

TULIP ACADEMY

MAKING EVERY MOMENT MATTER

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Growing Together and Looking ahead:

Hello everyone! It's been another wonderfully busy and positive term at Tulip, and I continue to be incredibly proud of how our school community is growing, both in size and in spirit. We've welcomed several new members to our team this term as part of our continued expansion, and we've also said fond farewells to colleagues moving on to new and exciting opportunities. As always, I'm grateful for the dedication, care, and professionalism shown throughout every transition.

One of the highlights of this term has been the fantastic engagement with our new platform, Seesaw. Thank you to all the families who have embraced it so quickly. It has already filled a much-needed gap in home-school communication, helping us share learning, celebrate achievements, and keep everyone connected more easily.

Over at our Waterside campus, we ended the term on a real high with Waterside's Got Talent! Our students were amazing; brave, creative, and full of confidence. It was such a success that we're already planning to bring a whole-school version to life in the summer term. Meanwhile, at Springview, our Valentine's Disco was incredibly well attended and full of joy, glitter, and dancing. Thank you to everyone who supported and joined in.

Looking ahead, we've got a lot to be excited about after the half-term break. We'll be celebrating World Book Week, with plenty of opportunities for students to get creative and immerse themselves in stories. Our School Council have also been hard at work planning activities for Comic Relief, and we're gearing up for our much-loved Annual Awards Evening, a chance to recognise and celebrate the incredible achievements of our students across both campuses.

As always, thank you for your support, enthusiasm, and partnership. It truly makes a difference, and I'm so proud of everything our school community continues to achieve together. If you ever have suggestions, questions, or simply want to share your thoughts, please do reach out, we're always here and always happy to hear from you.

Wishing all our students, families, and staff a restful and safe half-term break. Take the time you need to recharge, enjoy the week, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back very soon.



ATTENDANCE

Attendance is always a priority for Tulip Academy Spalding as we know that pupils cannot achieve their full potential if they do not regularly attend school. Tulip Academy Spalding has an aspirational target of 95% overall whole school attendance. We know how important it is to work with parents and carers as well as other professionals to support pupils to attend school every day.

We have a dedicated attendance leader - Kat Garland who oversees all aspects of tracking, monitoring and supporting pupil attendance. Should you wish to contact the attendance lead please do so by email Kat.Garland@tulip-cit.co.uk or phoning school on 01775 725566.



In line with our [attendance policy](#), we work with parents/carers at the earliest point of concern, to help address any underlying reasons for irregular, low or persistent absence.

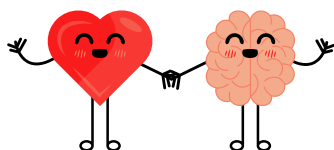
WELLBEING

February half term can bring a change of pace, and for many autistic, SEMH, or neurodiverse children, that shift can feel both refreshing and challenging. This can be a good time to focus on emotional wellbeing by building in predictability where helpful, offering choices to support a sense of control and balancing activity with genuine downtime. Small, reassuring routines - like knowing the plan for the day or having a quiet space to reset - can make a big difference. If you would welcome extra guidance, the National Autistic Society and YoungMinds provide practical tools for families and Mind offers advice around emotional wellbeing. Your local SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) can also help you access support and activities in your area. Wishing you and your family a steady, supportive and uplifting half term break!

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AIDERS

There are many types of support available. Your mental health first aiders can help you access it.

Mental health first aiders are a point of contact if you, or someone you are concerned about, are experiencing poor mental health or emotional distress. They are not therapists, or psychiatrists, but can give you initial support and signpost to appropriate help if required.



BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to the following:

JANUARY

Daniels - Chestnut Ben - Willow
 Todorka - Chestnut Andrei - Cherry
 Julia - Spruce William - Rowan
 Niko - Plums Kiara-Leigh - Cedar
 Grace - Elder Freddie - Cedar
 Kenzie - Elder Owin - Pears
 Alfie - Elder Noah - Apples
 Finley - Lime Tymi - Apples
 Keris - Willow Olive - Apples

FEBRUARY

Anna-Marie - Chestnut Ethan - Ash Theo - Apples
 Bryan - Spruce Kayen - Willow
 Jai - Sycamore Nadia - Rowan
 Damian - Oak Charlie - Rowan
 Louie - Sycamore Oscar - Willow
 Reggie - Lime Aleksandra - Birch
 Anna - Lime Matthew - Birch
 Elliot - Willow Albert - Cedar
 CJ - Cherry Harry - Grapes



KEY DATES



Start of Term 4
23 February 2026

End of Term 4
01 April 2026



Waterside Group Photos
12 March 2026

Springview Group Photos
01 April 2026



Red Nose Day
20 March 2026



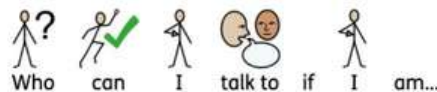
World Book Day
05 March 2026



Awards Evening - Y11 & Y14
17 March 2026

SAFEGUARDING

If your child is worried about anything, there are lots of people at Tulip Academy that they can speak to. [Click here to read our Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.](#)



Luke Allen
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Dominic Mason
Inclusion Lead
& Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Olivia Lloyd-Casey
Inclusion Lead
& Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Paula Reeves
Inclusion Lead &
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Toni Wand
Deputy Headteacher &
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

EARLY YEARS LEARNING ALLIANCE

Targeted Positive Activities

Targeted Positive Activities offer a range of sessions including community groups, youth groups and holiday clubs held at a variety of local venues across Lincolnshire. The sessions provide a range of activities in a safe and welcoming environment, giving parents and carers a short break.

- Community groups for children with disabilities aged 5-18yrs
- Youth groups for children with disabilities aged 11-18yrs
- Holiday clubs for children with disabilities aged 5-18yrs

At the sessions, children with disabilities and their families are supported to maintain their quality of life, access high-quality care and learning opportunities, and receive encouragement to help children and young people remain living at home with their families. They are also supported to access as many services as possible within their local communities, enabling them to go on to live as independently as possible.

Each group is different, with the children and young people able to have a say in what they would like to do. The groups are led by caring, experienced and skilled educators who enable those attending to socialise and try new activities at a pace that feels comfortable for them.

Community groups and youth groups both run for 1.5 hours and holiday clubs run for 5 hours.

The service is subsidised by Lincolnshire County Council. The fees are as follows:

£9.60 for youth and community groups

£32 for holiday clubs

To request access to this support, please complete the online form here: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=t9BNla4jfkqBhzUmiO9ciFZ88-uj4_tOol4oZ-ZZfh5UNkpMR0E1NEIIQUtJVDJXM0tZR0oxTEpNVy4u

For more information please contact CWDLincolnshire@eyalliance.org.uk or visit www.eyalliance.org.uk

The Children with Disabilities Support Services now has a QR code if you feel you can donate to support this service.

Thank you!

Early Years Alliance Children With Disabilities Service Request Support Form 2025



SEESAW

We would like to remind parents and carers that Seesaw continues to be an important platform for sharing learning and classroom updates. Through Seesaw, you can see regular snapshots of your child's work, receive announcements from their class team, and stay connected with what is happening in school. We encourage all families to check the app frequently to ensure you don't miss key information or celebrations of your child's achievements. If you need support accessing Seesaw or linking to your child's account, please contact the school office and we'll be happy to help.

SPRING TERM UPDATE



Pre-formal

Pupils have truly dazzled this term as they explored the topic of Movies and Musicals. Inspired by the film *Inside Out*, pupils expressed a range of emotions through colour exploration and engaging, emotion-related sensory resources. During story massage, pupils enjoyed the calming experience so much that—although they didn't quite slip on their sparkly shoe—they did gently slip from the supporting adult's hands as they relaxed into the session and welcomed the massages.

Rebound

Apples and Mangos pre-formal pupils have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in rebound therapy sessions. With growing confidence, the pupils have been developing their balance, coordination, and body awareness on the trampoline. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and to celebrate so many amazing achievements along the way!



