



## Inspire - Challenge - Succeed

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### Message from the Deputy Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and successful term, with thoughts now turning to the Christmas holidays and the excitement they bring, it is a good time to pause and reflect on all that has been achieved so far this academic year.

This half term marked the conclusion of our History focus cycle. It has been wonderful to see the range and quality of learning the children have been so eager to share, from enquiries such as "Why didn't my grandpa play on an Xbox?" to thoughtful work on the impact of World War II on family life. Year 6 also invited parents into school to be part of their learning, giving them the opportunity to see first-hand the children's enthusiasm, confidence and depth of understanding. All classes have now begun their Geography focus cycle, and we are already looking forward to seeing the outcomes of enquiry questions ranging from "What does local mean?" to "Why are rainforests so important?"

The second half of the autumn term has also been enriched by a wide range of trips and in-school workshops, providing valuable learning experiences beyond the classroom. A particular highlight has been our Christmas assemblies and performances, which have truly helped to set the festive mood across the school. In total, there have been eleven Christmas performances, and I am sure everyone who attended will agree that the children were absolutely fantastic. Their confidence, teamwork and joy were a pleasure to see.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the staff who worked tirelessly to prepare and support these performances, and an equally big thank you to you as parents and carers for helping the children learn their words, organise costumes and attend the events. These special occasions would not be possible without your continued support. Thank you also for your generous donations to our chosen charity, St Luke's Hospice. We are confident that your kindness will make a meaningful difference.

Some of you may already be aware that today marks Mr Cole's final day at Tudor Court. Mr Cole first joined us as a student teacher in 2017 and began his teaching career with us in 2019. During his time here, we have seen him grow into a highly skilled teacher and a valued member of our senior leadership team. He has made a significant contribution to our school and to the education and wellbeing of our children. Mr Cole has now been appointed Assistant Head Teacher at a school closer to home. While we will greatly miss his presence and contributions, we wish him every success and happiness in his new role.

As you know, Mr Kyriacou has been absent from school due to illness. I have remained in regular contact with him, and this has been a particularly difficult time of year for him. Thank you for your kind thoughts and messages of support. The children have also shown their care by sending messages and recording a video for him titled "While the Cat Is Away!", sharing some light-hearted moments from school to help lift his spirits.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your continued support throughout the term. On behalf of everyone at Tudor Court, I wish you and your families a wonderful, peaceful and restful Christmas holiday. We look forward to welcoming the children back on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January.

Debra Nemhara

Deputy Head teacher



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



## Nursery

The children finished the Autumn 1 term exploring our topic All About Me, where they enjoyed drawing self-portraits and began mark making or writing their names. During Autumn 2, the children continued their learning journey through some fabulous stories, including Meg and Mog, Owl Babies, and Stick Man. Owl Babies quickly became a firm favourite, inspiring the children to create puppets, go on winter walks to search for the characters, and confidently retell the story. As we prepared for Christmas, the children loved listening to Stick Man and learning how Stick Man helped Santa.

The term ended with a wonderful Stay and Play session, and it was a delight to watch the children proudly share their learning environment with their families. The children have also been fantastic at learning and performing Christmas songs, using Makaton signs alongside their singing. Nursery children, you make us so proud!

## Reception

The children have now completed their first learning cycle on Families, and they took great pleasure in sharing all about their own families while discovering what is the same and different in their friends' homes. We have since begun our new cycle on Celebrations, starting with Fred the Frog's birthday, where the children enjoyed making cards and joining in the fun. We have also begun our Christmas countdown and loved learning about how Christmas is celebrated around the world. The children have been amazing, confidently showing their learning skills by performing our Christmas Nativity story, learning Makaton signs, and singing new Christmas songs.

We have also had the pleasure of opening our very own EYFS library, and it has been wonderful to see the children choosing books and sharing a love of reading with their families. We are incredibly proud of all the children as they continue to learn new skills and gain knowledge every day.

