

Cann Hall Primary School

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Ross Silcock

Head of School:

Wendy Byrne



Friday 5th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 4 Reading Mornings Update

Thank you to those parents and carers of our year 4 children, who came into read this week. If you have a child in **Year 5 and 6**, 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.



A Note About Parent WhatsApp Groups



We are aware that many parents use WhatsApp groups to share information, reminders, and support one another. While these groups can be useful for keeping track of events or helping each other with day-to-day school matters, we would like to remind all parents and carers to use them responsibly and with care.

Recently, we have become aware of situations where messages shared within parent groups have caused unnecessary upset, confusion, or the spread of misinformation. We kindly ask that all parents and carers keep the following in mind:

Confidentiality:

Please do not share or discuss information about other children, families, or staff members in WhatsApp or social media groups. All children and families have a right to privacy.

Naming or Discussing Children:

It is never appropriate to name or discuss individual children (other than your own) in any online forum. This includes sharing stories, photos, or opinions about incidents involving other pupils.

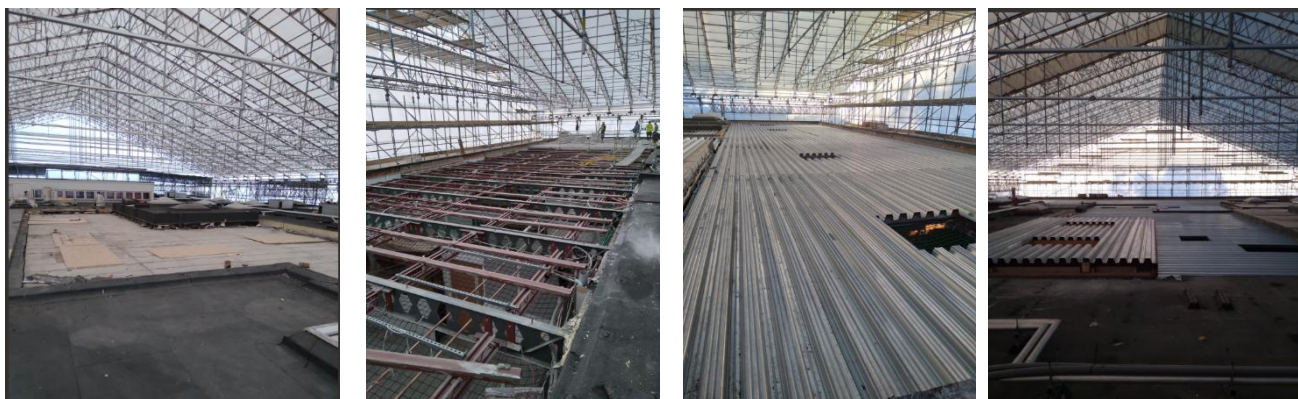
Accurate Information:

If you have any questions, worries, or concerns about school matters, please contact the school directly. Staff are always happy to clarify information, discuss any concerns, or offer support. This ensures that the information you receive is accurate and that issues are addressed quickly and appropriately.

We truly value our partnership with parents and carers and want to continue fostering a supportive and respectful community for our children. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain this.

RAAC Update

It has been very noisy, at some points this week, but the current phase of the RAAC removal project is progressing well. We thought you might be interested to see what is going on up the roof, under the tarpaulin. Here are some photographs before and after the RAAC removal in phase 2.



Trespassers on School Grounds

You might have seen and heard that we have installed sensor lights, with warning messages on the school site. This is because unfortunately we have been made aware that on several occasions we have had trespassers on the school grounds, in the evenings. If you do live on the boundary of the school, or regularly walk past the school of an evening, and see anything suspicious please do call the police. They are already aware and are carrying out regular checks. Thank you.

Christmas Lunches



Don't forget that if you would like to order your child a Christmas lunch this needs to be done by midday on Monday 8th December. This is so the kitchen can order the necessary groceries in good time. Thank you.

Earrings

For health and safety reasons, please ensure that your child is following the uniform policy regarding earrings.

Single stud earrings may be worn but must be removed for PE.

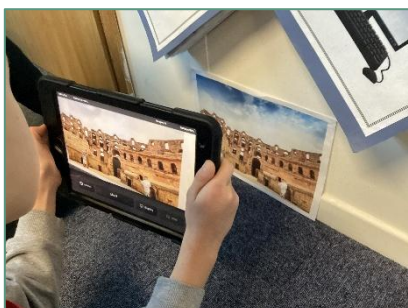
For more information, please use this link [Cann Hall Primary School - Uniform](#)

Learning Updates

3RW have been enjoying their Computing lessons over the past few weeks as they have been planning and making their own animations using an app called iMovie. They have practiced making their own animations on whiteboards beforehand,



checking their drawn pictures are making slight changes, taking pictures, then using a



method called 'onion skinning'. They then, excitedly, made their own 'movies' using a background and characters, carefully moving them a little before taking pictures and putting them together.

They are now evaluating their animations to see what they could do next time, to make them even better!



