

# Cann Hall Primary School

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**Executive Headteacher:**

Ross Silcock

**Head of School:**

Wendy Byrne



Friday 28th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

## Year 3 Reading Mornings

It was so lovely to welcome the Year 3 parents and carers into school to listen to the children read this week. If you have a child in **Year 4**, don't forget that you are invited to come into the classrooms next week between **8.30-8.45am**, to listen to them read. We look forward to seeing you.



## Learning Updates

This week **EYFS (and KS1)** had a visit from Night owls as part of their learning about Nocturnal animals. They listened well to the information about the different types of owls and loved watching them fly.



THE  
**COMPASS**  
PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS

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**3RW** have been learning different yoga poses in PE. They have been thinking about their core strength, balance and coordination to help them with the different positions. They worked in supportive partners to assist in some of these poses, as they were harder than they look!



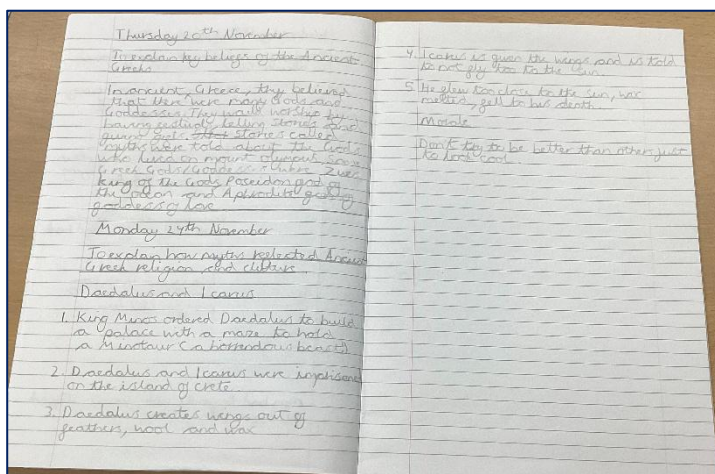
**4HH** starting to record some audio files for their podcasts in computing. They had to record each section of their podcast using their plan to help them and then edit the recordings and arrange them in the correct order.



**Year 6** have been studying Ancient Greece. Within our lessons, they have learnt about Gods and Goddesses through Greek Mythology. The stories can tell us a lot about how Greeks lived their lives and the beliefs they had. Each myth has a morale or key message within the too.

The main myth Year 6 focused on was: Daedalus and Icarus. A story of a father and son who are imprisoned on the island of Crete. The father, Daedalus, makes a set of wings for his son, Icarus. He attaches the wings with wax and Icarus begins to fly. His father advises him to not fly too close to the sun, but Icarus does not follow this advice and, unfortunately, the wax melts and he plummets into the sea never to be seen again!

Lots of discussion followed with the children who came to a consensus that following advice from those who are more knowledgeable or who have experience is a good idea!



## Christmas celebrations

Just a reminder that we sent out information on Monday 24<sup>th</sup>, outlining Christmas celebration details. If you have any questions, please speak to the class teacher. EYFS have sent out an additional letter detailing their Christmas fun afternoon.



## St John's Church

### Christmas Greetings from St. John's & St. Mark's



*this is very old...*



**Great Clacton  
Parish**



#### It is very old...

For hundreds of years Christians around the world have said the words on the front of this Christmas card – 'for us and for our salvation he came down from heaven'. They are words from the Nicene Creed, first written in the year 325 – which means it's 1700 years old this year. When St John's was built 900 years ago, it had already been around for 800 years! At first it was in Greek –

*τὸν δι' ἡμᾶς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους καὶ διὰ τὴν ἡμετέραν σωτηρίαν κατελθόντα ἐκ τῶν οὐρανῶν,*

but now it's said in many, many different languages by millions of Christians – and we say it together regularly at St John's and St Mark's (in English!) as part of our services. The Creed reminds us of what is central in the Christian faith – and this line tells us that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came into our world to show us everything we need to know about God, and to save us from our sins – it's what we especially remember in our Christmas services.