## Year 1

Year 1 have had a fun packed half term. We finished our Cycle 1 'Why didn't my grandparents play with an X-box when they were little?' with a celebration of our learning during Year 1 Toy Dress Up Day. The children made their own toys which they then displayed in our class Toy Museum. They loved visiting the other classes to see what their friends had made and it was lovely to hear the positive feedback that they gave each other.

We have recently started Cycle 2 'What does local mean?' with the children already showing enthusiasm for geographical features that they see on their way to and around the school. They explored maps, learnt how they are used before drawing a map of their classroom and adding a key to show key features. Our half term has finished on a high with our Christmas production 'Boogie Woogie Nativity'. The children wowed us and the audience with their confidence, stage presence and signature dancing.

We are so proud of the children's achievements this half term and look forward to continuing our learning journey next half term. Please keep supporting their learning at home through regular reading and practising their Common Exception Words.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Year 2

In Year 2, the children have been full of excitement and curiosity! In Geography, the children have started their new cycle 'Why are maps, atlases and globes useful?' So far they have explored the world using maps and globes and contrasted the benefits of both. They thoroughly enjoyed creating their own polystyrene model of the Earth and used craft paper to represent land and water. In Science, they have been learning about offspring across different animal groups, asking thoughtful questions and making connections. In Writing, inspired by the BBC advert My Christmas Star, the children have been crafting their own imaginative endings, showing creativity and flair in their narratives. We are so proud of how the Year 2 children performed in their class Christmas play. The children were brimming with energy as they practiced for the past few weeks, delivery a lovely festive performance which we hope you all enjoyed.

We are so proud of the children's learning and progress this half term. Please continue supporting their reading and spelling at home using their Reading Logs and Oxford Owl, and by practising their Common Exception Words. Your ongoing support makes a real difference - thank you! We hope you all enjoy the Christmas season and a well-deserved break.

## Year 3

This half term Year 3 have continued to work hard, especially in English and produced some wonderful pieces of writing based on an animation entitled 'The Catch'. Several children were awarded with a Head Teacher Award for their imaginative writing.

As part of their history topic about prehistoric Britain, the children took part in a Stone Age workshop, where they were able to handle objects and complete some creative tasks in class too. The children really enjoyed the opportunity to apply their leaning from this topic into an interactive experience.

Other highlights this half term have included: making fossils in science, creating cave art on mod-roc and creating a water cycle diagram in geography.

Next half term, we will be having a big push on reading and encouraging all of Year 3 to develop positive reading habits and further developing their enjoyment of books. We are hoping parents will support this by regularly listening to their children read at home.



## Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic and very busy half term, demonstrating enthusiasm and excellent understanding across the curriculum. During the first part of the half term, the children completed their history topic on the Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. They impressed staff and visitors alike by confidently sharing their knowledge and learning when they hosted a history learning fair for the Year 3 pupils, showing great pride in their work.

The children have also eagerly begun their new geography topic, Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes. They have shown real curiosity about the natural world and are already becoming familiar with key geographical vocabulary and concepts linked to this exciting area of study.

In science, pupils explored the digestive system and took part in a memorable hands-on investigation using bananas and tights to represent the human digestion process, helping them to understand how food travels through the body. In art, Year 4 studied the Pop Art artist Andy Warhol and began to explore their creative side through printing, experimenting with colour and pattern inspired by his work.

The term concluded with the Christmas Enquiry, where pupils learned about a range of Christmas traditions from the UK and around the world. It was particularly lovely to hear the children share their own family traditions, including those from different cultures that were new to us all.

Please remember how important it is to continue enjoying reading at home, even over the winter break. We hope that whatever your plans are for the festive season and welcoming the New Year, you stay safe and enjoy spending time together as a family. See you in 2026!

## Year 5

Year 5 has had an incredibly busy and enjoyable half term. The children worked hard on writing their balanced arguments about the Benin Bronzes, which served as the final outcome for our Cycle 1 learning. We have now begun our Cycle 2 geography topic, "Where does our food come from?" and the children have embraced it with great enthusiasm and curiosity. In November, they visited the Civic Hall to learn about staying safe online, and during Road Safety Week they attended an important assembly focused on how to cross the road safely.

