



Dear Parent/Carer,

Thanks to our wonderful PTA, our children will be bopping away the cold on Thursday at the January Jive. Our PTA does the most amazing job, but we are really worried. Worried that because many of those who run the PTA will be coming to the end of their time here, that there will not be enough volunteers to continue their great work. It is not just that they raise so much money for the school, but the children would REALLY miss the events - Bouncy Castle, Discos, Camp Outs, Present Palaces, Year 6 Leaving Festival, the list goes on. I know everyone is so busy these days, but we REALLY need your help to make sure that there are parents/carers from lower down the school who can get involved now and keep this great institution going. Perhaps a couple of parents from each class could get involved each year and take it in turns? If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact the PTA through the office. They would be delighted to hear from you and everyone in school - particularly the children - would be so grateful.

As you know, on Friday, in memory of Millie Hook, our dearest friend and colleague who died this time last year, we will be having a 'Wear green day' and to raise money and awareness for the National Autistic Society. Tomorrow is the anniversary of Millie's death and we have checked with Nina and Rob Hook that they would be happy for us to leave flowers outside Millie's eatery as a mark of respect. Millie's is closed all this week. If any parent would also like to do so too, I am sure they would be very touched. Millie was a bright shining star taken far too soon. She shines bright in our hearts and memories and none of us will ever forget her. In the coming months, we will be talking to Rob and Nina about having a permanent memorial to Millie in school.

Have a good week.

**Miss E. Dawson**  
Headteacher

### Attendance

For the week ended 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025, there were four classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Owls who achieved 98.2%.

We have a number of children who have medical conditions which mean that they have to have time off school for appointments and therefore their data is not included in these figures.

Attendance figures:-

Class	Week
Chipmunks	941.0%
Dragonflies	88.0%
Butterflies	96.7%
Rabbits	91.0%
Ladybirds	97.1%
Robins	83.7%
Fireflies	92.9%
Owls	98.2%
Bears	95.0%
Sparrows	96.7%
Ants	94.0%
Kestrels	84.3%
Badgers	91.8%
Otters	97.4%
Squirrels	98.0%
Whole School	93.3%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

**OWLS**

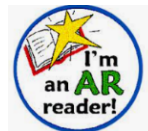
Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2024 - 2025 is:

**97%**

### KS2 Accelerated Reader

For the week ended 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024:-



#### Word Count

- 1<sup>st</sup> Otters - 456,133
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Kestrels - 450,495
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bears - 425,902

#### Quizzes

- 1<sup>st</sup> Owls - 31
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bears - 30
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireflies - 28

Overall:-

#### Word Count

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 9,510,537
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sparrows - 5,064,825
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Badgers - 4,902,586

#### Quizzes

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 944
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Owls - 508
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireflies - 396

We would also like to congratulate Brayden Nyama in Owls who has hit 2 million words! Well done Brayden, what a great achievement!

### Boys' Football match vs. Robert Drake



In the last couple of weeks our Year 6 Football teams have had competitive fixtures against Robert Drake in the Year 6 football

leagues. The boys played a wonderful game against Robert Drake and played some of their best football of the season in the second half. The game saw Thundersley's boys win 8-0 and carry on their fantastic winning streak. Well done to all involved and the boys are looking forward to their next game against Holy Family. Dexter White gives his version of the game below:-





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"On Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025, we went on the school field to play Robert Drake. It was a fun experience as we won 8-0 and I scored a goal. I also provided some assisted goals. Robert Drake also had some attacks but they couldn't get a goal as we had a strong defence. I played attack and defence. I prefer playing attack because I had more game time. We had a good performance from everyone and Robert Drake also played very well. I'm looking forward to all the other matches coming up."

Onto our next game against Robert Drake and this time it was the girls' first game of their league. It was another brilliant result where Thundersley won the game 8-1 and took the points. There was some excellent attacking football from the girls. Well done to all the girls involved. There are no upcoming matches at the moment but we're sure the girls will be looking forward to playing again at some point. Saskia Lawledge-Scott gives her account of the game below:-

"We won 8-1 and I scored 3 goals. We did well. I played striker which I like because I get to score a lot of goals. Robert Drake did well too and I enjoyed the game. At the end, I said "3 cheers" to Robert Drake. I'm looking forward to playing our next match although I don't know who it is against yet."