#### ...but it is more relevant than ever

Today our world often seems out of control, and many are looking for something that is old and deep and solid, something that has stood the test of time. Lots of people are turning back to the ancient truths, centred on Jesus, expressed in the words of the Creed – for of course, these truths are even older than the Nicene Creed itself. And once again this year at church, we'll be singing carols and reading the traditional Christmas story from the pages of the Bible, which tells us the old, old story – it's still true today – and it's bringing hope in this troubled world. So do come and join in. *Mark Mulryne (Vicar)*

#### St John's, Great Clacton & St Mark's, Lymington Avenue

##### EVERY SUNDAY MORNING throughout the year

|         |                 |              |
|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| 9am     | Morning Service | at St John's |
| 10.30am | Morning Worship | at St Mark's |
| 11am    | Online Service  | on YouTube   |

*but Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Dec – joint service at St Mark's only*

**Carol Singing** *We'll be singing traditional carols outdoors: outside The Ship pub (Great Clacton) - Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Dec, 6pm outside Havenvale (Coppins Rd) - Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2pm*

#### and our special 2025 Christmas services...

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November (Advent Sunday)**  
4pm **Lego Church @Advent** at St John's  
especially for children & young people

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December**  
4pm **Christingle Service** for all ages at St John's  
a chance to build and light a Christingle

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December**  
11am **Mid-week Carol Service** at St Mark's  
followed by festive refreshments

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December**  
10.30am **Family Carol Service** for all ages at St Mark's  
followed by festive refreshments

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**  
11am **Together Christmas Special** at St John's  
with festive refreshments from 10.30

#### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December

4pm **Quiet Christmas** at St John's  
especially for those who like a more reflective service

#### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

10am **Nativity Service** at St John's  
for younger children & their families

6.30pm **Torchlit Carols** in St John's Churchyard  
bring a light; wrap up warm; hot chocolate served!

#### Christmas Eve (Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>)

4pm **Children's Candlelit Carols** at St John's  
6.30pm **Carols by Candlelight** at St John's  
11.30pm **Midnight Communion and Carols** at St John's

#### Christmas Day (Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>)

9am **Christmas Communion** at St John's  
10.30am **Christmas Celebration** for all ages at St Mark's

#### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December

10.30am **Year's End Service (Joint Service)** at St Mark's

#### Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> December

11.45am **Stewsdays Christmas Lunch** at St Mark's  
for 12.15 please book: phone 01255 475704 (COST: £4)

#### Special Online Service

On our YouTube channel "Great Clacton Parish":  
**Christmas Carol Service** available from Christmas Eve  
[www.youtube.com/greatclactonparish](http://www.youtube.com/greatclactonparish)

Church office: 01255 475704  **Great Clacton Parish**  
Website: [www.gtclactonparish.co.uk](http://www.gtclactonparish.co.uk)

**The 12 Safety Tips for Christmas**  
Presented by 'The 2 Johns'

*"I Know them"*

The Johns would like to invite you to join a complimentary online event. This will provide you with an introduction to a world that we, as adults, did not grow up in but your children are fully embracing.

They will give you tips on: -

|                             |                 |                        |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| The Internet Express        | Gaming          | The Exploiters         |
| WhatsApp & Snap Chat        | Screen time     | Cliff Top Parenting    |
| What to do if it goes Wrong | Sexploitation   | Where can I Get Help   |
| Indecent Images of Children | Stranger Danger | The Power of Influence |

The two Johns, yes, they are both named John and have spent many years working in the police in various overt and covert roles tackling online and offline child exploitation. They are regarded as experts in their field and annually work in hundreds of primary and secondary schools interacting with thousands of children, teachers and parents. They also regularly deliver lunch and learn sessions to parenting networks in the private sector.

Over the past fifteen years, the two Johns have been key speakers at numerous major events throughout the country. In Essex they are regularly commissioned by the Safeguarding Children's Board, Community Safety Partnerships and schools to deliver both staff training and bespoke sessions for large numbers of children. This includes their highly successful 'Walk Online Roadshow' which is delivered to many thousands of children annually.

The 2 Johns  
EST  
'Keeping Children Safe'

**Thursday 11th December**  
**at 20:00hrs**

(Scan the QR code to register)

[www.esafetytraining.org](http://www.esafetytraining.org)

EST E Safety Training @JohnsThe2

## Exciting opportunity

The 2 Johns are putting on a complimentary online event to provide tips on a variety of online E-safety. We have welcomed the 2 Johns into school several times to work with both children and staff and they have such a wide range of information and important messages.

## Christmas Card Competition reminder



A reminder that we have an opportunity to enter a Christmas card competition for Colchester United Community Foundation.



