



Newsletter No. 5

5th October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you had a super weekend - it felt like summer all over again!

We are excited to be taking part in the My Future programme for a second year, funded by Essex County Council.

Through online sessions, children in Years 2-6 meet people working in a wide range of jobs, hear their stories and have the chance to ask questions. It's a lovely way to spark curiosity, discover careers they may never have heard of and explore how the skills they are learning at school can help them in the future.

The programme encourages children to look beyond stereotypes, broaden their horizons and believe in the possibilities ahead of them. We look forward to hearing which jobs capture their imaginations this year!

This Friday is our annual ROBUS Run, when children from our five schools come together to see their friends and enjoy competing against each other around our fabulous grounds. We feel so lucky to be part of this wider team and want all our children to feel that they belong to the ROBUS family. We look forward to seeing many of our parents there too!

Have a super week.

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance

For the week ended 2nd October 2026 there were three classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Badgers who achieved 99.3%.

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	93.7%
Dragonflies	94.0%
Butterflies	95.9%
Rabbits	92.0%
Ladybirds	97.1%
Robins	91.0%
Fireflies	96.0%
Owls	98.3%
Bears	95.8%
Sparrows	96.7%
Ants	95.5%
Kestrels	93.8%
Badgers	99.3%
Squirrels	94.3%
Whole School	95.3%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

BADGERS

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2026 - 2027 is:

97%

Harvest Donations

Just a polite reminder that we are collecting harvest donations for Southend Food Bank this week. Please give any donations to your child's class teacher - thank you in advance for your kind support.

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

Accelerated Reader

The Accelerated Reader results for the week ended 2nd October 2026 are:-

Quizzes

Fireflies 32

Owls 28

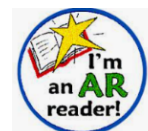
Bears 24

Word Count

Bears 331,494

Sparrows 268,685

Ants 250,598



Baby Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Miss Carswell and her fiancé on the safe arrival of their new baby daughter. Isabella was born on 17th September 2026 weighing in at 8lbs 4oz. Mum and baby are doing well and big sister Olivia is loving lots of cuddles!





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My Future

This project is designed to help raise aspirations and inspire children about future career opportunities. This week your child had a virtual visit from people in jobs that work in a variety of fields that fall under the clue 'Over the Moon'. They explained what they do in their job and why they enjoy it.

Possible activities to engage with your children - You might draw a picture, do some writing or just talk...

- Which job did you like best?
- Who was your favourite volunteer?
- How many jobs can you think of that work within Over the Moon?

My Future & Skill Builders

The My Future programme also links with the Skills Builder Universal Framework which makes it possible for everyone to teach, learn, and measure essential skills ready for further learning and employment - this term's focus was:

Planning - Setting goals and designing routes to achieve them

This skill is about how individuals develop clear, tangible goals and robust routes to achieving them - whether in education, the workplace or their wider lives. Initially, this is about considering the difficulty of tasks, knowing what doing well looks like for them, working with care, and recognising their strengths. The focus is then on taking a positive approach to new challenges, setting achievable goals, developing simple plans, and prioritising tasks.

Suggested activities to try at home to build the skill Planning:

- Pick up Peas. Set your child a challenge to pick up as many peas or beans as they can with a set of chopsticks or tweezers. Have a go with them. Talk about

if it is too difficult or if it is easy to do.

- Set yourself a balancing challenge. You will need to decide what or how you will balance and for how long. It could be standing on one leg, balancing a book on your head or balancing a ball on your nose! Make sure it is a safe challenge, but it needs to be tricky!

Girls' Football Tournament



On Wednesday, a group of girls headed to the annual District Girls' Football tournament hosted at the Deanes school. There were over 20 teams participating and the level of competition was very high. The girls got off to a strong start taking an early lead in their first game but were unable to hold onto that lead meaning they lost the close first game 2-1. At the end of the group stages the girls had bounced back strongly winning three on the bounce and drawing their final game, meaning they qualified for the quarter finals. This game was against Grovewood who they had drawn with in the group and the girls put on a strong attacking display winning 3-0 and qualifying for the semi-final against Kents Hill. This was a very close game with good opportunities for both teams finishing 1-1 meaning there would have to be the dreaded penalty shootout. The girls showed great courage with all girls having to end up taking a penalty. Excitingly, they won the shoot out and qualified for the final against Northwick Park. This is the first time we have got ever got this far in this competition. The girls were so solid defensively in the final preventing the opposition having any good chances on goal with Hermione Delf striking from distance

to give Thundersley the lead. A fantastic team performance meant they were able to hold onto this lead winning the tournament overall. This was a really exciting day and the children not only played fantastic football but demonstrated exemplary behaviour through some of the long waiting periods between games. They really were a credit to our school showing great sportsmanship to other schools along the way too. Scarlett-Rose O'Dell (Kestrels) gives her account of the tournament below:-

"In our first match we lost but we had a strong team and we tried as hard as we could with Mabel doing her best in goal. In our last game it was 1-1 so we had to go to penalties. I took the first penalty and I scored over the goal keepers head. I was as bit nervous but I decided to go up first and I scored. Everyone was happy, cheered and was jumping up and down. When everyone had taken the penalties it was a tie and it was then sudden death. I was hoping that we would win which we did. This meant we got into the final. We played against Northwick Park in the final and Hermione scored and it was 1-0. When the whistle went we were all high fiving each other, hugging each other and smiling. Every time at the end of the games we shook hands with the other team and we said "Well done" to them. I thought the whole day was fun because I got to have a laugh with my friends and I love football. At the end we all got a medal and we got a trophy."

