

Cann Hall Primary School

Constable Avenue, Clacton, Essex CO16 8DA

Tel: 01255 420603

Email: chcontact@compassps.uk

Website: www.cannhall.compassps.uk

Executive Headteacher:

Ross Silcock

Headteacher:

Wendy Byrne



Friday 13th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

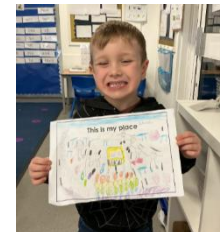
Children's mental health week update, including safer internet day

This year the theme is **'This is My Place'**, exploring belonging and how it plays a vital role in mental health. ([About Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week](#)) Children have taken part in various activities, across the week, including listening to a variety of songs, a special assembly and a reminder of how to keep safe online. Here are some photos from the week:



As part of Children's Mental Health Week, we sang 'This Is Me' from The Greatest Showman in singing assembly to celebrate self-belief, confidence and being proud of who we are.

5S watching the online production for Children's Mental Health Week.



EYFS watched the 'This is My Place Video' and then drew pictures of their special place. During circle time, the children shared their what they like with each and practiced listening respectfully to others to promote a sense of belonging.



THE
COMPASS
PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS

A charitable trust
company number: 10360957

Chief Executive Officer: John Camp OBE
Registered address: C/o Alderwood Primary School, Rainham Close, Eltham, London SE9 2JB

NSPCC Rocks Updates



Some of **5S** and **3RW** with their certificates given for the NSPCC TT Rockstars tournament.



Learning



To end our gymnastics topic in PE, **EYFS** were practicing gymnastic sequences involving different forms of movement: balancing, jumping and landing. The children listened well to the sports coaches' instructions and displayed some brilliant skills throughout the lesson.



Year 4's sharing their diary entries. They listened carefully to each other and then gave feedback on what they liked & something that could be improved.





Sickle Cell Awareness Day

We marked Sickle Cell Awareness Day on Friday to support one of our pupils who lives with this lifelong genetic condition; despite often experiencing significant pain, especially during the colder months and needing regular hospital treatment, this pupil continues to attend school whenever they can, showing remarkable courage and resilience. Sickle cell disease affects how red blood cells carry oxygen around the body and awareness is vital in helping communities understand the challenges faced by those living with it.



Green Tree Award Activities – Reminder

As you know, our School Council is working towards the Woodland Trust's Silver Green Tree Award. To support this, children are taking part in two exciting activities:

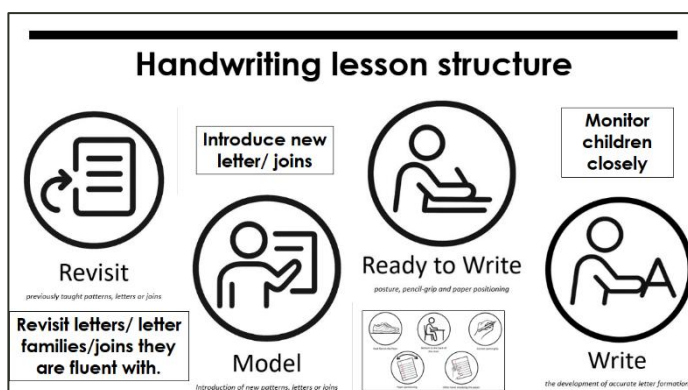


- **Design a Tree Champion:** Your child will have brought home a design sheet to create their own woodland protector. Class shortlists will be judged by the School Council and Mrs Byrne, with a special nature-themed prize for the winner. If you haven't received this and would like one, please speak to the class teacher.
- **Share Your Woodland Words and Images:** We'd love to see your photos, drawings, nature art, poems, or writing inspired by woodland adventures. Physical entries can be given to class teachers, and digital submissions emailed to Mr Giles at agiles@compassps.uk.

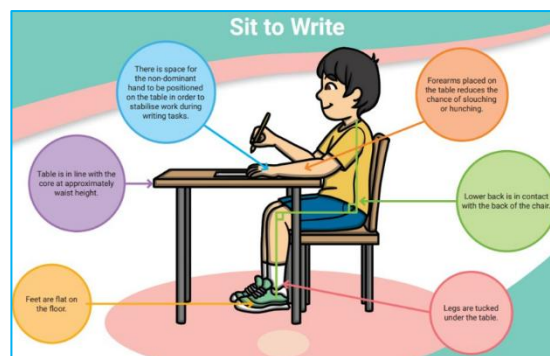
Please send all entries by **Monday 13th April 2026**. Thank you for supporting our journey to Silver!