A true highlight of the term has been our Christmas production, Bah Humbug, where the children shone brightly and made us all extremely proud. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

## Year 6

This half term, Year 6 have impressed us with their enthusiasm and hard work across all areas of learning. We were delighted to welcome parents into school for a special sharing assembly, where pupils showcased their understanding of the impact of the Second World War on family life in Britain. Our visitors showed great competitive spirit during the Kahoot! quizzes the children had created to test their knowledge. The year group have also completed their mock SATs, and we are incredibly proud of how confidently and maturely they approached each assessment; the results will help us tailor upcoming English and maths lessons to their needs. Our new geography learning cycle is now well underway as we explore the question, 'Why are the rainforests so important?' Children should already be able to speak with confidence about the tropics and our trip to Kew Gardens brought this topic to life.

Finally, in the last week of term, the children will turn their attention to a Christmas enquiry, exploring both the origins of the tradition and the modern commercialisation of the festive season. We would like to wish you all a restful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in 2026.

## Mrs Seamark

Across the school, inclusion continues to be a main focus for all of our children and staff. We follow a Core Word Programme and have introduced this across the school. Each week children and staff in all classes have a word of the week to learn. The words focus on key language needed to support communication. Alongside the word of the week, children and staff learn a sign that accompanies this so that everyone can take part.

Work is continuing on our sensory room with the ambition to have this finished early in the new year as a space for all children to be able to access as part of their provision.

# School News

## Christmas Bazaar



Our Annual Christmas Bazaar was a great success! The children enjoyed games, raffles, crafts, food and Elf stories. Thank you to everyone who supported the event – we raised an amazing £3,000!

A festive sweet will be given to all children after school on Friday, kindly donated by the Friends of Tudor Court Association.

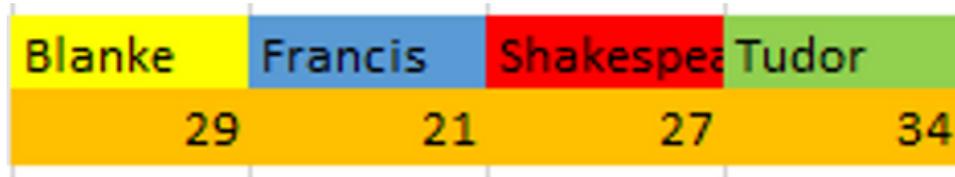
## Book Fair

Our recent book fair was also a great success raising £762 which equates to £305 to spend on new books for our library. This will be added to the previous fair's takings which will be just over £1000 to spend on new books for our library. The School Council Representatives will be choosing the books based on their class recommendations.

# Houses

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December, we had our first house reward, which was won by Tudor house. Well done to everyone for working hard to earn house points this term.

Every week the winning house is awarded 4 points, second place 3 points, third has 2 points and fourth receives 1 point. This term's result is:



In total over 22,000 house points have been awarded across the school this term. Next term the running scores will reset to zero and the houses will compete for the Spring term award.

Further to supporting the new house system, our amazing house captains have each nominated a charity they wish to support for the year. The charities they have selected are:

Blanke house = The Rhythm Studio

Francis house = Water Aid

Shakespeare house = Graeae

Tudor house = The National Literacy Trust

So far they have collectively raised £138 from the charity raffle at the Christmas Fair. The winners of the raffle prizes were: Hudson (class 8), Tejan (class 23), Jada (class 15) and Daisy (class 22).



## End of Term Attendance Winners

Year	Class	Teacher	Number of wins this term
R	4	Ms Green	6
1	7	Mrs Waller	10
2	11	Mrs Payne	6
3	14	Mrs Goldsmith	7
4	15 & 16	Mrs Sukutiene / Mrs Field	5
5	20	Mrs Freese	5
6	23	Mr Cole	7

# Sports

A massive congratulations to the girls football team who have collected 5 points from their recent games scoring a very impressive 7 goals along the way. A big well done to Chloe, Italia, Blake, Thea, Poppy, Ella B, Phoebe, Nelly C, Emily D!