Informal (EYFS & KS1)

This term, our EYFS/KS1 classes have been engaging with the theme of Food through the lively stories *Kitchen Disco* and *Oliver's Vegetables*. In art-as-therapy sessions, pupils have enjoyed sensory exploration by painting with spaghetti and designing edible artwork on pancakes. During physical development activities, they even used lettuces as rolling items for a playful take on bowling. The term was rounded off with a pizza party, exploring the different ingredients used – squashing and rolling the dough, creating different shapes! We look forward to next term when pupils will be soaring into their new topic: Superheroes!

Informal (KS2 and above)

Our Informal learners have had great fun at the fair and circus this term as part of their exciting topic! They have explored a range of fairground-themed activities, from listening to the lively sound of popcorn popping, to hooking a duck with impressive enthusiasm. Pupils also enjoyed plenty of spinning and movement, bringing the magic of the fairground rides and circus acts into the classroom, creating lots of smiles along the way. KS3 and KS4 pupils in Music and Movement immersed themselves in the magic of *The Greatest Showman* this week. They explored key musical themes and emotions through a range of sensory materials, helping to bring the soundtrack to life and deepen their engagement with the story.



SPRING TERM UPDATE



Semi-formal

Our Informal learners have had great fun at the fair and circus this term as part of their exciting topic! They have explored a range of fairground-themed activities, from listening to the lively sound of popcorn popping, to hooking a duck with impressive enthusiasm. Pupils also enjoyed plenty of spinning and movement, bringing the magic of the fairground rides and circus acts into the classroom, creating lots of smiles along the way. KS3 and KS4 pupils in Music and Movement immersed themselves in the magic of The Greatest Showman this week. They explored key musical themes and emotions through a range of sensory materials, helping to bring the soundtrack to life and deepen their engagement with the story.

Across the wider curriculum, pupils have also been developing important life skills. In PSHE, the focus has been on learning how to book appointments, helping pupils build independence and confidence for real-life situations. In PE, pupils have been working through different types of circuits to understand how exercise affects their bodies, such as changes in breathing and heart rate. Overall, pupils have made an excellent start to 2026 and have shown great engagement and enthusiasm in all areas of learning

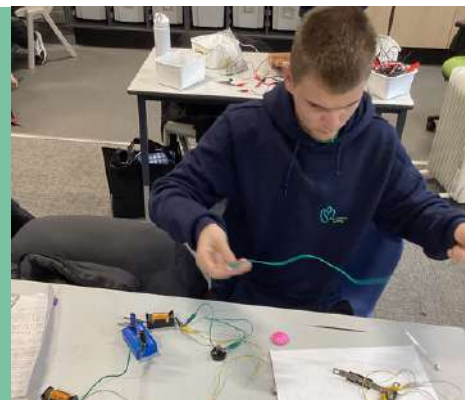


Formal

On 19th January, students took part in Brew Monday, encouraging positive conversations around wellbeing. We also welcomed Malcolm Wilson to talk about the work of the RSPB on Monday 2nd February.

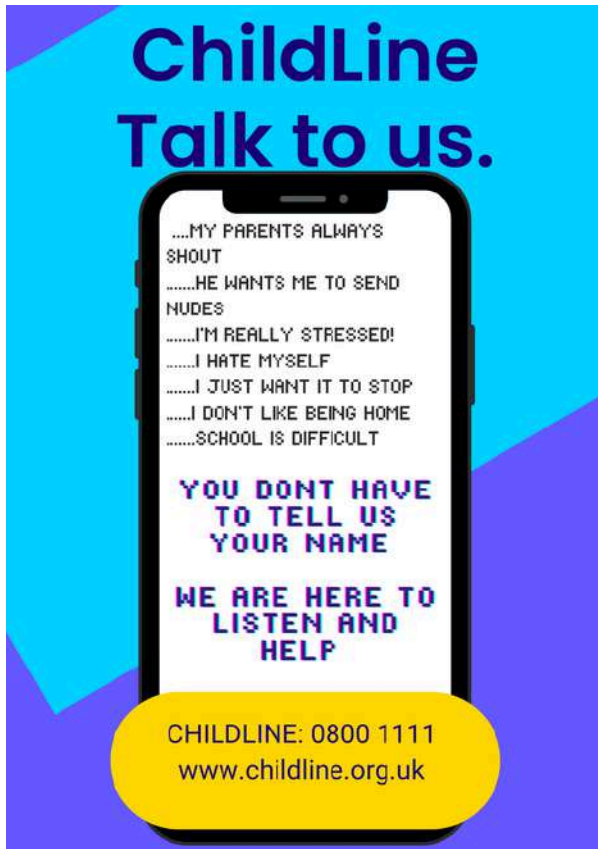
KS3: In maths, they completed a topic on measure, using equipment to accurately measure and weigh. English lessons have focused on explanations, instructions, and writing for purpose, while RSE sessions explored growing up and the changes that happen in our bodies. In PE, students have been working on improving their fitness, and in creative arts they have been exploring colour basics and mixing, inspired by the work of Claude Monet.