Our Writing Framework – Key Points for Parents

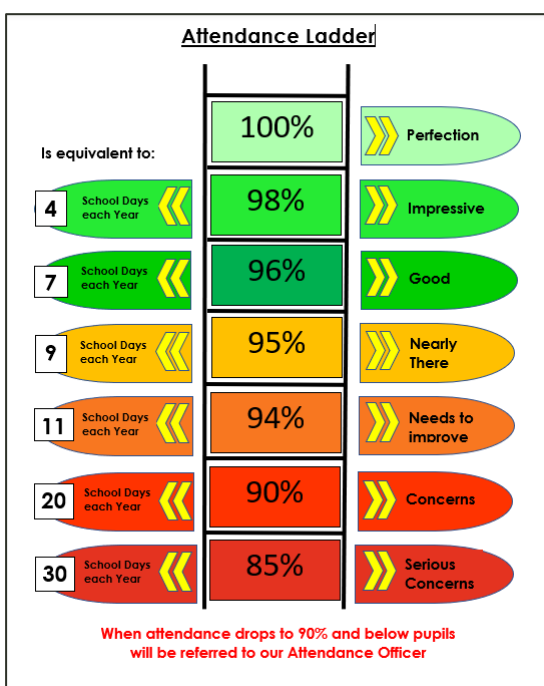
- **Writing is complex**, so it needs to be taught in small, manageable steps to support children's working memory.
- **Handwriting and spelling are taught from Reception** to help children develop automatic skills, freeing them to focus on what they want to write.
- **Sentence instruction is essential**, as all writing is built from sentences. Grammar works best when taught within real writing, not on its own.
- **Speaking and listening are important** for writing. Children should talk through their ideas before writing them down.
- **Quality matters more than quantity**—children shouldn't be expected to write long pieces before they are ready.



- **Reception is a vital year** for building the foundations that support writing throughout primary school.
- **Early identification of pupils needing extra support** helps teachers adapt lessons and provide additional practice.
- **Improving writing takes time**; schools focus first on strong handwriting, spelling and sentence skills before moving into wider writing development.



The Attendance Update



Here is a reminder of our attendance ladder.

Thank you for all your support with your child's attendance, this half term. Our overall attendance this week was of 94.9%. A special mention goes out to Y3 with 96.7% attendance and to Y1 with 96.2%

Please remember, if your child, is unable to attend school for any reason, **please make sure you let us know, by contacting the school on the morning of every day of their absence.** We now carry out home visits, if a child has been absent for three days, even if we have had contact.

Parents' Guide to School Complaints

Working Together for Our Children

At our school, we know that parents and staff share the same goal: *to help every child thrive*. From time to time, questions or concerns may arise, and we want to make sure you always feel listened to, supported, and confident about what to do next.

To help with this, we are committed to:

- **Clear and open communication**, so you always know who to speak to.
- **Simple, transparent steps** for raising any concerns.
- **Resolving issues quickly and positively**, keeping the focus on your child's learning and wellbeing.
- **Strengthening our partnership** with you, because we know children do best when home and school work together.

Most issues can be sorted out easily when we talk early, openly, and respectfully. By working together, we can ensure every child gets the best possible experience at school. Please follow the link below for the parent complaint guide and please do not hesitate to contact us, if you have any concerns. We will always do our very best to help and reassure you.

[V8- Parent Complaint Guide](#)



Sporting Update



vs Alton Park
Final Score 3-7
Kiera x2
Ella x1

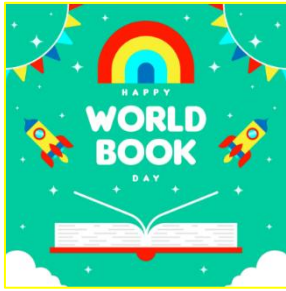
GIRLS

Unfortunately, we suffered our first defeat of the season and the first defeat for the girls' team in 2 and ½ years!

We simply came up against a very strong team with clinical finishing.

