



Dear Parent/Carer,



What a lovely sunny day!

We are all excited about our World Book Day celebrations on Friday!

Just a reminder that children can come dressed as a favourite book character and bring a favourite book. No football kits please. We will be taking part in DEAR time - Drop Everything And Read - when Mrs. Hayward will ring the bell and we will drop everything to read our books and in each class, there will be a variety of activities based on reading. As you know, we really do believe that reading is the key to making great progress in all learning, so books and reading will be the focus for us on Friday.

I would like to draw your attention to a new UK Government consultation asking parents and carers for their views on how to keep children safe online, including on social media, gaming and AI chatbots. The aim is to understand how best to protect children from digital harm and support healthy tech-use habits. You can find out more and share your thoughts on the proposals via the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/growing-up-in-the-online-world-a-national-consultation>

Enjoy the sunshine and have a great week.

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance

For the week ended 27th February 2026 there were seven classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Ants 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	97.8%
Dragonflies	90.7%
Butterflies	97.2%
Rabbits	98.3%
Ladybirds	96.6%
Robins	94.0%
Fireflies	97.1%
Owls	95.4%
Bears	97.5%
Sparrows	93.0%
Ants	100%
Kestrels	98.8%
Badgers	95.2%
Squirrels	96.4%
Whole School	96.4%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners
ANTS

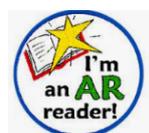
Aspirational attendance target set for the school for 2025 - 2026 is:
97%

Accelerated Reader

For half term and the week ended 27th February 2026:-

Quizzes

Owls 67
Sparrows 47
Bears 40



Word Count

Sparrows 894,541
Owls 579,296
Bears 591,924

Badminton Tournament



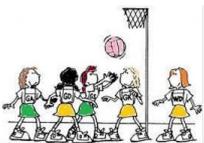
After completing a unit of work on badminton in P.E. with Mrs Williams, two Year 6 boys' teams and girls' teams went to compete in a tournament at Deanes before half-term. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to play competitive games against children from other schools and to work on their game strategy. The boys competed energetically in the morning. Of the two teams that went, one won their pool and then went on to finish third overall, sadly losing a semi-final but showing great resilience to bounce back and win a bronze medal match convincingly. In the afternoon it was the girls' turn and both teams showed what good learners they were, improving their tactical play and teamwork in the doubles matches. Amazingly, one team got all the way to the final, which was a very tense affair against Canvey Juniors. The match was tied at 2-2, which meant that the final game was massive. Sadly Thundersley lost by one point, but showed fantastic sportsmanship to congratulate the winners and take their Silver medals proudly. All in, a terrific day of sport and a superb learning experience for the children. Mr Yorston and Mr Wilson were really proud of them all for their growth mindset and great attitude. Penny Lawrence (Squirrels) gives details of the event below:-

"We had a morning and afternoon team and we took two boy teams and two girl teams. We walked up to Deanes and the staff and volunteers were very welcoming. When we got there the boys weren't quite finish so we watched them finish off their last few matches. Then we got called up by Mr. Yorston and Mr. Wilson and then they said to us what teams we would be in. There was Thundersley Gold and Thundersley Black. I was in Thundersley Gold. Thundersley Gold got through to the semi-



finals and we were all very excited and a bit anxious but we all stuck as a team and encouraged each other to keep on. We did some single matches and some double matches and we had a coach or two standing at each end of the net and they would keep our score and tell us where we were serving our shuttlecock from. The other competitors were very friendly and very sensible and not mean. After we had done the match, whether we had lost or won, we went to shake the others' hands and said "Good game". At the end we got right through to the finals and we were really excited as we would either come second or first. We were all really proud of ourselves and talked to each other about strategies. We changed some of our rackets to see what ones we could work better with. I changed to a long racket and it helped me much more. We didn't sadly come first but we were very happy as we came second winning a silver medal and the other Thundersley Black team were very happy for us and super proud of us. I love playing badminton as my dad helped me understand the game and Mr. Yorston talked us through details we didn't already know. I really enjoyed it and I hope that there are further games I can be involved in."

Netball Update



Thundersley competed in two netball games recently - both for the Mixed

League. The first game against Kingston was a real nail-biter with both teams scoring and the game remaining really tight until the final quarter, when Louella managed to score two goals and ease Thundersley's nerves! It was a really good team performance which ended 6 - 3 to Thundersley. Louella Church (Squirrels) gives her account of the Kingston match below:-

"It was quite a hard game as we scored and then they scored. They had really good defence but we put in some good challenges which stopped them scoring. In the second quarter we didn't score but

we were close to scoring to get to 2-1. In the third quarter I scored two goals and made some good challenges too. In the final quarter we scored another two goals and they scored another 1. The final score was 6-3. I played goal defence, centre, goal shooter and time keeper. I liked playing centre the best as I got to go everywhere on the court except for the semi circles. I thought the game was really hard but we battled through to win and the other team were really nice. I also got to play against my friend from Kingston. At the end we all got a biscuit and some juice!"

