



Dear Parent/Carer,

The children looked just terrific on Friday! Thank you for all your support in helping your child to think about their favourite book and putting so much effort into their costumes. It was so lovely in our whole school assembly as children spotted characters they knew and talked about books - exactly what was intended. I did talk to them in assembly about it being their job to read every night - so if you need to use my name in vain, please do so!

Our Cross Country team did the most amazing job at the annual competition on Wednesday. 48 children from Years 3 to 6 attended and put on a terrific performance. These children trained well and had a great, positive attitude going into the competition - true Thundersley learners. Well done all!

We would like to take this opportunity of welcoming Mrs. Hardy to the Thundersley team this week. Mrs. Hardy will be working in the main Office three mornings a week as Mrs. Hayward is transferring to the Finance Office.

The sun has started to peak out behind those clouds - let's hope we get more of that this week - it really lifts us all.

Have a super week.

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Safeguarding - Respecting One Another

You know that at Thundersley we are proud of the kindness and respect shown by our pupils each day. Recently, we have reminded children that comments about someone's appearance - including the colour of their skin - are not appropriate and do not reflect our school values. They are deeply upsetting to individual children and their parents. We celebrate the diversity of our school community and want every child to feel safe, respected and valued. When situations arise, staff use them as learning opportunities to help

pupils understand the impact of their words and the importance of kindness. We would be grateful if families could continue these conversations at home so that together we reinforce the message that everyone should be treated with respect.

Attendance

For the week ended 6th March 2026 there were nine classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Butterflies who achieved 99.4%

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	96.5%
Dragonflies	95.5%
Butterflies	99.4%
Rabbits	98.6%
Ladybirds	99.3%
Robins	97.9%
Fireflies	98.0%
Owls	99.0%
Bears	97.7%
Sparrows	92.9%
Ants	97.2%
Kestrels	95.3%
Badgers	98.7%
Squirrels	96.1%
Whole School	97.3%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners
BUTTERFLIES

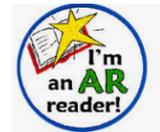
Aspirational attendance target set for the school for 2025 - 2026 is:
97%

Accelerated Reader

For the week ended 6th March 2026:-

Quizzes

Owls 29
Bears 22
Fireflies 18



Word Count

Kestrels 532,797
Ants 386,941
Sparrows 299,310

SuDS Planting



We were fortunate to have two specialists collaborate with our Sustainability Ambassadors on the school's new SuDS planters. Ariel, from the Essex

Council Floods team, and Terry from Bioscapes—the designer of our grey wildlife planters—shared their expertise with the group. After discussing their passion for the environment, Terry taught us about the local wildlife these planters support. This was followed by a unique minibeast hunt; the children first searched for beautifully hand-sewn animals that the planters attract, before heading into the school's woodland to find the real thing. There, the ambassadors bravely handled various minibeasts they had never dared to touch before! Terry demonstrated how the





planters' unique design creates an ideal habitat for these creatures. To round off an informative morning, the team added wildlife-attracting plants to the new installations. It was an inspiring experience for our young environmentalists, who are now excited to lead the way in our commitment to sustainability—monitoring these habitats to ensure our school remains a haven for biodiversity. Skylar Angerstein (Badgers) tells of her experience as a Sustainability Ambassador below:-

"Firstly, we went on the field and we all tried to look for little felted/plush animals and I found a worm. Next, we went around looking for real bugs and I found a worm and a millipede (I held them). We found a FOX SKELETON! I really enjoyed it and if I could do it again I definitely would. Finally, we went to the planters to plant some veg, fruit and flowers."



Netball News



Thundersley finished their mixed league campaign with a home game against Robert Drake on Monday. After last week's success they were excited to play and

showed a fantastic amount of energy and determination against strong opponents. It was a close game all the way through until the final quarter when fantastic shooting from Ethan and Ruby made it a great 11 - 3 win. Well done to all involved and thanks go to the parents who have supported the team so positively over the last two games. Henry Walters (Squirrels) describes the game below:-

"On Monday we played Robert Drake and won 11-3. I played centre and GA. I preferred playing GA as I scored twice in the quarter that I played it. It was a really exciting game and quite close until the last quarter where it was at the start 6-3 and we scored 5 goals in the last quarter. Robert Drake were a really productive team as they kept blocking all our passes and when we missed grabbed it and passed it out quick and they scored good goals. I think we played really well as a team with quick passes and great scoring. This was our last mixed game and we have won all of our games so there is a high chance of us coming top of the league! This is the first year I've ever played netball and I've really enjoyed playing it throughout my time at Thundersley and I'm really hoping to continue and enjoy it at secondary school if they have a mixed netball team.