KS4: students continue to work hard as they prepare for upcoming exams, with Functional Skills exams beginning in early March. In PE, students have been developing leadership and teamwork skills, while maths lessons have focused on time and data handling. English sessions have continued to emphasise writing for purpose and the effective use of organisational features in texts. Music option students have been particularly busy, creating music from everyday objects and learning a piece they will perform alongside members of the Spalding Encore Orchestra in the final week of term. In history, students have been learning about Victorian life and the expectations placed on children during that period.



SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

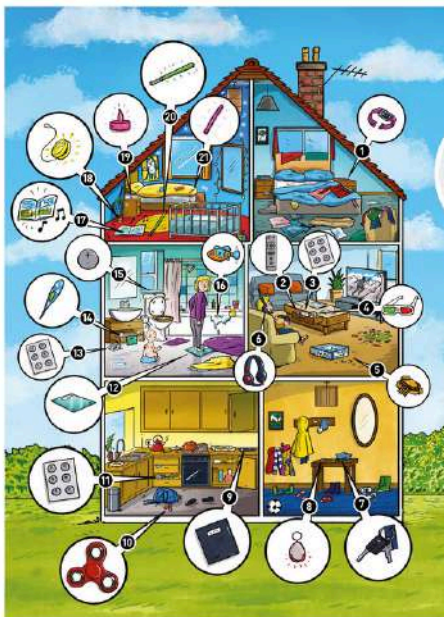
To help ensure families know where support is available, we have included a list of links to local food banks and community support services within this bulletin. Please share these resources with anyone who may benefit and remind families that seeking support is a positive and proactive step. No one should face this time of year alone, and these services are here to provide practical help when it's needed most.



- [Food help - Connect to Support Lincolnshire](#)
- [Get emergency food | Trussell](#)
- [Food & living - North West Leicestershire District Council](#)
- [Home - Citizens Advice LeicesterShire](#)
- [Food Banks | Ask Lion - Nottingham City Directory](#)
- [The most dangerous time of year | NSPCC](#)
- [Support & advice for families | NSPCC](#)
- [Family Action: Supporting families at every age and stage of life](#)
- [StepChange Debt Charity. Free Expert Debt Help & Advice](#)
- [Emergency grants, loans and money help - Shelter England](#)
- [Find urgent support](#)

For some families, this time of year can feel particularly unsafe or isolating. We remain alert to signs of abuse and continue to offer a safe, non-judgemental space for anyone who may need support.

- [Getting help for domestic violence and abuse - NHS](#)
- [Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Specialist Service](#)
- [I need help - information and support on domestic abuse](#)
- [Homepage - National Domestic Abuse Helpline](#)
- [Contact Us | Samaritans K](#)
- [Keep Children Safe Online: Information, advice, support - Internet Matters](#)
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/>



Button batteries - where are yours?



Button batteries, particularly big, powerful lithium coin cell batteries, can badly hurt or kill a small child within two hours, if they get stuck in the food pipe. Know where yours are, so you can keep your children safe.

Five top tips

- Hunt around your home for button batteries – in products as well as spare and 'flat' batteries.
- Keep products well out of children's reach if the battery compartment isn't secured.
- Store spare button batteries in sealed containers in a high cupboard.
- Remember that 'flat' or 'dead' batteries still hold enough power to badly hurt a child. So put them out of children's reach straight away and recycle them safely and as quickly as possible.
- If you think your child has swallowed one, don't delay. Trust your instincts and take them to A&E straight away or call 999 for an ambulance. Don't let them eat or drink and don't make them sick.

