



Newsletter No. 24

23rd March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Our wonderful EYFS children were a 'hit' with their grandparents and family members last week. They brought a tear to the eye with their singing and I spoke to many grandparents who just loved their Afternoon Tea. Well done everyone in Chipmunks and Dragonflies.

Over 200 Year 5 children from our ROBUS schools had a fantastic trip to see the Lion King last Wednesday. The children were a credit to their schools and all seemed to relish the experience. Who knows, perhaps the experience will inspire the next generation of West End stars!

This week sees Year 4 going on their residential adventure to Danbury, Year 3 perform an assembly to their Parents/ Carers and our PTA Spring Fair - what a week! You will also receive your child's Mid-Year Report on Wednesday.

Finally, our PTA have organised another 'Break the Rules' day on Friday, 27th March, the last day of term. The children love this event and it raises much needed funds for our school. Please see the attached poster for details.

Have a super Spring week.

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance

For the week ended 20th March 2026 there were four classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Kestrels 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:-

	Week
Chipmunks	90.7%
Dragonflies	87.7%
Butterflies	98.4%
Rabbits	90.7%
Ladybirds	98.3%
Robins	94.8%
Fireflies	96.3%
Owls	98.0%
Bears	94.7%
Sparrows	93.2%
Ants	93.1%
Kestrels	98.7%
Badgers	96.8%
Squirrels	94.2%
Whole School	94.7%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners
KESTRELS

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

Summer Uniform

Please note that after the Easter break, from Monday, 13th April 2026, the children are required to wear our summer uniform as listed below:-

- Yellow Polo shirt (School logo)
- Grey trousers
- Grey shorts
- Grey skirt
- Yellow Gingham dress

- Grey sweatshirt/grey cardigan (School logo)
- Black trainers (EYFS)
- Black school shoes (no sandals)

PLEASE ALSO NOTE THE FOLLOWING:-

All children with shoulder length or longer hair must have it fully tied back during the school day.

All children must not wear any nail varnish or makeup during the school day.

All children may wear stud earrings only which must be removed for P.E. and swimming lessons.

Thank you for your co-operation with the above.

Polite Reminder

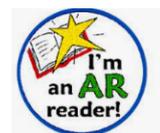
We would like to remind you that children are not allowed to wear smart watches in school please - thank you.

Accelerated Reader

For the week ended 20th March 2026:-

Quizzes

- Badgers 43
- Fireflies 31
- Bears 17



Word Count

- Badgers 1,658,928
- Sparrows 326,109
- Kestrels 299,052

We would like to congratulate Stanley Hamilton (Owls) on becoming a word millionaire and Isobel Hawkins (Badgers) on becoming a double word millionaire. Well done to you both.

Football Update

Over the past two weeks we've had a series of friendlies against Kingston (Year 5) and Heycroft (Year 4), for the children





to get an opportunity to play some extra football before playing in Years 5/6. Some brilliant competitive friendlies saw some terrific shots, amazing saves, brave tackles and lots of goals! Our Year 5 team played against Kingston, which they won 6-1 with goals coming from Hermione Delf, George Elliott, Harry Hills x2 and Charlie Elliott x2. Our Year 4 Girls' team won 3-2 against Heycroft with our goals coming from Scarlett O'Dell x2 and Ruby Trew x1. Our Year 4 boys lost 3-1 against Heycroft, with our only goal coming from Freddie Burr.

Well done to all 38 children involved in our friendlies over the last two weeks, every child gave their best and showed themselves 'being the best they can be'. Our Year 6 team still has some league games to play whereas, our Year 4 teams have now finished their seasons. We're looking forward to finding out the league results at the end of May!

Girls' Football match vs. Heycroft

Salem Mhembere (Sparrows) gives her account of the match below:-

"We started the match at a good pace and then it got a little bit tricky and harder and harder. Scarlett scored two goals and Ruby scored a goal. The other team were really good but we were good too. I played mid right and mid left. I think I liked playing mid right as I could hear all the parents cheering for me. They scored two goals and we scored three. At the end we shook hands and said 'Good game'. I was a bit nervous but I started feeling a little bit more confident as I carried on playing. I love playing football and I play at home with my brothers."

Year 5 Football match vs. Kingston

Hermione Delf (Ants) gives her version of the match below:-

"We started really strong and we scored our first goal from me which was a really good goal. We had three thirds and in the first third we scored two and the second goal was a really good run down the wing

by George Elliott which was meant to be a cross but went through the keeper's legs as a nutmeg. In the second third we scored three goals but I didn't play the second third. Kingston scored a really good goal that our keeper couldn't save. In the last third, we scored another goal to make the final score 6-1. We won! I enjoyed it a lot because it is one of the first times I have played with the boys from school even though I play with boys on the weekend. As I only played in the first third, I played striker up top and scored the goal which I was really happy about. I love playing football in school and outside of school. My favourite position is right wing because I can dribble down the wing and take on players, get my shots off and score."

Year 4 Football match vs. Heycroft

Freddie Burr (Sparrows) gives his account of the match below:-

"I really liked it as it was against my step-brother and I scored a goal. The score was 3-1 to them. It was a really good game and I thought that they deserved to win as well. My step-brother scored a goal too. This was our last match. I hope to play next year but I think it will be hard as it will be Years 5 and 6."