With us being 5-0 down at half time, the girls were challenged to 'win the second half'. That is exactly what they did. 3 excellent goals and we could've had more!


Superb attitude, resilience and positivity – I'm incredibly proud of their reactions.



World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. More details we be shared after half term, but just to let you know, we will be having a dress up theme day, either a favourite book character or cosy clothes.

Tendring Show Front Cover Competition

<p>ENTRY FORM Front Cover Competition <i>Design a cover for the 2026 Tendring Show Programme</i></p> <p>Our theme for 2026 is "Our Communities - Our Show".</p> <p>Our communities are more than the place where we live, it's also the clubs and groups we belong to that bring us together.</p> <p>Our Show is where we celebrate these communities in the countryside, education, sport, family and livestock areas.</p> <p>Make it BOLD, BRIGHT and COLOURFUL and please use the whole of the area for your design.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRIZES: • 1st - Two adult tickets and three child tickets • 2nd - Two adult tickets and two child tickets • 3rd - Two adult tickets and one child ticket • Runner Up x 2 - One adult ticket and one child ticket • Highly Commended x 10 - Certificates • Free ticket online for every child that enters <p>Closing date Friday 17th April 2026</p> <p>Name of your School _____</p> <p>Your Name _____</p> <p>Your Age _____</p> <p>YOUR DESIGN SHOULD FILL THIS A5 AREA (PORTRAIT) </p>	<p>OUR COMMUNITIES</p> <p>OUR SHOW</p>	<p>TENDRINGSHOW Brought to you by Tendring Hundred Farmers' Club</p> <p>Front Cover Competition</p> <p>Please return this cover sheet with your entries and complete the following:</p> <p>Name of school: _____</p> <p>Contact person: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p>Number of entries enclosed: <input type="text"/></p> <p>Closing date by which all entries must be received is Friday 17th April 2026</p> <p>Please send your entries to: Louise Kemp TIFC Office Admirals Farm Heckfords Road Great Bentley Colchester CO7 8RS</p> <p>Tel: 01206 231621</p>
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It is that time of the year again – it's the Tendring Show's annual front cover competition. This year's theme is 'Our Communities – Our Show'. We have had lots of success in this competition in the past so if your child would like to take part, this year, entry forms, as seen here, can be collected from the front office. Please then hand completed entries into the school office by **Monday 13th April 2026**.

Celebration certificates

The role models, receiving certificates in our celebration assembly today were:

Year 1: Eliza & Oakley

Year 2: Hudson & Archie

Year 3: Graciee & Kayleigh

Year 4: Munopa & Lily

Year 5: Madison & Jimmy-John

Year 6: Emmanuel & Harley

Great effort everyone!



Congratulations

Jaycee from **4HH** went to a gymnastics competition at the weekend in Wiltshire, where there were over 300 competitors taking part throughout the day.

Jaycee competed in the 8 years old section and did an outstanding job, coming 2nd in the bars, 1st on the beam and floor and won 1st Overall for her age group.

Huge congratulations. This is an incredible achievement; we are all very proud of her.



Additional Information

At the end of this letter, you will find information about half term family warm hub, advance teacher training, holiday camps at St. Clares Primary School, free webinars for parents and Colchester United Community Foundation holiday clubs.

Upcoming dates

Here are some key dates for the rest of the year. More dates will be added, as the weeks progress so please keep eye on this list, for any further additions and/or amendments.

- 23.02.26: Children return to school
- 05.03.26: World Book Day
- 09.03.26: Mother's Day Pop-Up Shop
- 10.03.26: EYFS walk around the local area
- 11.03.26: Chartwells - Free School Meal for Every Child Day
- 12.03.26: Red Nose Day
- 23.03.26: KS1 Easter Service
- 25.03.26: World Maths Day
- 25.03.26: KS2 Easter Service at St John's Church
- 25.03.26: Parents Evening 3.40-6pm
- 26.03.26: Wear Purple for Epilepsy Awareness Day
- 26.03.26: Parents Evening 4-7pm
- 26.03.26: Chartwells School Menu Parents Taster Session
- 27.03.26: Last day of term (Easter Holiday)
- 13.04.26: Children return to school
- 04.05.26: Bank Holiday
- 22.05.26: Last day of term (Half Term Holiday)
- 01.06.26: Children return to school
- 16.07.26: Last day of term (Summer Holiday)
- 17.07.26: INSET DAY (school closed to children)
- 20.07.26: INSET DAY (school closed to children)



A Fond Farewell

We said goodbye to Mrs Klein, yesterday.