## Dance Festival

On Wednesday, some of the Year 4 children took part in the Dance Festival at the Palace Theatre together with lots of children from other local schools. The children have been practicing their dance each week with Miss Lane from The Deanes and had a wonderful experience, with some of the children never having performed on stage before. Nellie Gaskin (Bears) describes the event below:-

"To start off with, when we got there we were seated by some members of the SSP and then there was a little bit where the parents came in. Then there were five different groups who went on stage. After they had performed there was a

thing called the Waka Waka. It was a dance and two people from each group had to go on stage with the people from the SSP to perform it. Then there was another dance and then we went on stage. We have been practicing our dance with Miss Lane each week in PE and the music we danced to was called 'Sandstorm'. I was a bit nervous but also quite excited. After our dance there was a couple more dances and then we got to freestyle. So two children from each group went up and did a freestyle dance which was quite funny as some of the children did some funny moves. I thought overall that it was quite a good event."

## BATIC's Got Talent

Also on Wednesday, in the evening, it was the turn of our lunch time club dance troupe and the Choir to perform at the Palace Theatre as part of BATIC's Got Talent. The children performed beautifully and had the opportunity to watch other schools perform too. Millie Smith (Kestrels) tells of her exciting experience in respect of the dance below:-



"Every lunchtime on a Wednesday, we have been practicing with Miss Lane our dance. We got to the Palace Theatre and we saw the rehearsals at the bottom of the seats and there were 3 rows. After the rehearsals were done we sat at the top. Then we had to wait an hour to perform and watched all the other dances. First we had to go backstage to line up 3 dances

before our dance to get ready and then run on when it was our turn. I felt excited when I was waiting. When we went on, we could only see the first few rows in the light as the rest was in the dark. The dance went well and everyone got it right and made it. I felt good to perform it and let other people see our dance. After we did our dance everyone was clapping and it felt great. I also liked the Deanes dance as they did the same Bye, Bye, Bye one but the full version. I loved the whole experience lots."

Eleny Grover (Fireflies) gives details of her experience with the Choir:-



"When we got there, we sat down in our seats but not our proper seats and we watched some other rehearsals and then it was our turn. After that we went to our proper seats which were on the top level and we could eat our snacks. Then we had time to talk and played some games and talked to the teachers before the actual show started. We were the third act. We had to walk onto the back stage quietly because another act was on and then it was our turn to get into our positions on the stage. Our first song was Six and after we sang that song we sang 'How to swim'. I felt nervous but excited at the beginning but at the end I felt thankful. I really did enjoy it. When everyone was clapping I felt proud and happy. My mummy, daddy and brother came to watch me and they said 'You were amazing and had the biggest smile we could see.' I would really like to do something like that again. I love being in the Choir. I am also used to going to the Palace Theatre as I dance there too."





## Bikeability

Group 1 of the Year 5 children have been participating in Bikeability this week (formerly Cycling Proficiency). Miss Turner-Powell, one of the coaches, said that the children were amazing, picked up the riding skills and instructions on how to keep safe on the roads so quickly and should be really proud of themselves. Ed Payne (Ants) gives an insight into the course below:-



"On the first day we learned about signalling, pulling out and stopping. We also learned how to check our bikes over like seats, brakes and how to fit our helmets correctly. On day two we learned about rolling 'U' turns and stop 'U' turns and going around parked cars. We also learned how to do the checks for putting our bikes in the road. On day three we went out onto the roads by the common. I felt a bit nervous going onto the busier roads but it was a bit better after a while. On day four we went back out and went along Kenneth Road and Hart Road. It was quite a lot busier than day three as there were a lot of cars passing but we soon pulled off. Then we went back to near the common and did right and left turns out. We then went on our bike ride which was good and then came back to school. I thought the whole course was really fun and I feel more confident riding on the roads now."

## Netball vs. South Benfleet



The weather was looking terrible for our first 2025 game but thankfully the rain stopped, the wind died down and the sun even put in the odd appearance. Not that it affected our mixed netball team's steely determination. Despite little practise recently due to the rain, they all played their socks off showing that grit and determination Mrs. Hoeb sees so often. Our coach Mrs. Clark commented how strong the team is becoming and the children are really believing in themselves too. It is great to watch those goals finally go in! Ivy Cook (Otters) gives details of the game below:-

"We arrived at South Benfleet and I was the Captain. I went over to the South Benfleet team and asked them "Heads or tails?" They chose tails and I flipped the coin and it landed tails so they got to pick and they chose first centre so we got to choose which way to shoot. Then we did some warm ups with Lisa and we did a game which was attackers and defenders and then we got started. Lucas Jackson scored our first two goals and then Dexter White scored our next two. Ayah Pounds scored one, Paighton Brown scored one, Katie Allen scored one and I scored two, making the final score 9-3 to us. First I played goal keeper. In the



next quarter I was off. In the next quarter I was goal attack and in the last quarter I was off. We had most of the ball and played well as a team. South Benfleet had some good goal scorers but our defence was strong. The match was really fun and when Miss Hoeb came over to me and told me I was Captain, I was really happy. I don't know when the next match is but I'm really looking forward to it."