The Lion King



On Wednesday, the Year 5 children were treated to a visit to the Lyceum Theatre in London to watch the matinee of The Lion King. The children had the most fabulous time and Lola Duffield (Ants) tells of her exciting experience below:-

"First of all we went on the coach which was quite fun with all of us really excited for the Lion King. When we got to the theatre we waited in line for a couple of minutes and went inside. We had a lot of fun watching the actors do the show and it was really fun to listen to all the different singers. In the interval we all had some ice-cream which was really nice and I had the salted caramel which was lovely. Then we had the second part of the show which was very fun. I loved the part where Simba and Mufasa had the running part in the grass where all the other animals came up and circled them and came down the aisles. I was very surprised when they came down and started waving at us and then the ginormous elephant came down and I was very surprised at how massive it was and I didn't think it would fit down the aisle. Then all the giraffes came down and they were my favourite because of how tall they were. At the end we all stood up and clapped while the actors were doing their bows and then we got our stuff together and headed out to the coach. I have watched the film but this was a hundred times better. The actor who holds Simba up at the beginning was terrific and sounded the same as the actual person who sings it in the film, if not better. I would definitely go back to watch it with my family and I would like to watch it again myself."

Grandparents' Afternoon Tea



On Tuesday and Wednesday, the children in EYFS invited their grandparents in to join them for Afternoon Tea. The children





made scones, sang and coloured with their special adults and a lovely time was had by all! Hetty Byrne (Chipmunks) and George Crawford (Dragonflies) give their respective accounts of the event below:-

"We made scones. We ate them. We sang a song called Skidamarink. We did a little dance. My nanny and grandad said they liked my singing. I had butter on my scone. Nanny and grandad had jam. My nanny and grandad were excited. (Hetty Byrne)

"We did some colouring and we ate some scones. There was jam and cream on top of the scones. We made some dough and put it in the oven to cook. At the start Miss Moore and Mrs. Essex told us to go and find our grandparents. We did a song. The best bit was eating the scones. They were yummy and delicious. My nannies had a nice time. (George Crawford)

We received a lovely email from George's nannies Jane and Sue which read:-

"Please can you send our many thanks to the teachers who organised the above afternoon tea yesterday. The thought was incredibly touching what with all the pictures being shown of all precious grandchildren on your projector screen and the amazing scones, clotted cream and jam, and when the children sang - wow!! A few tears were shed."



SEESMA Infant Music Festival

On Thursday, a Year 2 contingent participated in the annual SEESMA Infant Music Festival in Westcliff. The children have been learning the songs over the past few weeks and were excited to perform to their adults and the local school community. Ivy Beachcroft (Robins) describes her morning below:-

"We sat down on the carpet with the audience in front. When it was our turn they called our school and we went on stage and sang our song. It was Yellow Submarine. We also sang together with all the other schools. My favourite song was "How would you travel?" because I like all the different ways you would travel! I really liked Rayleigh's song because they sang it really nicely. I knew a girl called Isabella from the Rayleigh school as I used to go to gymnastics with her. I really enjoyed the whole event because I liked the way the other schools sang and I liked our school singing really softly."

Gymnastic Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Eva Mandizha (Sparrows) for her recent achievements in gymnastics. At the start of the year, Eva was preselected to be part of the Essex County Squad. Over recent weekends she has competed in the Essex County Pre Grades and Preparation Grades competitions. There was a very strong field of 30 gymnasts across Essex. In her Pre Grade competition Eva was crowned the Essex All Round Champion, achieving gold in beam, gold in floor, bronze in bars and silver in range and conditioning. In the Essex Preparation 3, Eva was crowned All Round Champion, achieving gold in beam, gold in bars, gold in floor, gold in vault as well as gold in range and conditioning. Eva's parents, family and coaches are very pleased with her achievements. Eva gives details of the competitions below:-

"There were so many girls at the competitions who were good gymnasts. One girl came all the way from Dubai who became my friend. Although I had little

butterflies in my tummy, I was very brave which helped me do my routines very well and got the highest marks and all the gold medals."



Wow Eva, what amazing achievements, you should be very proud of yourself!

Stars of the Week

Year 6:- Isaac Wood and Elsie Thompson

Year 5:- Ruby Moorcroft and Lacey-Belle Fenemore

Year 4:- Brady Harringley and Annie-Jean Potter

Year 3:- Stanley Potts and Elsie Phillips

Year 2:- All the children who went to the Infant Music Festival and performed beautifully and all the children who worked beautifully back in school.

Year 1:- Kaitlin Bennett and Mason Hiller

EYFS:- Omaris Blackman and Maggie Thomas



Playground Stars of the Week

Olivia Dean, Griffin Gibson, Teddy Richards, Sophia Jarvis, Percy Keane, Evelyn Muir, Reggie Duke, Nancy Walters, Mason Wright, Luci Gardiner, Sienna Angerstein Lee, Rosie Jenkinson-Flynn and Freddy Goulbourn





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Special Star of the Week

We would like to give a special Star of the Week to Evelyn Muir (Fireflies) for always being a kind and caring friend.

Treetops Star of the Week

Connor Hill

House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Golden Eagles	6673
Red Arrows	5984
Blue Dolphins	5124
Green Dragons	4166



Well done Golden Eagles!

Thunk



What else could your initials mean eg. RW = Really Weird

Makaton Sign of the Week



We have a few children in school who are learning to use Makaton to help them communicate and it is really starting to work. If you would like to teach your child Makaton, Mrs. Goodwin is going to post 'Sign of the Week' in the newsletter each week for you to have a look at if you would like to. This week's sign is 'Lucky'. Please use the link below:-

https://youtu.be/BNBHwUf1hA?si=n_YWZXGoHRK3WVXx

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:-

It was lovely to watch the children playing outside last week and the weather forecast looks like they can do so again this week. Some of you may have seen their chalk pictures on the back playground! It really is amazing to see how well all the children get along at Early Birds and Treetops and how they enjoy playing together.

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

SUFC Easter 2026

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

All Stars for Girls - Cricket

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Time out for Parents

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Time out for Parents Dads

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Pssst... Have you Heard? Recreational Gymnastics

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

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

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