1. Fitness tracker
2. Remote control
3. Spare batteries
4. 3D glasses
5. Robot bug toy
6. Gaming headset
7. Car key
8. Key finder
9. Kitchen scales
10. Light up fidget spinner
11. Spare batteries
12. Bathroom scales
13. Spare batteries
14. Thermometer
15. Flat battery
16. Robot fish
17. Musical greeting card
18. Light-up yo-yo
19. Tea light
20. Light saber
21. Flashing wand

For more help



• capt.org.uk/button-batteries
 • [BIPBA](https://www.bipba.org.uk) (British In-Product Battery Association)



E-SAFETY

Play and talk with your child about the games they enjoy so you can agree on which are age-appropriate. Keep the conversation open about who they play with, what they share, and why some games are better saved for when they're older. Agree on limits together and discuss in-game purchases to avoid surprises.

E-Safety Tips for Staying Safe Online

Here are some simple ways to stay safe when using the internet:

- Keep your personal information private
- Don't share your full name, address, school name, or phone number online.
- Use strong passwords
- Choose passwords that are hard to guess and never share them with anyone except a trusted adult.
- Be kind online
- Treat others how you'd like to be treated. If someone is mean or upsetting, tell an adult.
- Only talk to people you know
- Don't chat with strangers online, even if they seem friendly.
- Ask before downloading or clicking
- Some links or downloads can be unsafe. Always check with an adult first.
- Tell someone if something feels wrong
- If you see or hear something online that makes you feel uncomfortable, talk to a trusted adult straight away.

What you need to know about... AGE RATINGS

18+

16 & UP ONLY

12-15

What are they? 'Age Ratings'

Age ratings are used by publishers to indicate the suitability of content for different age groups. They are based on the level of violence, sexual content, language, and other factors that may be considered inappropriate for certain age groups.

Know the Risks

- Inappropriate content:** Content that is not suitable for the age group, such as violence, sexual content, and language.
- Peer pressure:** The influence of other people, especially friends, to do something that you might not want to do.
- Level of 'Kudos':** The amount of attention or praise you receive from others online.
- Free Platforms:** Platforms that offer free services, but may have hidden costs or risks.

Spot the Signs

- Being vague:** A child who is reluctant to talk about their online activities.
- Unfamiliar terminology:** A child who uses language or slang that you don't understand.
- Wanting to be 'checked out':** A child who asks you to look at their phone or computer screen.
- Be aware of spending:** A child who has money that they don't have, or who is spending more than they should.

Safety Tips

- Do your research:** Check the age rating and read reviews before downloading or clicking.
- Review parental controls:** Make sure your device and internet service provider settings are up to date.
- Encourage open dialogue:** Talk to your child about their online activities and any concerns.
- Discuss ratings:** Explain the meaning of age ratings and why they are important.

Our Expert Heather Cardwell

Heather Cardwell is a leading Online Safety Lead and Senior School Leader who has been awarded a Caring Communities award and educating children around online risks. She has over 10 years as a Computing Lead and has successfully developed and implemented a whole-school approach to online safety in schools, delivering online safety training to staff, pupils, and parents. She is also a member of the National Online Safety network of education settings.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com | Twitter: @nationalonlinesafety | Facebook: NationalOnlineSafety | Instagram: @nationalonlinesafety

FOR PARENTS - AI / DEEPPFAKES WITH ALAN MACKENZIE

Images of children, deepfake or not, have always been illegal (known as pseudo, this can include drawings, CGI, cartoons and AI - this comes under the Protection of Children Act 1978).

There are changes coming soon and these are specifically towards images of adults:

1. Sharing deepfake images of adults is currently illegal. Creation is becoming illegal.
2. Threatening to share (real or fake) is currently illegal.
3. Creating an explicit deepfake of an adult is becoming illegal.
4. Creation of so-called nudify apps is becoming illegal.

