



Newsletter No. 4

28th September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Super to see lots of parents at our various parental involvement sessions over the past few weeks. We hope that these have given you the opportunity to hear all about our fantastic curriculum and learn with your child.

It has been lovely to see the children enjoying our OPAL play and making the most of being outdoors, in our woods, digging in the pit and generally having a ball at lunchtime. As the weather gets wetter, we want them to be able to keep exploring and playing, even when the field is muddy, so we will be asking parents to provide their children with a named pair of wellie boots. We will let you know when they need to bring them in.

Can you help us with wellie boot storage? We are looking for sturdy, weatherproof racks or storage that would allow children to find their wellies easily and keep them off the ground. If you have something suitable that you could donate, or know a local business that might be able to help, please get in touch with the school office. We would be very grateful.

Thank you, as always, for your support.



Have a super week!

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance

For the week ended 25th September 2026, there were four classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Ladybirds and Badgers who achieved 99.0%.

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:-

Class	Week
Chipmunks	89.3%
Dragonflies	95.3%
Butterflies	96.2%
Rabbits	95.7%
Ladybirds	99.0%
Robins	95.2%
Fireflies	97.0%
Owls	95.7%
Bears	94.8%
Sparrows	97.3%
Ants	94.5%
Kestrels	91.9%
Badgers	99.0%
Squirrels	95.3%
Whole School	95.6%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

LADYBIRDS & BADGERS

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2026 - 2027 is:

97%

Harvest Donations

We are asking the children for donations to Southend Foodbank again this year for Harvest Festival. If you are able to donate, please kindly send your child into school with your donations during the week

beginning 5th October 2026. The foodbank will collect the donations on Friday, 9th October 2026. Please find a list of suggested items attached - thank you in advance for your support as always.

Secondary School Admissions

Please note that if your child is currently in Year 6, you will need to apply online for a Secondary School place (applications are now open) by 31st October 2026. To register your choice please visit:-

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>

Polite reminders

Parking

We kindly remind parents/carers to park respectfully in the local area but more importantly safely. We have been advised of a 'close call' with a pupil last week where cars were obstructing the visibility of pedestrians and other drivers. The child concerned was extremely frightened and upset by this incident. Please do not park on yellow lines, near junctions or in a position where you are obstructing visibility for both pedestrians and other drivers. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in keeping everyone safe!

OPAL

We have had a couple of children who have brought their scooters in for OPAL not realising that they are a donation for the use of the whole school during break and lunchtimes. Please note that children should not bring in their own scooters or toys etc. if they do not wish them to become part of the play equipment. Thank you.

Accelerated Reader

The Accelerated Reader results for the week ended 25th September 2026 are:-

Quizzes

Fireflies 31





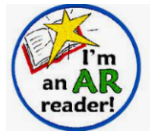
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Bears 20
Kestrels/Owls 12

Word Count

Bears 318,940
Kestrels 185,821
Ants 126,113



Football vs. Grovewood Primary School

On Wednesday, a group of 19 boys from Year 6 made their way to Grovewood Primary School for two football friendlies.



This was the first football fixture of the season and the boys were mixed into two teams ready to play. When they arrived, the boys got warmed up and were quickly into the action. The standard of football was very high with all the boys playing fantastically well. Both games were very close and ended in 1-1 draws. The boys supported and encouraged each other brilliantly, represented the school phenomenally and were a real credit to themselves. This was another example of the children 'being the best they can be'. Harry Robinson (Squirrels) gives his account of the game below:-

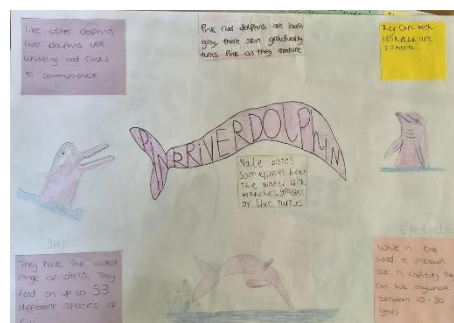
"It was quite fun. First we warmed up, then we got into the match. They scored quite early in the game and then after that we hit the crossbar. Then it was half time. Early on in the second half, we got a corner. I crossed it in, Harry Molloy headed it and the keeper saved it. Then Harry Hills got a goal kick. He passed to me, I did a through ball to Leo Jackson, he cut back and crossed the ball in and Mason Wheeler scored back post. It ended as a 1-1 draw. I really enjoyed it as it was good to get a kick around. I'm looking forward to more games and I hope that I get into the team."