Also a huge congratulations to all those who took part in the Chelmsford cross country league. The first time Tudor court has ever competed in the race, with great determination shown from all scoring an amazing 2 top 20 positions from Thomas and Alfie!

Also a big well done to all of the boys who have represented the football team this half term who have earned 4 points with 5 goals scored along the way, with some playing their first ever games!

# Remembrance Day

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November, members of the school council joined the local community, Squadron 106 (Air Cadets) and other local primary school for a Remembrance Day service.

The children laid a wreath on behalf of Tudor Court, which was made by our talented school council representatives and some wonderful Year 5 children.

We would like to thank Warren Primary School for making us feel welcome and for providing refreshments for everyone after the service. We will now be making this events part of our yearly calendar.





# 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

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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TOY SCALPING, FAKES & SCAMS

Online scalping is when individuals or groups use automated software (bots) to bulk-buy high-demand items – such as gaming consoles, concert tickets, limited-edition trainers, or exclusive merchandise – with the intention of reselling them at vastly inflated prices. It's a fast-moving online trend that can frustrate young consumers and expose them to misleading practices or financial harm. As this unethical tactic grows, it's important to help children and young people understand how scalping works and how to navigate it responsibly.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### FINANCIAL PRESSURE AND MANIPULATION

Scalpers create artificial scarcity by buying up large quantities of stock before the public has a fair chance to purchase. This drives up demand and pushes prices to extreme levels. Young people may feel intense pressure to spend more than they can afford for fear of missing out entirely.

### EXPLOITATION OF FANDOMS

Scalping often targets popular releases with strong fan bases, knowing that loyal followers are emotionally invested. Children and young people may place huge value on owning certain items linked to their favourite artists, sports teams or games, making them more likely to accept unfair prices or questionable sellers.

### ACCESSING UNSAFE WEBSITES

In the rush to secure rare items, young people might click through to unverified sellers, online marketplaces with little consumer protection, or even sites designed specifically to harvest personal and financial data. This can expose them to fraud, malware, and identity theft.

### NORMALISING UNETHICAL BEHAVIOUR

Some influencers and online communities present scalping as a clever money-making scheme rather than an exploitative one. This can normalise dishonest behaviour and blur the line between legitimate business and opportunistic profiteering for younger audiences.

### RISK OF SCAMS OR COUNTERFEIT GOODS

Not every high-priced resale is legitimate. Fraudulent sellers may take payment for goods they never send, or ship counterfeit versions of branded items. In some cases, the product may look authentic in photos but turn out to be of poor quality or completely different from what was advertised.

### REINFORCING INEQUALITY

Scalping makes already expensive items even less accessible, particularly for lower-income families. Children may feel excluded from trends or shared experiences with friends if their family cannot meet the inflated prices, which can lead to feelings of isolation and disappointment.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### TALK ABOUT ONLINE FAIRNESS

Use scalping as an opportunity to discuss fairness, consumer ethics, and how some people exploit markets for profit. Encouraging children to think critically about whether they truly need an item – and at what cost – can help them make more considered decisions.

### ENCOURAGE PATIENCE OVER IMPULSE

Teach young people to wait for official restocks or future releases instead of paying over the odds. Many products come back into circulation, and patience can save significant amounts of money while reducing the likelihood of falling victim to scams.

### SUPPORT INFORMED PURCHASING

Show children how to check seller credentials, read independent reviews, and verify whether a site is secure before making any payment. Knowing how to spot red flags, such as unrealistic promises or missing contact details, can prevent costly mistakes.

### SET SPENDING BOUNDARIES

Establish clear rules for online spending, including limits on prepaid cards, gaming gift cards, and online wallets. Discuss the real-world value of money spent on digital or collector's items so children understand the long-term impact of their purchases.

### Meet Our Expert

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