



# Newsletter No. 16

20<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

An exciting week for our dance troupes and our choir! We have a group of Year 4 children attending the Dance Festival at the Palace Theatre this week and on Wednesday evening, our choir and a group of children who take part in a lunchtime dance club, will take part in BATIC's Got Talent. We are so grateful to all the staff involved in this, but particularly Zoe Lane who teaches dance to our children throughout the year and Mrs West and Mrs Griffiths who run our choir.

My assemblies this week and last have been on the Magic of reading! At Thundersley, we love celebrating the magic of reading, and I wanted to remind everyone of the incredible benefits that come from reading for pleasure. Sharing a book with your child—whether it's cuddled up on the sofa or at bedtime—creates precious moments of connection and helps foster a lifelong love of stories. Beyond building vocabulary and comprehension, regular reading enhances focus, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, laying a strong foundation for academic success. It also sparks imagination, strengthens emotional bonds, and nurtures curiosity about the world. We know that the children who read the most make the most progress, not just in reading, but in many other areas in the curriculum. If your child is not keen to read to you - just read to them, they still gain reading skills from this. So, this week, I'm encouraging the children to grab a book, find a cozy spot, and enjoy the joy of reading with their special people! Thank you for your support.

Have a super week,

**Miss E. Dawson**  
**Headteacher**

### Attendance

For the week ended 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025, there were three classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Robins who achieved 98.7%.

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:-

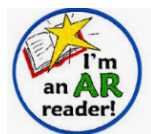
Class	Week
Chipmunks	95.4%
Dragonflies	90.0%
Butterflies	93.7%
Rabbits	91.4%
Ladybirds	91.9%
Robins	98.7%
Fireflies	92.3%
Owls	93.3%
Bears	92.7%
Sparrows	97.3%
Ants	92.3%
Kestrels	97.0%
Badgers	91.8%
Otters	95.3%
Squirrels	91.3%
Whole School	93.6%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners  
**ROBINS**

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for 2024 - 2025 is:  
**97%**

### KS2 Accelerated Reader

For the week ended 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024:-



### Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 635,068

2<sup>nd</sup> Kestrels - 290,442  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sparrows - 276,690

### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 55  
2<sup>nd</sup> Owls 24  
3<sup>rd</sup>

Overall:-

### Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 9,061,515  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sparrows - 4,795,334  
3<sup>rd</sup> Badgers - 4,761,137

### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 911  
2<sup>nd</sup> Owls - 475  
3<sup>rd</sup> Fireflies - 368

We would also like to congratulate the following children who have become Millionaire Readers:-

Jeremy D'Aleo - Sparrows  
Henry Walters - Ants

Well done to you both!

### Year 3 Egyptian Day - Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025



On Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025, the Year 3 children were visited by History Off the Page to provide a Life in Ancient Egypt Day as part of their topic on Ancient Egypt.

History Off the Page is a company which provides immersive and practical History workshops to schools. The workshop gave the children a feeling of what it was like to be an Egyptian in ancient times and the children experienced what life was like during the 14th century BC under the reign of Pharaoh Akhenaten. The children learnt about the issues of the time, with the opportunity to participate in a range of cross-curricular activities and crafts. The





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children kept everything they made and had a wonderful time. Saachi Naddinuri (Fireflies) and Preston Hooper (Owls) tell of their exciting day below:-

"We had to make a soap bar and then we had to carve it. I made mine into a pyramid. Then I headed over to the bread section but it was really salty. I had to braid the bread then I put it in my bag and cooked it at home. Then I headed over to the perfume section for the mummies. I had to make a clay bowl and then I had to crush some flowers up and put them in my clay bowl. Then I had to pour some wax into the wax pot and then pour it into my clay pot with the flowers in. At the end of the day I put it in my bag to take home. Then we had to dance at an Egyptian party. I was one of the musicians and I had sticks to hit together. The whole day was really fun and I learned lots of things." (Saachi Naddinuri)



"First in the morning we did at least nine workshops and we practiced wrapping sticks like mummies to represent when the Pharaoh died and was put in their coffin. We made some pots to stamp some nuts in to make it into flour. We also made a clay necklace and it took a lot of hard work. We made some bread out of the flour we crushed but we



couldn't eat it because it was too soggy. We did a painting of a pyramid and Egyptian buildings and we had to carve some hieroglyphics. After that, we made some bags to put all our stuff in. In

the afternoon we did some performances and we were handed the food we made in the morning so we could eat it. Next, we were put into our performance groups so that we could practice. I played the bull which moved its head to say yes or no. The thing I loved the most was the painting because I could choose any colour and I could be creative." (Preston Hooper)

Year 3 staff would like to say a huge thank you to all parent/carer helpers for their assistance on the day.