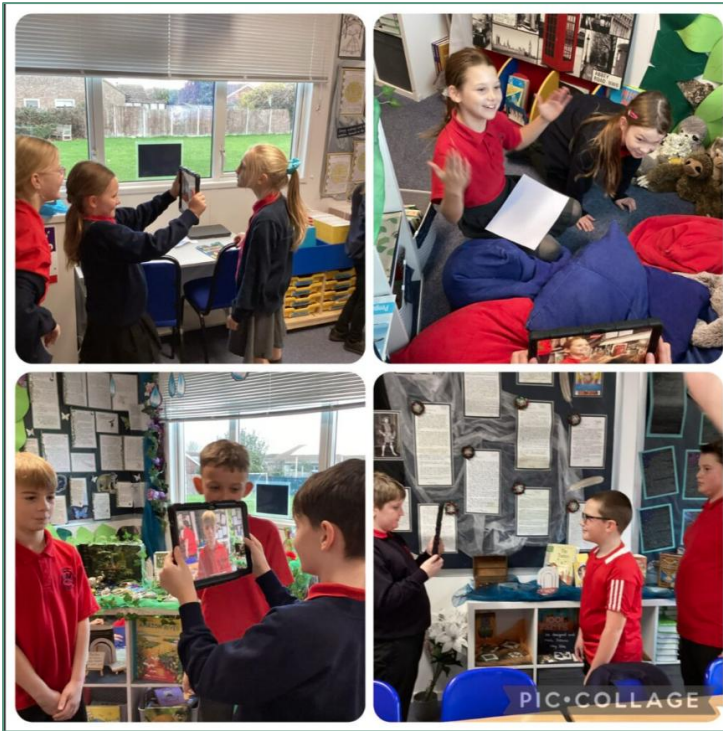
In art **4HH** have been exploring patterns & textures and then applying them to some pictures of Roman buildings.



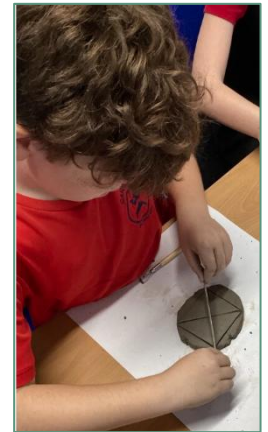
In English **4A** have started reading our new class text - The thieves of Ostia. They will be writing a newspaper report about how a magpie stole a very special signet ring and other treasures from people in the town. The children role played as a news reporter and the main character (Flavia) and explored how she might have felt and how she solved the mystery.



In computing, **5S** have been learning about video production. The children enjoyed learning about filming techniques.



In art, **5S** have learnt a range of skills when working with clay. They will now need to apply these skills to create a clay tile.



KS2 Church Service Reminder

A reminder that the children in Key Stage 2 will be walking to St. Johns Church on the morning of Tuesday 9th December (unless other arrangements have been prior agreed) for a Christmas Service. The children will need to be in school uniform with sensible shoes and a coat. We will be back at school before lunch. If you were successful in your request to walk with the children and join us for the church service, you should have received an email from Mr Smith, this week.

Medical appointment reminder

Just a reminder that if your child has a medical appointment, the expectation is that they will come into school before and/or afterwards. We are not able to authorise children to be off for the whole day and proof of the appointment needs to be emailed to cannhall@compassps.uk in advance of the appointment. If no proof of appointment is given, unfortunately, the absence will have to be unauthorised.



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



'Keeping Children Safe'

Thursday 11th December
at 20:00hrs

(Scan the QR code to register)



www.esafetytraining.org

 EST E Safety Training

 @JohnsThe2

Reminder about an 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. We highly recommend that you join this event, if you want to ensure that you are keeping your child safe online.

Well done!

Well done to **Jim in year 4**. He has read 1,000,524 words from 17 quizzes! What an amazing achievement already so early in the year!



Celebration certificates

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

Year 1: Jacob & Ethan
Year 2: Levi & Sienna
Year 3: Noah & Violet
Year 4: Reagan & Tommy
Year 5: Stefan & Elsie
Year 6: Alex & Rubi



Upcoming dates for your diary

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 also find information from Essex ActivAte HAF Winter Holiday Programme, Clacton RNLI and Colchester United Community Foundation Programme, as well as some free parent webinars to support your child with their mental health and wellbeing.

From everyone here, have a great weekend.

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 HolidayActivities voucher code.](#)

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

FREE PARENT WEBINARS

for supporting your secondary aged child with mental health and wellbeing

Provided by your Mental Health Support Team
@set_camhs_nhs

SIGN-UP HERE



Do you want help supporting your child? We offer a variety of online workshops to help you to support your child.

Coming up in December, we have:

- Understanding Autism**
1st December 10am

This workshop is designed to provide advice & support to parents of children in secondary school who would like to know more about autism. Parents will be given practical ways of tuning into your child's behaviour.
- Understanding Low Mood**
17th December 7pm

Learn how low mood develops in teens, its cycle and discover ways to support your child.




FREE PARENT WEBINARS

supporting your primary aged child with mental health and wellbeing

Provided by your Mental Health Support Team
@set_camhs_nhs

SIGN-UP & FIND OUT MORE



Do you need help supporting your child? We offer a variety of online workshops.

Coming up in December, we have:

- Positive Parenting; Supporting Your Child with Challenging Behaviour**
10th December 7pm

A workshop to help parents understand what might be causing challenging behaviours and tools and strategies to manage them effectively.
- Understanding Anxiety & Emotion Based School Avoidance in Primary School**
2nd December 10am

Helping primary school parents to understand anxiety, Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) and learn practical tools to boost children's confidence and wellbeing.




Lifeboats
Clacton on Sea

RNLI

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

upcoming Events!



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 1st Team Player Appearances
- Opportunities for CUFC Mascot Eddie The Eagle Appearances

Where are camps held?

📍 **SHRUB END - (Mon 22nd December, Tuesday 23rd December, Friday 2nd 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 22nd December, Tuesday 23rd December, Friday 2nd 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

Regards,
Colchester United Community Foundation

Main +44 (0)1206 755160

Email cucf@colchesterunited.net



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

www.cu-fc.com/cucf colchester-united-cf.class4kids.co.uk