## Thank you

We have had a lady come to the office who recently fell over in the village and three children from our school stopped to help her. She didn't get any names but wanted to say a big thank you to them! Well done whoever you are - what a lovely thing to do.

## Thanks

This week's Think is:-



What does love mean to you?

## Numbots Certificates

Well done to all children in Year 1 and Year 2



that have used NumBots to help support their fluency in Maths. Certificates were given during Celebration Assembly. The following children were our NumBot superstars this week.

Year 1 - Ioanna Mortis & Miah Haxhia (Butterflies)

Year 2 - Mila Balci (Robins), Ethan Gillett and Henry Thorne (Ladybirds)

Well done to you all!

## House Point Scores

The House Point scores for the week are:-

Red Arrows	3746
Golden Eagles	3361
Green Dragons	3132







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Blue Dolphins 2795



Well done Red Arrows!

### Stars of the Week



**Year 6:-** Hollie Tinsley, Jaxon Grange and Kai Beale

**Year 5:-** Millie Smith and Olivia Oswald

**Year 4:-** Evelyn Deal and Mason Major

**Year 3:-** Alice Ridgwell and Bobby Fillary

**Year 2:-** Ava Moorcraft and Ethan Gillett

**Year 1:-** Louis Clapton and Monty Adkins

**EYFS:-** Grace Grocott and Lizzie Hamilton

### Playground Stars of the Week

Vedik Kollagunta, Jayden Carrington, Lewis Grigson, Lily Crawford, Emily Harvey, Taylor Dwyer-St-Pier, Ruby Moorcraft, Felicity Bowman, Brayden Nyama, Jake Williams, Frank Mataj, Mia Haxhia, Isabella Rees and Isabelle Cable.

### Honesty is the best policy!

We would like to congratulate the following for handing in money they found recently.

Harry Robinson (Bears)

Mason Wheeler (Bears)

Daisy Avison (Ants)

Quinn Godfrey (Ants)

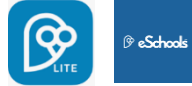
David Stan (Fireflies)

Perla Puckey (Owls)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

### eSchools App

We kindly ask that you to download the eSchools and eSchools Lite apps (free of charge), in order that any messages we send you are not charged to the school and you will be able to access the calendar, newsletter and website easily.



### Twitter

Please keep checking our Twitter feed for various updates/messages:-

@Thundersley\_P\_S

### Breakfast Club & Treetops After School Club

We offer a Breakfast Club (7.45am to the start of school) and an After School Club called Treetops (3.15pm to 6.00pm) each day. If you are interested in a place for your child and would like more information, please speak to Mrs. Hayward in the main School Office.

### Uniform Shops

We would like to advise that we now have two uniform shops as follows:-

Penn UK,  
15-17 Kents Hill Road,  
South Benfleet,  
Essex, SS7 5PN.

Telephone:- 01268 751724

[www.pennuk.com](http://www.pennuk.com)

Danielle's Uniform,  
Claydons Lane,  
Rayleigh,  
Essex, SS6 7UP.

Telephone 01268 967542

[www.danielllesshop.co.uk](http://www.danielllesshop.co.uk)

### PTA News

#### Next Meeting

The PTA's next meeting is being held at 7pm on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at The White Hart. All are welcome!

#### Community News

#### Coffee Mornings for Parents of Neurodivergent Children with Sarah Bell

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### The Deanes Holiday Camps - February Half Term

Please find attached information in respect of the above.

#### Girls 4 Football

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### Mega Camps

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### ACL - Get Ready to Support Your Future Teen

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### Lady McAdden Nearly New Fair

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### School Calendar - Dates

<https://www.thundersleyprimary.co.uk/web/home/86964>

or eSchools app Lite

#### Future Term Dates

17/02/25 to 21/02/25 - Half Term  
07/04/25 to 21/04/25 - Easter Break  
22/04/25 - Start of the Summer Term





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05/05/25 - Bank Holiday  
26/05/25 to 30/05/25 - Half Term  
18/07/25 - Last day of Term

**\*\*\*\*NON PUPIL DAYS\*\*\*\***

14/02/25  
21/07/25  
22/07/25

