



Dear Parent/Carer,



We had a fantastic Science Week last week, with science at the heart of learning across the school. As you know, this culminated in our STEM dress-up day on Friday, which provided a brilliant opportunity for children to explore and talk about the wide range of careers linked to science, technology, engineering and maths. The practical, hands-on nature of the activities really captured the children's interest, and it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, curiosity and thoughtful discussion throughout the week.

On Sunday, the 46th London Marathon will take place - and our very own Butterflies' teacher, Mrs Sawyer, will be running it! She has been training incredibly hard, and we are so proud of her resilience and determination. Go, Mrs Sawyer!

If you would like to support her, please follow the link to her sponsorship page.

<https://join.asthmaandlung.org.uk/s/6407/7205>

Have a super week.

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Message from Mr. Smith (Deputy Headteacher)

It has been a real pleasure getting to know the Thundersley Primary School community this week. Thank you to

everyone for making me feel so welcome - from smiling faces at the school gates to kind words and well wishes for the coming term, it has all been greatly appreciated. Last week, it was a joy to see the enthusiasm across the school for STEM Week. I saw giant bubbles being created in Year 6, Year 5 pupils asking fantastic scientific enquiry questions, catapults launched in Year 4, toy cars racing down ramps with different surfaces in Year 3, and children in Years 1 and 2 out and about spotting signs of spring. It was also wonderful to see EYFS taking part in a science-themed movement and music activity. I have had the pleasure of meeting pupils from all year groups, who were keen to share what they had learned as part of STEM Week, as well as enjoying Friday's fantastic STEM dress-up. I look forward to continuing to support the Thundersley Primary School community in being the best they can be, in what promises to be an exciting Summer Term.

Mr. Smith
Deputy Headteacher

Best start in life - screen time guidance under 5s

This guidance has been shared with us by the department of Education to share with parents.

https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/screen-time-under-5s/?es_c=937002F230DE18B4AF21EA112AC12828&es_cl=765CBD90AE78E6AA0B48755E788966DF&es_id=ph7%2c2%a3o1

OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)

We are excited to begin developing our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme at school and are looking for parents who would like to be part of a small working team to help get things started.

The OPAL Primary Programme is a mentor-supported school improvement programme designed to change and develop play and our approach to playtimes at our school. It supports schools in developing a

sustainable, whole-school approach to high-quality play.

Research shows that play has a significant impact on children's physical and emotional health, wellbeing, enjoyment of school, and approach to learning. OPAL helps schools create a cultural shift in how play is valued and supported, embedding it into policies and everyday practice. With specialist guidance from an OPAL mentor, schools develop clear strategies to improve play opportunities, often leading to transformational results for children and the wider school community.

To help launch this exciting initiative, we are inviting parents to join a working team. This group will contribute ideas, support planning, and help shape the direction of the programme in its early stages. Members of the working team will be asked to attend five initial meetings over the coming months to build the foundation of the project and set priorities moving forward. If you are interested in being involved, please let us know by emailing admin@thundersley.essex.co.uk. We would greatly value your input and support as we begin this important journey.

Thank you for your continued involvement in our school community.

Miss Bridge

Attendance

For the week ended 17th April 2026 there were seven classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Bears 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	96.2%
Dragonflies	94.5%
Butterflies	98.7%
Rabbits	90.7%
Ladybirds	94.7%
Robins	94.1%
Fireflies	98.0%
Owls	98.3%
Bears	100%
Sparrows	92.7%
Ants	98.3%
Kestrels	98.3%
Badgers	98.7%
Squirrels	96.5%
Whole School	96.4%
Target	97.0%

Kestrels 460,484
Badgers 394,100

We would also like to congratulate Felicity Warren (Kestrels) for becoming a double word millionaire. Well done Felicity!

Science Stars of the Week

Year 6:- Edward Payne and Oscar Wooden

Year 5:- Charlie Elliott and Harry South

Year 4:- Joshua Arram and Alion Pjetra

Year 3:- Nusrat Miah and Stanley Leer

Year 1:- Olivia Cummings



Well done Red Arrows!

Charity Congratulations



We would like to congratulate Bella-Nicole Arscott (Ants) who recently climbed Pen y Fan, the highest peak in South Wales and Southern Britain at 886m for children in Ghana. Conditions varied and at the very top, Bella-Nicole and her family encountered a blizzard with up to 40 mile an hour winds and hail. This is a huge accomplishment for Bella who is hoping to climb Mount Fuji in Japan for charity next year.

Well done Bella, it looked very cold at the top but what an achievement!

eSchools App

We kindly ask that you to download the



Congratulations to this week's winners
BEARS

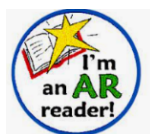
Aspirational attendance target set for the school for 2025 - 2026 is:
97%

Accelerated Reader

For the week ended 17th April 2026:-

Quizzes

Owls 43
Fireflies 36
Bears 35



Word Count

Ants 1,484,384

Stars of the Week

Year 4:- Elijah Aldridge

Year 3:- Dylan Nunez and Frank Mataj

Year 2:- Louis Clapton and Mia Haxhia

Year 1:- Nowen Davis and Charlie Robinson-Boot

EYFS:- Harry Oxley and Yasin Biyiklioglu

Playground Stars of the Week

Saskia Lawledge-Scott, Eleanor Henry, Eva-Mei Redmond, Ibrahim Sethi, Sylvie McEvoy, Dylan Gates, Seth Mhembere, Phoebe Burns, Ava Anderson, Sienna Angerstein Lee, Ella-Rae Cox and Esther Byrne

Treetops Star of the Week



Amelia Gallagher

Thank



Do ideas come from inside or outside your head?

House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-





Newsletter No. 26

20th April 2026

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:-

The children are loving playing on the field now the evenings are lighter and the weather has been warmer. Long may it continue!

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.daniellessshop.co.uk

PTA

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PTA will be on Tuesday, 28th April 2026 at 7pm in the White Hart. If you would like to join the PTA, why not pop along, we would love to see you.

Community News

Festival of the Boy

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

SUFC - May Half Term Soccer School

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

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

