which can give users a false sense of security. While intended to protect privacy, they can be used by young users to hide inappropriate conversations or content, making it harder for adults to spot potential issues.

EXPOSURE THROUGH CHANNELS

'Channels' are an optional feature that allows users to follow updates from public figures or organisations; however, there is no way to block this feature or filter its content by age. Young users may encounter adult or distressing content, including misinformation and harmful ideologies.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp users can share their live location, and if not managed carefully, this can allow others – even those in mutual groups – to track someone's whereabouts. Also, without the right privacy settings, young users may be contacted by strangers.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp now includes ads in the 'Updates' feed and has introduced an AI assistant – Meta AI – across the app, which cannot be removed. These additions raise concerns about targeting, privacy, AI use, and the type of content children and young people might interact with.

...ONLINE...

ONLINE

SECRET CODE

Advice for Parents & Educators

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Help young users check who can see their profile photo, status, and location. Activate the 'Silence Unknown Callers' setting and set group chat invitations to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...' for added safety.

BE OPEN ABOUT HIDDEN CHATS

Discuss why children and young people might use features like disappearing messages or 'Chat Lock'. Encourage them to share if something made them uncomfortable, even if the messages are gone. Let them know that privacy should not mean secrecy.

TEACH HOW TO SPOT SCAMS

Encourage caution around unusual and unexpected messages, especially if they involve money or codes. Help young users understand the signs of scams and what to do if they receive a suspicious message. Enable two-step verification to add an extra layer of protection.

TALK ABOUT ADVERTISING AND AI

Explain that WhatsApp now includes ads and AI tools. Discuss the difference between genuine and sponsored content, and the potential for AI to share inaccurate or age-inappropriate responses. Encourage young users to think critically before trusting or interacting with these features.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.02.2026

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College