



Newsletter No. 26

28th April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have a friend of royalty at our school! You may already have seen these images online or in the newspaper of our wonderful, brave Lola meeting with Sarah Ferguson and Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie. Lola is undergoing treatment in a London hospital at the moment and was chosen to meet the Royals because they knew she'd be confident and chatty - that's our Lola! We can't wait to hear all about it first-hand.



This week, as you know is Science week, with the children taking part in lots of science based learning and meeting some Science Ambassadors online. The week will culminate on Friday, 2nd May 2025, in a 'STEM' dress up day in which we are asking the children to come dressed inspired by a STEM career - perhaps a sound engineer, zoologist, conservationist, welder, electrician, neuroscientist or pharmacist, within STEM, the possibilities really are endless! I took the KS1 assembly this morning and the children

had lots of great ideas of what they were going to dress up as.

A great week for all - let's hope the sun stays out.

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance

For the week ended 25th April 2025 there were nine classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Ladybirds and Sparrows who both achieved 99.2%.

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	97.2%
Dragonflies	99.1%
Butterflies	92.1%
Rabbits	95.4%
Ladybirds	99.2%
Robins	97.9%
Fireflies	98.0%
Owls	97.0%
Bears	96.4%
Sparrows	99.2%
Ants	96.7%
Kestrels	97.5%
Badgers	96.0%
Otters	91.1%
Squirrels	97.1%
Whole School	96.7%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

LADYBIRDS & SPARROWS

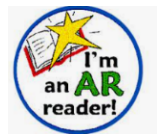
Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2024 - 2025 is:

97%

Accelerated Reader

For the week ended 25th April 2025:-



Word Count

1st Bear - 637,552
2nd Sparrows - 570,983
3rd Owls - 547,870

Quizzes

1st Robins - 41
2nd Bears - 41
3rd Owls - 37

Overall:-

Word Count

1st Bears - 15,537,525
2nd Kestrels - 9,278,873
3rd Sparrows - 9,185,616

Quizzes

1st Bears - 1,385
2nd Owls - 796
3rd Fireflies - 718

We would like to congratulate Brayden Nyama (Owls) on reading 3 million words and Henry Walters (Ants) on becoming a Multi-Millionaire Reader - well done to you both.

How many pages do you read a night?

Sponsored Read

Thank you to everyone who raised money for the school by taking part in our Sponsored Read. We raised an amazing total of £4,257.77 in sponsor money, but





Newsletter No. 26

28th April 2025

this qualifies us for extra commission of £2,554.66 with Usborne books so we have a grand total of **£6,812.43** to spend on new books for our school. We will be able to buy books to go into classrooms, our library and to support children's learning in a range of subjects. The top three fundraisers were Ioanna Mortis from Butterflies who raised £250, Lily Burrill from Rabbits who raised £152.50 and Keziah Playle from Rabbits who raised £100. These three children will be able to choose a book (or books) to the value of £15 to take home and keep. Well done girls!

County Cross Country Finals



Before the Easter holidays, five of our Cross Country runners, Archie Alsop (Badgers), Isla Reeves (Ants), Hermione Delf (Sparrows), Brayden Nyama (Owls) and Ruby Trew (Owls) attended the County Cross Country Finals at Garons and had a fabulous morning, running with the elite from Essex. Brayden and Ruby tell of their respective experiences below:-

"Before the race I was feeling very nervous and scared. My mum was there to watch me run a km and a half. When we got there, the girls were running and then it was our turn. The man there was introducing us to the hares and the

tortoises and telling us the rules. Then the honker was honked and I sprinted as fast as I could. There was a lot of pushing and shoving until I was last. Then I found a gap to run through and got past as many people as I could (which was a lot of people) and was in around fifty-ninth place. After running and running and running and people overtaking me and me overtaking them we got to the end. Then a few runners pushed past me and I was in sixty-first place. It was long and tiring but I would like to do it again. (Brayden)

"It was very scary seeing all the people from different schools but once I got going I really enjoyed the race and I hope to do it again next time. I was a little disappointed with 50th place but as it was my second race, I will try and beat it next year." (Ruby)

Life in WWII



Again, before the Easter holidays, Year 6 were kindly visited by Joan (Amelie Mara's Step Great Nan) who answered questions about her life as a child in WWII, which the Year 6s have been studying. It was a great experience for them to have someone who had actually lived through the war and was an evacuee. Ivy Cook (Otters) gives her account of the visit below:-

"A 92 year old woman came in to school as Year 6s have been learning about WWII and she was an evacuee. We asked her questions about her life in WWII and she answered really well considering it was 81 years ago. We all had a really fun time! Happy Birthday Joan (it was her birthday). She was so lovely!