Children are invited to create a **Colchester United-themed Christmas card design** — think snowflakes at the JobServe, festive footballs, snow-covered boots, Santa wearing a blue-and-white scarf... whatever their imagination can dream up!

The winning artwork will be:

- Turned into our official digital Christmas card
- Sent out to all our partner schools and community contacts
- Celebrated across our CUCF platforms

These will need to be handed into the class teacher no later than **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**.

## Attendance

Please use this link for NHS advice about whether you should keep your child off school.

## Should I keep my child off school checklist poster

## Celebration certificates

This week's certificates awarded in our celebration assembly were to the following role models:

Year 1: Albie & Luca  
Year 2: Marshall and Isaiah  
Year 3: Dakota & Cody  
Year 4: Reegan & Oliver  
Year 5: Safia & Nevaeh  
Year 6: Lexie & Shelby



## Upcoming dates for your diary

01.12.25: Reception intake 2026 show around 3:30-4:30pm  
09.12.25: KS2 Christmas service at St Johns church  
15.12.25: PTA Christmas Pop Up Shop  
16.12.25: EYFS and KS1 Christmas dinner  
17.12.25: KS2 Christmas dinner  
18.12.25: KS1 Nativity Performance Year 1 @9.15am and Year 2 @10.30am  
18.12.25: EYFS Christmas fun time afternoon @1:45  
19.12.25: Christmas jumper day and parties and last day this year  
05.01.26: INSET day  
**06.01.26: Return to school**  
15.01.26: statutory national closing date for Reception intake applications

At the end of this letter, you will find information from Essex ActivAte HAF Winter Holiday Programme, Clacton RNLI and Colchester United Community Foundation Programme.

Have a lovely weekend, everyone!

Kindest regards

Wendy Byrne

## Essex ActivAte HAF Winter Holiday Programme



To further support families during the festive break, Essex ActivAte are offering exciting holiday clubs and free spaces for eligible children and teens across Essex and Thurrock! From incredible family experiences to memorable activities, young people will enjoy making friendships and learning new skills, helping to give parents' and carers' respite and further work opportunities during the holidays.

HolidayActivities voucher codes have been emailed/text to eligible families, to book and secure free spaces for children and teens. Book early to guarantee a spot and make this winter unforgettable with Essex ActivAte!

**[Take a look at our poster to help you find and use your HolidayActivites voucher code.](#)**

**[Families can also see our club information page and view what's on this winter holidays.](#)**

Upcoming  
Events!

**Lifeboats  
Clacton on Sea**

**Come and see Father Christmas**  
**SUNDAY 7th December 2025**  
**Starts 12 noon and Santa to arrive 1pm**

Tea & Coffee - Biscuit Decorating - Raffle  
Norwegian Baker and RNLI Shop

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We're thrilled to announce that our Xmas Holiday Camps are now open for bookings! Register today using the links below 📍

### **What does a Colchester United Community Foundation Camp Look Like?** ✅

- Activities within a safe and fun environment
- Book for as little as just £3.16
- High Quality Facilities
- Gifts & Prizes to Be won
- Tailored Football Sessions ff Different Topics
- Small Sided Games & Tournaments Each Day
- Opportunities for CUFC 1<sup>st</sup> Team Player Appearances
- Opportunities for CUFC Mascot Eddie The Eagle Appearances

### **Where are camps held?**

📍 **SHRUB END - (Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> December, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 9.30am-4.30pm) + Early Drop Off Available**

- Football Camp (School Years 1-6) [Click Here](#)
- Goalkeeper Camp (School Years 1-6) – [Click Here](#)
- Train Like a Pro Camp (School Years 7-11) – [Click Here](#)

📍 **ALL SAINTS PRIMARY, MALDON (Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> December, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 9.30am-3pm) + Early Drop Off Available**

- Football Camp (School Years Y1–6): [Click Here](#)

All camps can be found below - Full Week & Individual days are available to book

[www.abler.io/shop/colchesterunited/xmas](http://www.abler.io/shop/colchesterunited/xmas)

Regards,  
Colchester United Community Foundation

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Shrub End Community & Sports Centre, Boadicea Way, Colchester, CO2 9BG

[www.cu-fc.com/cucf](http://www.cu-fc.com/cucf) [colchester-united-cf.class4kids.co.uk](http://colchester-united-cf.class4kids.co.uk)