On Friday, Thundersley travelled to Hadleigh to compete - putting in an absolutely fantastic performance. The passing and movement was excellent, as was the shooting consistency from all players who played GA or GS. It was one of the best performances from a Thundersley netball team this season, which ended 17 - 0 to Thundersley. Well done to all involved in these netball games. Over 20 children from Years 5 and 6 have competed for the school at the sport and the progression that some have made has been brilliant to watch. Ruby Moorcraft (Kestrels) gives her account of the Hadleigh match below:-

"This was my first match playing for the school and it was really fun. I played time keeper, goal shooter, goal keeper and centre. I preferred playing goal shooter because I like to shoot and score goals for the team. I scored 2 or 3 goals. It was a good match and I really enjoyed it. I'm looking forward to playing again today."

Indoor Athletics

Thundersley's athletics stars shone brightly on Wednesday last week as they participated in the District Indoor Athletics competition at Deanes. 17 teams participated in what turned out to be a thrilling spectacle with incredibly close races and brilliant performances in field events such as javelin, vertical jump and standing triple jump. The children showed fantastic determination and desire to

succeed and performed amazingly. Although we haven't had the final results yet, the children were absolutely buzzing with energy and clearly enjoyed the event. Louie Hulton (Squirrels), who attended the morning session and Jenson Main (Squirrels) who attended the afternoon session give their respective accounts of the event below:-



"I did four events, two field events and two track events. In the track events it was the under over where you go through a tunnel and the 4 x 1 relay where we had to pass the baton. In the field event I did the standing vertical jump and standing triple jump where you had to hop on to one foot, hop onto the other foot and then jump. I liked the standing triple jump the best as it was quite fun. In the field events we got 3 goes each and it was judged off our best one. The field events were on at the same time as the track events but Mr. Wilson came and watched us. I thought the whole event was really good as even if we lost a race, everyone would cheer us on. I really enjoyed it and I thought it was really good that we got to do it." (Louie Hulton)

"I did javelin and chest push. In the chest push you have a weighted ball and you need to push it as far as possible in three goes. My best push was 7.5mtrs. In the javelin we also had three throws and had to throw them as far as possible. I'm not sure how far I threw but it was either the furthest or second furthest. I preferred the javelin because I always enjoy throwing events as I normally throw quite far. The whole event was really good for all of the people there and I would enjoy doing it again." (Jenson Main)

Year 4 Boys' Football vs. Robert Drake

On Thursday, our Year 4 Boys' team played a strong Robert Drake team. While the match ended in a 5-1 score line, we couldn't be prouder of the spirit, teamwork and determination our





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2nd March 2026

Thundersley pupils showed from first whistle to last. That finishes up the boys' season and we have to wait until all games are played to see where they will finish in the league. Percy Keane (Bears) tells of his experience below:-

"They scored one and then they chipped it in and scored another. I scored an amazing goal from the half way line and then it was half time. Mr. Wilson gave us a good team talk and then after half time they were on top and they scored another one which meant we were losing 3-1. It wasn't looking good and they scored again with a really good goal. So we were on the attack and we put one wide and then they went up the other end and scored another goal. Despite losing we all played excellently and gave it our all. The match was very enjoyable and fun."

Stars of the Week

Year 6:- Cattleya Tvsetkovska and Ricky Van Der Fransen



Year 5:- Oliver Rees and Renley Baker

Year 4:- Sylvie McEvoy and Alice Ridgwell

Year 3:- Edward Rowland and Emily Parmenter

Year 2:- Summer Barber and Mia Haxhia

Year 1:- Olivia Cummings

EYFS:- Zach Jackson and Olivia Foreland

Playground Stars of the Week

Darcey Rowland, Isla Bedford, George Mataj, Bella-Nicole Arscott, Ava Macdonald, Archie Whitaker, Wyatt Beachcroft, Ava Rothon, Elsie Phillips, Ethan Archer, Zachary Petrellis, Isabelle Cable, Margaux Parker and Holly Rolls

Treetops Star of the Week

Brianna Shearcroft

Honesty is the best policy!

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

Daisy Avison - Squirrels
Darcey Rowland - Squirrels
Norman Wheeler - Ants
Sophia England-Cowen - Squirrels

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

Thank



Is 'home' more of a feeling than a place?

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.robustmat.co.uk

Treetops this week:-

It finally looks like the weather is changing so hopefully the field will be dry enough to play on soon. In the meantime, we have lots of games and toys to use inside and this week, we will have activities linked to World Book Day.

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

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

Telephone 01268 967542

www.daniellesshop.co.uk

PTA

Next Meeting

To be confirmed.

Community News

The Deanes School Holiday Camps - Easter 2026

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Benfleet Cricket Club - Free Sessions

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.





Newsletter No. 21

2nd March 2026

Southend United Football Club - Easter 2026

01/09/26
02/09/26
22/10/26
23/10/26
22/02/27

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Saturday Clinics - Dental Check-Ups

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Camp Epic

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Free SEND Evening with Steve Challen at The Mega Centre Rayleigh

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

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******

20/07/26