Year 5 Friendly Football Match (home) vs. Kingston Primary School

On Tuesday, we had managed to secure a friendly for our Year 5s to play against Kingston Primary School. It was a lovely opportunity to see the skills of our fantastic Year 5 players and gave a chance to some who don't ordinarily play football. The game was a fantastic event with some brilliant skills from both sides and some wonderful goals. Kingston managed to secure a draw with the final kick of the game meaning it finished 3-3 and great fun was had by all. Another example of the children 'Being the best they can be'. Ethan Fitzmaurice (Ants) gives his account of the game below:-

"It was a really good match. We got some good goals. Our attacking and defence were pretty good as well. I played in defence which I prefer as I'm strong and can defend the ball well. Kingston had some good shots and some good passing. The final score was 3-3. I really enjoyed playing as I haven't played in a while with the school team. I hope that I get to play with the school team again."



Panathlon

On Wednesday, a group of Year 4 children visited The Deanes to participate in a Panathlon. The Panathlon runs on a rotational system whereby a team of between 6 to 8 participants get to take part in a carousel of seven activities officiated by trained Sports Leaders. The events included New Age Kurling, Boccia Blast and Flight Path amongst many others. Tyler Lynch (Sparrows) tells of his exciting time below:-





Newsletter No. 26

28th April 2025

"First of all we had an early lunch. Then we got onto the minibus and we drove to Deanes. First of all we went through the rules. Then we got a massive tennis ball and massive tennis racquet and had to dribble the tennis ball around the cones with the tennis racquet. It was very good but it was hard to get the tennis ball through the tight gaps. Then we did some throwing. We got some big balls and we had to try and land them in the hoopla hoops. If it landed in the hoopla hoop but then went out, we got one point. If it stayed in when we threw it, we got two points but if we knocked over the football off the cone we got three points. I managed to get the football off the cone twice so I got 6 points! After that, we did our final activity which was a bit more throwing. There were different colour balls. First we had to try and hit a green target from far away as that was the easiest. Then we had to try and hit red which was a bit closer. It was a bit trickier. Then it was the blue one from close up. That one was way harder. Finally, it was the yellow one we had to hit very close and it was so tricky. I managed to hit all of them although sometimes I threw it a bit too high. I really enjoyed the event because there were so many fun activities."



Earth Day



The children have been busy celebrating Earth Day here at Thundersley Primary School — and what a great time they've had! From litter picking to creating beautiful collages out of recyclable materials, they've truly embraced the

spirit of looking after our planet. These activities have also supported our *Plastic Clever* initiative, with lots of fantastic evidence being gathered along the way. We also explored our new food waste system and had thoughtful discussions about how to recycle our rubbish appropriately. What wonderful world warriors we have!

Great News!



We had our lovely shiny 'new' minibus delivered just before the Easter holidays which was funded by the insurance company and topped up by our dedicated PTA with funds matched by Kingston. The stolen minibus was recovered but unfortunately the thieves caused too much damage making it an insured loss. Apart from the upset, frustration and time without it we are delighted to have a better minibus than before

Gymnastic Congratulations



We would like to congratulate Eva Mandizha (Owls) who competed at the weekend in the Essex County NDP Preparation 2, age 9. She was crowned Essex County Champion with some amazing scores.

Vault - Gold
Beam - Gold
Floor - Gold
Range - Gold
Bars - Bronze

Eva also achieved 'working beyond' status and won a special award from the judges for exceptional split leaps and jumps.

Well done Eva, what an amazing achievement. You should be very proud!

A Heartfelt Thank You



Loredana Martines, mum of Nicolas Ellis in Otters, works in a care home and emailed in to see if Nicolas' class would be kind enough to send one of the residents who was turning 104 a birthday card as she has little family. Mrs. Wells organised the children to make Daniela a special card which was then given to her on her birthday. As you can imagine, Daniela was overwhelmed and Nicolas' mum emailed the following as a thank you:-





Newsletter No. 26

28th April 2025

On behalf of Daniela, I would like to express her sincere gratitude for the thoughtful birthday card she received from your students. Daniela was deeply touched by your kind gesture and was genuinely impressed. She even asked how you knew it was her special day! The card from Thundersley Primary School holds a special place in her heart, particularly because Daniela has never had the opportunity to become a mother and at her age, she is often left with fewer friends and family around her, making moments like these all the more meaningful. Your kindness has brightened her day in ways you can't imagine and she wants to thank each of you for your warmth and consideration.

