



# Newsletter No. 14

5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

A Happy New Year to all our families! As we say in Scotland 'Lang may yer lum reek!' I hope everyone had a peaceful festive period and managed to get some family time.

We are delighted to see the children back and everyone is looking forward to an exciting six weeks of learning.

Our Years 5 & 6 children did a wonderful job in our annual Charities Sale in the last week of term, with hundreds of pounds raised for so many charities. The adults around them were filled with pride at how they organised themselves and ran their stalls - and at how kindly they dealt with their young customers! The children really came together as a family to do good for many causes. Thank you parents/carers for your support in this, whether it be helping your child at home to make or bake or collect their goods, or providing money for your child to spend on the day.

I know this is going to be another super year at Thundersley. As always, if you have any concerns, please do speak, in the first instance, to your child's class teacher at the earliest opportunity.

Have a super week.

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

## EYFS/Reception Admissions for September 2026

Please note that the Primary School admissions for EYFS/Reception places for September 2026 are now open. Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions) and the closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Please note that even if your child has a sibling at your chosen school, you still need to apply online by the above deadline.

## Attendance

For the week ended 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025 there were four classes who achieved

97% attendance or above. Well done to Robins who achieved 99.3%.

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:-

	Week
Chipmunks	91.4%
Dragonflies	85.5%
Butterflies	95.8%
Rabbits	97.6%
Ladybirds	89.3%
Robins	99.3%
Fireflies	98.0%
Owls	95.3%
Bears	94.2%
Sparrows	90.6%
Ants	96.2%
Kestrels	97.1%
Badgers	95.2%
Squirrels	89.4%
Whole School	93.9%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

**ROBINS**

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2025 - 2026 is:

**97%**

## Charities Christmas Sale

At the end of last term the children in Years 5 & 6 put together a Charities Sale in aid of different charities they wanted to support. The total amount raised will be given in an upcoming newsletter once all

the money has been counted. In the meantime, please find below details of one group's experience given by Poppy Ferdinando Hemmings (Squirrels):-

"My team were Penny Lawrence, Louella Church, Saskia Lawledge-Scott and Willow Leer and we had a claw machine with lots of sweets and squishes in, hair scrunchies, 'blind' bags and we also had tiny little glass animals. We also had lollipops and everyone went crazy over them. To start with, we were out at lunch and we were all talking about what we would bring in so that we all didn't bring the same things in. We bought some of the stock and also brought some things from home to sell. On the morning, we were all gathered up with the Year 5s and Miss Dawson gave us a talk about what we needed to do and we had to have signs up about which charity we were supporting. Our charity was MacMillan Cancer Support. We chose this charity because we have relatives in our group who have been diagnosed with cancer. We sold most of our stock so had to bring more in the next day. It was really good and I thought it was really lovely that we were raising money for this charity. We raised approximately £103 which was amazing and meant a lot to us. We were overjoyed!"

## Year 5 Marble Run Project





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Our Year 5s have been busy in DT creating their own marble runs using recycled toilet roll tubes and they had a fantastic time testing out their ideas! As they designed and built their tracks, the children developed key practical skills such as joining materials and constructing simply bridges. They also strengthened important interpersonal skills, including teamwork and resilience, as they experimented, problem-solved and refined their designs together.

## Stars of the Week

**Year 6:-** Lily Crawford and Isla Reeves

**Year 5:-** Albie Clark and Charlie Baker

**Year 4:-** Maddison Wilson and Ollie Whitaker

**Year 3:-** Jake Williams and Alex Aldridge

**Year 2:-** All in Ladybirds and Robins

**Year 1:-** Lenna Prainer and All in Butterflies

**EYFS:-** Alana Hill and Ruby Eldridge



## Playground Stars of the Week

Isobel Hawkins, Isaac Wood, James Painter, Emily Clayton, Luna Thomas, Lilly Hawker, Jake Godfrey, Oliver Smith, Ava Anderson, Mason Evans-Dani, Melissa Evans-Dani and Brooke Simpson

## Treetops Stars of the Week

Darcey Gayler, Harvey Ruggles and Theodore Frimley

## Honesty is the best policy!

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

Henry Walters (Squirrels)  
Toby Sutherland (Squirrels)  
Tommy Pellett (Bears)  
Henry Wise Bell (Bears)  
Isabelle Hawkins (Ants)  
Phoebe Barron (Squirrels)

Quinn Godfrey (Squirrels)  
Perla Puckey (Sparrows)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

## THUNK



Should a child be made to get wet if they have forgotten to bring a jacket?

## 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 either speak to Mrs. Hayward in the main School Office or email her directly on:-



[Katie.Hayward@tps.robusmat.co.uk](mailto:Katie.Hayward@tps.robusmat.co.uk)

Treetops this week:-

This week we will be thinking about New Year Resolutions as well as our usual activities. We are still after donations of

old comics if you have any that need a new home now the festivities are over. The children would be very grateful.

## 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.danielllessshop.co.uk](http://www.danielllessshop.co.uk)

## PTA

## Next Meeting - AGM

The PTA will be holding their AGM on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7pm in the White Hart. If you would like to join the PTA, they would love to see you there. Everyone will be welcomed!

## Community News

## Benfleet Cricket Club

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## Charity Christmas Tree Collection

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## School Calendar - Dates

eSchools or eSchools app Lite





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## Future Term Dates

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\*\*\*\*

23/02/26

20/07/26