Year 4 Parent/Carer Involvement Session





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On Wednesday, the Year 4 children were joined by their parents/carers for a session of map reading as part of their Geography topic. Dylan Gates (Sparrows) and Ava Moorcraft (Bears) give their respective accounts of the session below:-

"My dad came in and then we had to find six places around the whole school site using the compass. Then there was a task to do at each place. Some were listening, some were drawing and some were maths. I liked doing the drawing one the best. We had to draw a tree and then we had to put paper on the trim trail and do a rubbing. We then had to find some letters. We found everything. I enjoyed it and my dad helped me to use the compass and find the grid reference. My dad liked coming in too as he also enjoyed it." (Dylan Gates)

"My nan and my mum came in to help to take me around. The parents were waiting for us to come and get our sheets in the hall. Then we went out and started to find pieces of paper hanging everywhere. There were activities at every one we had to do and then there was a map grid reference and we had to write the grid reference on the sheet of paper. Then we went to find the other pieces of paper to do the other activities. My favourite activity was the one where we had to put a piece of paper on something like a tree and rub a crayon over to make a pattern. My nan and mum came round and helped me find the places on the map and they helped me count the footsteps around the



strip of pavement at the bottom of the field. I liked them coming because if I struggled with what we had to do, they would help me figure out what I had to do. They both

said they liked it and they both knew what

to do as Mrs. Farmer had told them in the hall. (Ava Moorcraft)

Year 2 Parent/Carer Involvement Session



On Thursday, it was the turn of the Year 2 parents/carers to visit the children for a session of sewing. The children had to use a template to cut out and sew a felt penguin during the afternoon as part of their DT project. Henry Benson (Ladybirds) and Mabel Keane (Robins) tell of their exciting session below:-



My nanny and Auntie Amanda came in to help me. We made a penguin and I had quite a lot of fun. I had to chalk around the paper onto some felt and cut it out. I had to sew them and I stuffed the tummy. Nanny and Auntie helped me poke the needle through the holes as it was blunt. I



didn't manage to finish it but I'll finish it in class. I enjoyed stuffing the penguin's tummy the most. I've stuffed a reindeer before at a Christmas Fair. I felt happy that my nanny and Auntie Amanda came in to help me. (Henry Benson)

"Nanna came in and she helped me sew it. We had to get a needle and put the thread through it and then we had to put the fluff in it and then we had to sew it back up. Nanna helped get the stuff we needed. I felt happy that I saw Nanna at school. I sometimes see Nanna at school but not that much so I was excited. (Mabel Keane)



Stars of the Week

Year 6:- Jack Wigington and Arbie Beswick

Year 5:- Salem

Mhembere and Archie Whitaker

Year 4:- Sienna Dixon and Arthur Willers

Year 3:- Florence Deal and Emily Bennett

Year 2:- Ava Anderson and Maisie Wheeler

Year 1:- Omaris Blackman and Lyra Jenkins

EYFS:- Beatrice Norman and Rose Haxhia



Playground Stars of the Week

George Mataj, Isabelle Hawkins, Mabel Evers, Vanesa Lukoseviciute, Dylan Nunez, Jake Sewell, Elliot Harris, Hudson Barber,





Reggie Morris, Arthur Ainsworth, Amy Bartrup and Charlie Wyman

Treetops Stars of the Week



Hallie Hawkins (Robins)

House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Red Arrows	5513
Blue Dolphins	4814
Green Dragons	4759
Golden Eagles	3814



Well done again Red Arrows!

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:-

We're all keeping our fingers crossed for a dry week so we can do our favourite thing and play on the field. Remember, Friday is the ROBUS Run so the field will be off limits. We are unable to take our children to this so, if they are in Years 3 to 6 and wish to participate, you will need to complete the form via the link emailed last week and arrange to take them. Here's to a dry week.

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.

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

Community News

Girls 4 Football - October Half Term 2026

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

The Beacon Festival

Please find attached information regarding the above.

Essex Fire Museum - October Half Term 2026

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Understanding my ADHD with Steve Challen

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

HER Soccer Academy

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Happy Stars Pre-School

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





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****NON PUPIL DAYS****

22/10/26

23/10/26

22/02/27