Numbots Certificates

Well done to all children in EYFS, 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.



EYFS - Ayla Hussein (Dragonflies)
Year 1 - Amelia Betts (Butterflies)
Year 2 - Stanley Leer Robins)

Well done to you all!

Stars of the Week

Year 6:- Bailey Paton,
Harry Sayer, Oscar Jiggins,
Vedik Kollagunta, Nicolas
Ellis and Henry Frost

Year 5:- Evie Barber, Teddy Thompson,
Darcey Gayler and Louella Church

Year 4:- Bella-Nicole Arscott, Nellie
Gaskin, Oliver Giles and Louie Seymour

Year 3:- Jack Weeden, Frankie Greig,
David Stan and Jude Marnham

Year 2:- Elsie Phillips, Eli Swaby, Aiden
White and Alois Pjetra

Year 1:- Amari Clements, Harper
Hooper, Eddie Hunter and Thalia
Churchman

EYFS:- Ava Anderson and Charlie
Robinson-Boot



Playground Stars of the Week

Albert Longmore, Lara Pur, Alevia Pjetra,
Darcey Gayler, Henry Walters, Aiden
Clarke, Mia Birch, Marlee Morris, Isla
Jacobs, Stanley Hamilton, Archie Stuart,
Ivy Beachcroft, Oliver Smith, Sylvie
Nicoara, Freddie Inwood, Lily Downing,
Ellen Weeden, Lewis Grigson, Alisia Pjetra,
Olivia Dean, Daniel Arram, Emily Duggan,
Alion Pjetra, Brady Harringley, Stanley
Hamilton, Stanley Potts, Nancy Walters,
Ioanna Mortis, Dragonflies' Class

House Point Scores

The House Point scores for the week are:-

Golden Eagles	2767
Blue Dolphins	2613
Red Arrows	2579
Green Dragons	2401



Well done Golden Eagles!

Honesty is the best policy!

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

Perla Puckey - Owls
Isla Jacobs - Owls
Sophia Jarvis - Owls
Ferne Bradley - Owls
Tommy Pellett - Fireflies
Lily Roberts - Chipmunks
Alfie Seymour - Sparrows

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

Early Birds 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.

Urgent Plea - Early Birds Breakfast Club & Treetops After School Club

Our team worked hard over the holidays sorting the resources, games and toys available for our popular Early Birds and Treetops provision. We have space and are very keen to fill it with new toys/games/books etc. If you also did some spring clearing over the holidays and have some games/toys/books you have spare, we would be grateful for your donations - thank you.

Please contact Mr. Mackay or Mrs. Watts.

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.





Newsletter No. 26

28th April 2025

Telephone:- 01268 751724

www.pennuk.com

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

Telephone 01268 967542

www.daniellesshop.co.uk

PTA News

Next Meeting

Please note that the date of the next meeting is on Monday, 28th April 2025 at 7pm in the White Hart. Everyone is welcome!

Break the Rules Day

We would like to confirm that the profit made on Break the Rules Day was a fantastic £649.29 - thank you for your support.

Spring Festival

We would like to advise that the profit made for the Spring Festival was a magnificent £741.33 - thank you for your support.

Community News

ACL

Child Anxiety/Teen Anxiety

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Girls 4 Football - 28th May 2025

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Barracudas

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Hadleigh & Thundersley Cricket Club

23/02/26

20/07/26

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Community Cares - A Mental Health Event - 15th May 2025

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

The Mega Centre Rayleigh - Ukraine Appeal

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Hashtag United

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

05/05/25 - Bank Holiday

26/05/25 to 30/05/25 - Half Term

18/07/25 - Last day of Term

01/09/25 - Start of the Autumn Term

27/10/25 to 31/10/25 - Half Term

22/12/25 to 02/01/26 - Christmas Break

05/01/26 - Start of the Spring Term

16/02/26 to 20/02/26 - Half Term

30/03/26 to 10/04/26 - Easter Break

13/04/26 - Start of the Summer Term

04/05/26 - Bank Holiday

25/05/26 to 29/05/26 - Half Term

17/07/26 - Last Day of the Summer Term

(due to non-pupil day on 20/07/26)

****NON PUPIL DAYS****

21/07/25

22/07/25

01/09/25

24/10/25

24/11/25