She had a lovely, final day, with lots of kind messages, cards and gifts from the whole school community. She wanted us to relay her thanks to everyone for your kindness and support, over the years.

Mrs Connolly steps into the role of Office Lead today and I know you will support, as she transitions into this new role.



from every member of the Cann Hall team, for your continuing support. We hope you have a great half term break.

See you all on Monday 23rd February, ready for the second half of the Spring term.

Kindest regards

Wendy Byrne



FEBRUARY HALF TERM FAMILY WARM HUB

St Clare's Primary School
Cloes Lane, Clacton CO16 8AG
Monday 16th February 2026
10am-1pm

Free

- Breakfast/ lunch and refreshments
- **Local information & support for families**
- Winter Warmers
- **Smoke alarms**
- School Uniform bank
- **Term-time programmes / Activities**
- Library services
- **Children's services and activities**



All families welcome
(children must be accompanied)





CONSIDERING A CAREER IN PRIMARY TEACHING?



Train to Teach with Advance Teacher Training

- We provide 1:1 mentor support to assist with your application and interview process.
- We have training opportunities available in Tendring, Colchester, Harwich & Braintree .
- With over 20 years of experience of delivering teacher training locally we offer knowledgeable trainers, excellent facilities and personalised support.

Contact us today and begin your journey into teacher training!

enquiries@advanceteach.org.uk



CONSIDERING A CAREER IN TEACHING?



Come and find out more at our on-line information session on Thursday 12th March 12-2pm

- We offer 1:1 mentoring to assist with your application process.
- We deliver primary and secondary teacher training.
- We have training bases in Clacton-on-Sea and Colchester with schools in Tendring, Colchester, Braintree and surrounding areas.
- With over 20 years of experience delivering teacher training ,we offer knowledgeable trainers, excellent facilities and personalised support.

REGISTER NOW on enquiries@advanceteach.org.uk

Contact us today and start your journey into teacher training

www.advanceteach.org.uk



Dear Parents, Guardians & Participants.

We're thrilled to announce that our February & Easter Holiday Camps are now open for booking! Register today using the links below.

We are also offering a discount on us for both holiday periods if you book early! We have lots of fun filled camps available to cater for all participants.

🎁 To claim your discount for February Half Term, simply use your unique promo code 'CUCFFEBRUARY26' at checkout when booking via Abler before 31st January 2026

🎁 To claim your discount for Easter Holiday, simply use your unique promo code 'CUCFEASTER26' at checkout when booking via Abler before 28th February 2026

What to expect from our holiday activities:

Activities within a safe and fun environment
Book for as little as just £2.80 per hour
High Quality Facilities
Gifts & Prizes to be won
Tailored sessions of different topics
Small Sided Games & Tournaments Each Day
Opportunities for CUFC 1st Team Player Appearances
Opportunities for CUFC Mascot Eddie the Eagle Appearances

February Half Term 2026:

📍 ST CLARES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CLACTON ON SEA, CO16 8AG - Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th February 2026

Football Camp School Years 1-6 - 9.30am-3pm (early drop off option available) -

<https://www.abler.io/shop/colchesterunited/holidaycamps/product/Q2x1YINlcnZpY2U6NDk1OTg=?>

Individual days are also available to book

Easter Holidays 2026

📍 ST CLARES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CLACTON ON SEA, CO16 8AG - Tuesday 7th April & Wednesday 8th April 2026

Football Camp School Years 1-6 - 9.30am-3pm (early drop off option available)

<https://www.abler.io/shop/colchesterunited/holidaycamps/product/Q2x1YINlcnZpY2U6NDk2NDA=>

Individual days are also available to book

FREE WEBINARS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

of primary aged children to support with
mental health and wellbeing

Provided by your Mental Health Support Team
@essexmhst_and_setcamhs

bit.ly/3MaR1wJ



Coming up in February...