Year 6 Parent/Carer Involvement

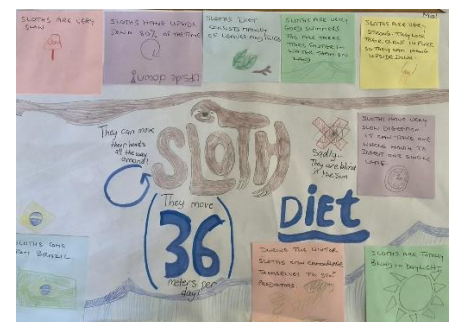


On Tuesday, the Year 6 children were visited by their parents/carers for the afternoon to work on their South America project. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon discovering lots of information about their chosen subject and then drawing about it too. George Mataj (Squirrels) and Lacey-Belle Fenemore (Badgers) give their respective accounts of the afternoon below:-

"My mum came in and first we listened to the teacher as to what we were doing. Then I had to write and draw the pictures of a jaguar which was my chosen animal for my South America project. I wrote about their appearance, habitat, diet, life cycle and their life span. I used a Chromebook to help me get the information. I knew some of the information already and I found it interesting finding out about the other information. My mum supported me. My favourite bit of the afternoon was the drawing because I like drawing." (George Mataj)



"My Nan came in to help me which I thought was good. We had to pick one animal from the rainforest and we had to draw a picture or write the name of our animal. Then we had to get some post it notes and some colouring pencils and then colour in our sheet and then put the post it notes wherever to describe the animal. I chose a parrot because once my Nan had a parrot and it could speak. Then we had to go onto google and type in the animal so we could find out what they eat, where they live, what their habitat is and fun facts. One fun fact was that they live for 80 years! I enjoyed the afternoon with my Nan especially as my friend joined us too."



Year 3 Parent/Carer Involvement Session

On Wednesday, it was the turn of the Year 3 parents/carers to visit their children for a WOW session on the Stone Age. The children and their adults searched the school grounds for painting tools before creating a cave painting together. Emily Bennett (Owls) and Robyn Caulfield (Fireflies) tell of their respective sessions bellows:-

"My mummy and my little sister came in to help me. First we had to go onto the field and I found some feathers and berries. Then we went back into the classroom and I used them to make a picture. I used the feathers and leaves to make a shelter and the berries for colour. My mummy and my little sister helped me stick everything onto the paper. It was about the Stone Age. My favourite bit was going outside to collect the bits and bobs and sticking the bits down as well." (Emily Bennett)

"My mum came in and we went out to the field and got nature stuff like grass, acorn





hats and I brought some blackberries in from home to print with. We were learning about the Stone Age and we needed to do some cave paintings and we went out to explore. We were in the Green Hall and we had some glue and charcoal sticks. One of my friends gave me an idea to rub the blackberries over my hand and do a hand print on the paper and write my name in it. She inspired me to do lots of printing and she made a 3D fire. I made a flat one. I used blackberries as the rocks at the bottom and then my mum had an idea to use the broken leaves as the flames coming out. I drew a chicken and put a petal on the head. There were also photos there to give us inspiration. I enjoyed my mum coming in but I was sad when she went because I love her so much!" (Robyn Caulfield)



Year 5 Parent/Carer Involvement

On Wednesday, Year 5 welcomed their parents and carers into school for an exciting Anglo-Saxon orienteering challenge! Working in pairs with their adults, the children used a map of the school to navigate between different checkpoints, where they discovered a range of Anglo-Saxon-themed challenges. At each location, they had to work together to solve either an image puzzle, crack an anagram or answer a riddle, using their knowledge of our current history topic. The children were fantastic at putting their Anglo-Saxon knowledge to the test, and it was wonderful to see them explaining their ideas, solving problems and working so collaboratively with their parents and carers. There was a real sense of excitement as teams raced around the school trying to complete all of the challenges! Everyone was thoroughly engaged and had a brilliant time. It was a fantastic afternoon of learning, teamwork and fun – and a lovely opportunity for our families to get involved in the children's learning. Maddison Wilson (Ants) and Alexander Weedon (Kestrels) tell of their exciting afternoon below:-