Cross Country

On Wednesday, it was the annual Castle Point and Rochford Cross Country competition hosted at Garons Park, Southend. The weather was perfect for distance running. We took 8 teams of 6 to compete in each race and the first team to go were the Year 3 girls. They set the standard with a fantastic team effort giving a 100%. The races were all tightly contested with close to 200 runners in each race. As the races continued it was clear that Thundersley were putting on a fantastic performance with many yellow shirts close to the front. At the end of the event the team got together under our brand new gazebo, donated by Mrs. Lake of Highview Limited, for a post-race debrief and as we awaited the results from each team. Incredibly as the results were



announced we discovered that Thundersley had had a brilliant event with the Year 5 boys finishing 3rd, the Year 4 boys and Year 5 girls finishing 2nd in their events and most amazingly the Year 4 girls and Year 6 girls finishing 1st in their races. Add to that some brilliant individual finishes, with a number of children finishing top 5 in their race. Year 4 girls - Ruby Trew finished 5th. Year 5 girls - Hermione Delf finished 2nd. In the Year 4 boys race Bobby Fillary finished 4th and Brayden Nyama finished 3rd and in the Year 6 girls race Isla Reeves finished an incredible 2nd. This was a remarkable overall showing from our children and is testament to the practice and training they have been doing at lunchtimes with Mr. Wilson. This is another example of the children 'being the best they can be'. Ava Moorcraft (Owls) gives her account of the event below:-

"We've been training during school time and we've been doing it on a Monday and Wednesday. Then the competition was on Wednesday and we went by coach to Garons. When we got there the adults set up the Thundersley tent with a mat on the floor to sit on. First was the Year 3 girls' race and I was in it. We had to run around all the tents once and so did the Year 3 boys. Years 5 and 6 were running last so they had their lunch whilst we were running and we had our lunch whilst they were running. We did a little warm up before and then Mr. Wilson led us to the start line. We kept warm by doing little bounces. Then this lady with a panda hat on, had an air horn and when she blew it, it was time to go. I was a bit nervous but luckily there was someone in front of us who showed us where to go. At first I was





a bit cold but then I warmed up after running for a while and then I got a bit tired in the middle. The race was a little bit hard as it was 800m but we had been practicing doing a 1000m so it wasn't too bad. There were 180 Year 3 girls and I came 29th and I came 1st out of the Thundersley Year 3 girls. It was fun. This is the first year that I've done it and I would like to do it again. When everyone else was doing their races we cheered everyone on."

World Book Day



On Friday the school was buzzing with excitement as we celebrated a wonderful World Book Day. The classrooms were transformed into living libraries as children arrived dressed as their favourite characters; we spotted a sea of lightning-bolt scars and glasses for Harry Potter, striped stovepipe hats for The Cat in the Hat, and heroes such as Percy Jackson, alongside an array of classic fairy tale figures. The children got to take part in a number of activities to celebrate reading, including making their own mini books, solving themed word searches and decorating their own bookmarks. Throughout the day, the children really enjoyed our 'Drop Everything and Read'. Whenever the school bell rang—even in the middle of a Maths or English lesson—everyone immediately stopped what they were doing to dive into their favourite books brought from home. It was great fun, especially since the teachers joined in too, proving that you're never too busy to get lost in a good story! Hopefully, the children will also enjoy spending their £1 book tokens at Sainsbury's or local book shops.

Girls' Football vs. Downhall

On Friday our Girls' football team travelled to Downhall in the Essex Cup semi-final, it was the first time the girls have achieved this EVER! The girls knew it was going to

be a tough game as a place at the Essex Cup Final was up for grabs. The game started in a really even contest with Thundersley keeping Downhall at bay, with some brilliant defending. Despite it being an even contest throughout, Downhall were ruthless taking their chances, which saw the game finish Downhall 4-1 Thundersley. The girls' excellent cup run comes to an end, but what a brilliant achievement to reach the final four in Essex. Well done girls, a fantastic achievement. We wish Downhall all the best in the final! Willow Leer (Squirrels) gives details of the game below:-

"It was really rainy and wet and freezing. When we started they were really good and hard to beat and just at the end of the first half they scored a goal. We were mostly defending in the first half but in the second half they scored a goal almost straight away. Then we got a free kick so Poppy took the free kick and she scored. Then we were defending and tackling but they scored a third goal. At the end it was 4-1 to them. They were a good team but we tried really hard and it was one of the best games that our team has played. I played defence in the first half and right wing in the second. The match was really fun but when I was on the side lines I was really cold. This was the semi-final and it is the furthest a girls' team at Thundersley has got so I'm really proud of that."

Stars of the Week

Year 6:- Sophia England-Cowen and Scarlett-Grace Cater

Year 5:- Teddy Richards, Daniel Arram

Year 4:- Ramsey Wheeler and Henry Wise Bell

Year 3:- Dylan Nunez and Kody Kemp
Year 2:- Rebecca Major and George McGavigan

Year 1:- Isla Betts and Poppy Hawker
EYFS:- Alana Hill, George Crawford, Alice Pearson-Moase





Newsletter No. 22

9th March 2026

Playground Stars of the Week

Ella McGeown, Trisha Patel, Mia Birch, Hermione Delf, Brady Harringley, Vanesa Lukoseviciute, Yusra Biyiklioglu, Rosie Spears, Robins' Class, Mason Buckley, Eloise Bennett and Ruby Eldridge

Treetops Star of the Week

Dylan Gates

Honesty is the best policy!

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

Quinn Godfrey - Squirrels
Bella-Nicole Arscott - Ants
Ella McGeown - Squirrels
Phoebe Barron - Squirrels
Olivia Oswald - Squirrels

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Red Arrows	5921
Blue Dolphins	5190
Green Dragons	3543
Golden Eagles	2786



Well done Red Arrows!

Thunk



Is it better to read the book or watch the movie?

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:-

Treetops is flourishing with lots of children enjoying the extra time at school. Some are even asking their parents to stay longer even when it's their scheduled home-time. We are still looking forward to getting outside as soon as the weather allows but, in the meantime, the children are enjoying playing with our large quantity of toys and games.

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

Free SEND Coffee Morning at The Community Space

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Easter Swimming Crash Course

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





Newsletter No. 22

9th March 2026

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

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

