



Newsletter No. 16

19th January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been wonderful to see just how much reading is happening across the school, with children sharing books at home and families making time to read together. This shared reading really matters: research consistently shows that children who read regularly for pleasure, especially with their parents, build stronger language, confidence and comprehension, and are more likely to develop a lifelong enjoyment of books. We know that in busy lives it can sometimes be hard to find the time, but even a few minutes of shared reading has real impact. Just as importantly, reading together creates calm moments for connection and conversation, helping children feel supported and motivated as readers. Thank you for the time and care you give to this — it is making a genuine difference to children's learning and wellbeing.

It was super to have so many parents/carers join Mrs Folley and Mrs Farmer on Friday to look at the resources for the Healthy Relationships week. The children will be taking part in lessons this week.

We have a number of Parent/Carer Involvement afternoons coming up soon, so please do check the online calendar for those. In addition to this, we have Open Door sessions straight after school on 11th February for Years 4, 5 and 6 and 12th February for EYFS, Years 1 and 2. This is a chance to look at your child's books with them and celebrate all they have learned this year so far.

Have a happy week all!

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance

For the week ended 16th January 2026 there were six classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Owls who achieved 100%. They will receive a

£10 Amazon voucher to spend on something for their class.

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	97.0%
Dragonflies	94.2%
Butterflies	94.2%
Rabbits	93.1%
Ladybirds	97.0%
Robins	95.2%
Fireflies	93.3%
Owls	100%
Bears	97.1%
Sparrows	92.1%
Ants	97.9%
Kestrels	97.7%
Badgers	93.6%
Squirrels	92.3%
Whole School	95.3%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

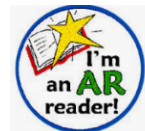
OWLS

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2025 - 2026 is:

97%

Accelerated Reader



For the week ended 16th January 2026:-

Quizzes

Fireflies 45
Bears 42
Sparrows/Owls 21

Word Count

Kestrels 571,720
Ants 275,623
Badgers 260,106

We would also like to congratulate Henry Walters and Henry Grover, who are both in Squirrels, for becoming word millionaires. Well done to you both!

Dodgeball Competition

Recently, our Year 6 Dodgeball team went to The Deanes School for



the annual SSP Dodgeball tournament where we took on schools from our local area. 23 schools attended the competition, which was really competitive. We were put into a really strong group and managed to just squeeze through into the quarter finals by 1 point! In the quarter finals we played Winter Gardens who we managed to beat 2-1 to send us into the semi-finals. Unfortunately, we lost in the semi-finals to a strong Canvey team who went on to win the competition. Overall, we finished in 4th place after a defeat to Hadleigh in the 3rd place play off but a great achievement from the team who gave it everything on the day. Well done team! Lily Crawford tells of her experience at the competition below:-

"We were against 23 schools. We started not as good as we could but we got better throughout the competition. We got through to the quarter finals and won one game so it meant we got through to the semi-finals. We played against a really





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hard team. So we were drawing and whoever won the last game would get through to the finals. We came 4th overall and we were all proud and happy to be in the place we were. It was really fun and it was good being the team we were. I don't play dodgeball outside of school but I do love it!"

Essex Cup U11 Girls



On Friday, we went to Doddinghurst in the last 16 of the Essex U11 Girls' Cup.

This is the furthest our school has reached in the competition ever! It was a brilliant display from the girls as they went on to win the game 3-1. Well done girls! They are now into the quarter finals where they will play Brentwood Prep School at home. Isla Reeves (Squirrels) gives her account of the match below:-

"It was a good match and we played really well. In the first half we were down 1-0 against a good Doddinghurst team. In the second half we all played really well and Saskia scored from a corner. Then I followed up and scored another corner. Then Poppy scored a great goal which meant we won 3-1 and are now into the quarter finals of the Essex Cup."

Stars of the Week

Year 6:- Henry Grover and Joshua Sandford

Year 5:- Nellie Gaskin and Taylor Dwyer-St-Pier

Year 4:- Joshua Arram

Year 3:- Henry Thorne and Rosie Spears

Year 2:- Amelia Buckingham and Avery-Bleu Dolan

Year 1:- Archie Rawles and Freddie Inwood

EYFS:- Nellie Church and Ava Clifford



Playground Stars of the Week

Isaac Wood, Oscar Wooden, Albert O'Connell, Isobel Hawkins, Eliot

Hardwicke, Alion Pjetra, Wyatt Beachcroft, Jack Bush, Mila Balci, Nancy Walters, Harriet Brown, Elizabeth White, Phoenix Teanby, Patrick Boswell and Remi Law

Treetops Stars of the Week

Brayden Nyama

Honesty is the best policy!

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

Isobel Hawkins - Badgers
Alion Pjetra - Bears
Aiden White - Fireflies
Mason Major - Kestrels

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Blue Dolphins	2333
Golden Eagles	2161
Red Arrows	1870
Green Dragons	1692



Well done Blue Dolphins!

THUNK



Are you really outside if you are in a tent?

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

Treetops this week:-

This week brings Penguin Awareness week so, rather than freezing outside in the Antarctic temperatures, we will have some indoor activities instead.

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





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Danielle's Uniform,
Claydons Lane,
Rayleigh,
Essex, SS6 7UP.
Telephone 01268 967542

www.danielllesshop.co.uk

PTA

Next Meeting

The PTA will be holding their next meeting on Tuesday, 24th February 2026 at 7pm in the White Hart. If you would like to join the PTA, they would love to see you there. Everyone will be welcome!

Community News

Fitzwimarc School Netball Camp February Half Term 2026

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Bright Boots Football Camp February Half Term 2026

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

School Calendar - Dates

eSchools or eSchools app Lite

Future Term Dates

Academic Year 2025-2026

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)

Academic Year 2026-2027

01/09/26 - Start of the Autumn Term
26/10/26 to 30/10/26 - Half Term
21/12/2026 to 01/01/27 - Christmas
Break
04/01/27 - Start of the Spring Term

15/02/27 to 19/02/27 - Half Term
26/03/27 to 09/04/27 - Easter Break
12/04/27 - Start of the Summer Term
03/05/27 - Bank Holiday
31/05/27 to 04/06/27 - Half Term
21/07/27 - Last Day of Summer Term

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

23/02/26

20/07/26

5 days for 26/27 to be confirmed