"My mum came in to help me and we had to walk around the school and find riddles, questions and muddled up words. We had to figure them out to work out the clues. Some of it was easy and some of it was hard. When we were walking around the school, some of the muddled up words were really muddled up so they were really hard to figure out. We managed to get them all in the end and there was a hidden word which we had to work out at the end with all the clues. On the answer sheet when we wrote the word one of the letters was already circled. Then we had to un-muddle the letters to work out the hidden words which were Anglo Saxon World. Then we went back in the hall and everybody revealed the hidden words. I liked going around the school and trying to find the clues with my mum and my friends." (Maddison Wilson)

"We had to go around with either a friend or a parent and it was a word hunt. We had to find different numbers and work out the answers from the different clues. There was one letter circled for each word and there was a bonus phrase which we had to unscramble. In the end the words were Anglo Saxon World. It was like a scavenger hunt. I liked unscrambling the words, like any real challenge." (Alexander Weedon)

Stars of the Week

- Year 6:-** Nellie Gaskin and Norman Wheeler
Year 5:- Sylvie McEvoy and Fearn Horne
Year 4:- Maddox McKinlay and Isla Lake
Year 3:- George McGavigan and Arthur Lloyd
Year 2:- Zachary Petrellis and Arthur Ainsworth
Year 1:- Rosie Jenkinson-Flynn and Elsie-Grace Jenkins
EYFS:- Jaxon Quintal



Playground Stars of the Week

Olivia Cable, Alfie Seymour, Kadey Laver, Alexander Weedon, Luna Galley, Lilly Hawker, Phoebe Burns, Thalia Churchman, Max Jarvis, Poppy Hawker and Jude Hume



Treetops Stars of the Week



Robyn Caulfield (Fireflies)

House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Red Arrows	4589
Green Dragons	4509
Blue Dolphins	4477
Golden Eagles	3502



Well done Red Arrows!

The Great Lego Giveaway - Echo in Partnership with Creative Hut

Help us win £1,000 of LEGO® Education resources! We're taking part in the LEGO® Education Token Collect Competition and need your help! From 26th September to 5th November, tokens will be printed in your local newspaper. The more tokens our school collects, the greater our chance of winning fantastic LEGO® Education resources worth up to £1,000. Tokens will be printed in the Echo newspaper.

How you can help:

- Pick up a participating local newspaper during the promotion period.
- Cut out and save the LEGO® Education tokens.
- Gather as many as tokens as possible and bring them to the main office, or post them : School Name, Lego Education Tokens, Newspaper name, Echo House, Basildon, SS14 3BE.

Every token counts, so please ask family members, friends and neighbours to get involved too. Thank you for supporting our school and helping us bring more LEGO® Education resources into the classroom!



Thundersley Primary School is part of the Robus Multi Academy Trust a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 7681811. Registered Office: Robus MAT, Kingston Primary School, Church Road, Thundersley, Essex. SS7 3HG

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eSchools App

We kindly ask that you download the eSchools app (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 called Early Birds (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 by calling 01268 793251 or email her directly on:-



Katie.Hayward@tps.robusmat.co.uk

Earlybirds & Treetops this week:-

The weather is not looking as great this week but we will be outside if we can. Those that wish to stay inside will have a variety of games and activities available as always including the opportunity to design a healthy eating menu.

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, 29th September 2026 at 7pm in the White Hart. Everyone is welcome.

The PTA AGM is on Tuesday, 3rd November 2026 at 7pm in the White Hart. Everyone is welcome.

Community News

The Deanes School Holiday Camps

Please find attached flyers in respect of the above.

Mega Camps

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

School Calendar - Dates

Academic Year 2026-2027

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****



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22/10/26
23/10/26
22/02/27