Understanding ADHD in Primary
Aged Children
11th February 6:30 pm

Supporting Your Child with
Challenging Behaviour
24th February 10 am



Striving to provide the best care by the best people

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

SCAN ME

HAVE A DISCOUNT ON US!

USE CODES:
CUCFEBRUARY26
EXPIRES 31st JAN
CUCFEASTER26
EXPIRES 31st FEB

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

**NEW
HOLIDAY
CLUB**
8.30am - 5.30pm

**FOR CHILDREN IN
SCHOOL YEARS 1-6**
A FUN, ENRICHING,
& VARIED
CHILD CARE OFFER

**SPORTS
& GAMES**
**ARTS &
CRAFTS**
CHILL ZONE

**TO INSPIRE, ENRICH
AND UNITE OUR COMMUNITIES**

www.wcu-fc.com/cucf
cucf@colchesterunited.net
01206 755160
@ColU_CF @ColUCF
#enrichourcommunities

Registered Charity Number: 1159381

FEBRUARY HOLIDAYS

SHRUB END COMMUNITY & SPORTS CENTRE, CO2 9BG

DATES	TIME	SCHOOL YEARS	COURSE	FULL PRICE	PRICE P/DAY
16 - 20 February 2026	9.30 - 16.30	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£112.50	£25.00
16 - 20 February 2026	9.30 - 16.30	7-11	TRAIN LIKE A PRO	£112.50	£25.00
16 - 20 February 2026	9.30 - 16.30	1-8	GOALKEEPERS	£112.50	£25.00
16 - 20 February 2026	8.30 - 17.30	1-6	HOLIDAY CLUB	£135.00	£30.00

ST CLARES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CLACTON, CO16 8AG

16 - 17 February 2026	9.30 - 15.00	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£40.00	£22.50
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ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL, MALDON, CM9 6HY

17 - 18 February 2026	9.30 - 15.00	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£40.00	£22.50
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JOBERVE COMMUNITY STADIUM, CO4 5UP

19 - 20 February 2026	9.30 - 16.30	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£45.00	£25.00
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EASTER HOLIDAYS

SHRUB END COMMUNITY & SPORTS CENTRE, CO2 9BG

WEEK 1					
30 March - 1 April 2026	9.30 - 16.30	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£67.50	£25.00
30 March - 1 April 2026	9.30 - 16.30	7-11	TRAIN LIKE A PRO	£67.50	£25.00
30 March - 1 April 2026	9.30 - 16.30	1-8	GOALKEEPERS	£67.50	£25.00
30 March - 1 April 2026	8.30 - 17.30	1-6	HOLIDAY CLUB	£85.00	£30.00

WEEK 2					
7 - 10 April 2026	9.30 - 16.30	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£90.00	£25.00
7 - 10 April 2026	9.30 - 16.30	7-11	TRAIN LIKE A PRO	£90.00	£25.00
7 - 10 April 2026	9.30 - 16.30	1-8	GOALKEEPERS	£90.00	£25.00
7 - 10 April 2026	8.30 - 17.30	1-6	HOLIDAY CLUB	£110.00	£30.00

ST CLARES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CLACTON, CO16 8AG

7 - 8 April 2026	9.30 - 15.00	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£40.00	£22.50
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ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL, MALDON, CM9 6HY

30 March - 1 April 2026	9.30 - 15.00	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£60.00	£22.50
7 - 9 April 2026	9.30 - 15.00	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£60.00	£22.50

JOBERVE COMMUNITY STADIUM, CO4 5UP

31 March - 1 April 2026	9.30 - 16.30	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£90.00	£25.00
8 - 7 - 8 April 2026	9.30 - 16.30	1-6	OUTFIELDERS	£90.00	£25.00

EARLY DROP OFF AVAILABLE. Need an earlier start? Option at point of booking for early drop-off from 8.30am - 9.30am.

**TO INSPIRE, ENRICH
AND UNITE OUR COMMUNITIES**

www.wcu-fc.com/cucf
cucf@colchesterunited.net
01206 755160
@ColU_CF @ColUCF
#enrichourcommunities

Registered Charity Number: 1159381

Prices from as little as £2.80 per hour.

Age range 5-16 years old.

Pathway Progression into our Development Centres

Meet new friends.

Meet Col U players and/or mascot Eddie the Eagle.

Opportunities to receive gifts and prizes.

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