## Futsal Tournament - Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

On Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025, our Year 6 football team headed to Waterside to attend the very first SSP Futsal Tournament!



Thundersley were very lucky to take two teams to this event that competed fantastically, with the two teams being called 'Thundersley Yellow' and 'Thundersley Black'. There were many goals scored from both sides with some exciting attacking football and some brilliant defending. The day finished with 'Thundersley Black' coming in 6<sup>th</sup> place and 'Thundersley Yellow' finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> place! Well done to all the boys who took part in the day and represented the school brilliantly! Jaxon Grange (Otters) in the Thundersley Yellow team and Jimmy Hunter (Squirrels) in the Thundersley Black team both give their respective accounts of the tournament below:-

Futsal and put our bags down and the person told us what we were going to do. Then we went to do some training and then it got underway and we played our first game. We won it and won all our games. That meant we went into the Champions' League group. We also won all of these games and won the first ever Waterside Futsal Tournament. It was really fun as I haven't played it in a while. I was a runner behind the striker which I enjoyed. We got a picture of the trophy as they needed the real one for the next day." (Jaxon Grange)

"It was indoor football and we had two groups. I was in the Thundersley Black team. We didn't do too well. We lost the first one, drew the second and lost the last game. We were in the Europa League and Thundersley Yellow team were in the Champions' League. In the afternoon, we played the first game which we won and then we played another team and beat them and went on to the final of the Europa League. Unfortunately, we lost so came second. I played Futsal quite a lot last year and really enjoy it." (Jimmy Hunter)



"When we arrived we waited for Mr. Wilson and when he arrived we went through to the balcony and chilled there for a couple of minutes. Then we went down to the

## Charities Day

Due to staff illness, the Charities Day money has not been counted. As soon as it is, the total amounts will be given in the newsletter!





## Thunks

As a school, we are looking at ways to improve children's oracy. Thunks are a brilliant way to do this as they will help our children help to develop philosophical thinking, confidence in their own opinions and the ability to listen to others, through open-ended questions where there are no right or wrong answers. They can engage our children and encourage participation, discussion and debate. Each week a Thunk will be shared with you on the newsletter. Please use this at home with your child.....this can be round the dinner table, at bedtime, on a car journey or waiting for the school gates to open! 5 minutes is all that is needed to spark a conversation!



Well done Blue Dolphins!

## Stars of the Week

- Year 6:-** Darcie Vine, Amelie Mara and Henry Frost
- Year 5:-** Elsie May and Ella McGeown
- Year 4:-** Daniyal Sethi and Harry Molloy
- Year 3:-** Rex Bilkey, Xander Weedon, Tommy Pellett
- Year 2:-** Jaxon-Jai Winter and Dylan Gates
- Year 1:-** Summer Barber and Remi Laver-Young
- EYFS:-** Zachary Petrellis and Ali Kemal Dogan



## Playground Stars of the Week

Fearne Horne, Paighton Brown, Sophie Nix, Bobby Foster-Pasterfield, Henry Hogsden, Maison Alsela, George Dulieu, Nellie Gaskin, Kady Laver, Scarlett-Rose O'Dell, Maddox McKinlay, Cody Kemp, Amari Clements, Eleanor Page and Emilia Larbey

## Honesty is the best policy!

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

- Brady Harringley (Owls)
- Elliot Hardwicke (Owls)
- Salem Mhembere (Owls)
- Ramsey Wheeler (Owls)
- Bella Blackshaw (Otters)
- Macey Robinson (Otters)
- Alion Pjetra (Fireflies)

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.daniellesshop.co.uk](http://www.daniellesshop.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!

This week's Thunk is:-

What makes you, 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 - Teddy Terry (Butterflies)
- Year 2 - Stanley Hamilton (Robins)

Well done to you both!

## House Point Scores

The House Point scores for the week are:-

Blue Dolphins	3170
Green Dragons	2867
Red Arrows	2761
Golden Eagles	2383





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## Pre-Christmas Events

Thank you to everyone who supported the events before Christmas. We raised the following amazing amounts for our School:-

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

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

Christmas Present Palace - **£1,053.44**

Christmas Gifts (Class Fundraising) -  
**£469.50**

Christmas Raffle - **£742.45**

## Community News

### ACL Family Learning

Please find attached flyers in respect of the above.

### Mini Tennis

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Poetry Competition

Please find attached information in respect of the above.

### Mental Health Q&A Guest Talk with STRM and STRM Bouldering Club

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

