



Newsletter No. 7

19th October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you so much to the Friends of Thundersley (PTA) for all their hard work running the Monster Bash. It was a super event! A great deal goes on behind the scenes to make these events happen, and we really appreciate the time and effort our wonderful volunteers give to the school. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported them.

Friday was a busy and exciting day, with drumming workshops and a visit from graffiti artist Scott, who worked with our Year 6 children. It was lovely to see the children enjoying these opportunities. We also wore red in support of Show Racism the Red Card, helping children understand why challenging racism matters and how we can all play our part in making sure everyone feels welcome, respected and valued.

A big thank you too, to all our children for their hard work practising their reading. We have been amazed by everyone's efforts this year so far, and we are really seeing the difference in class. When children practise reading at home and hear stories read to them, they find our reading activities in school so much easier and make great progress. Thank you to our families for making time for this - your support makes such a difference.

Well done also to our Key Stage 2 children for their efforts with Accelerated Reader. We have been delighted at the number of quizzes you are completing. Keep up the reading!

We wish our Year 5 children a wonderful trip to Grafham Water this week. Have a fantastic time, enjoy the activities and make the most of being away together. Thank you to the staff who are accompanying them.

Just a reminder that our last day of this half term is Wednesday. I hope you all have a lovely half-term break and we will

see everyone back on Monday, 2nd November 2026.

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance

For the week ended 16th October 2026 there were five classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Bears, Badgers and Squirrels who all achieved 99%.

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	94.7%
Dragonflies	95.3%
Butterflies	96.7%
Rabbits	95.7%
Ladybirds	98.7%
Robins	97.6%
Fireflies	94.7%
Owls	96.0%
Bears	99.0%
Sparrows	92.3%
Ants	90.7%
Kestrels	93.1%
Badgers	99.0%
Squirrels	99.0%
Whole School	95.8%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

BEARS, BADGERS & SQUIRRELS

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2026 - 2027 is:

97%

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>

EYFS School Admissions September 2027

Please note that if you wish to register your child for a place in EYFS for September 2027, you will need to apply online (applications will open on 9th November 2026) by 15th January 2027. To register your choice please visit:-

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/admissions-september-2027>

Polite reminder

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has their own water bottle in school every day in order to keep hydrated. We are getting through a phenomenal amount of plastic cups each day which is costly and also not environmentally friendly so we thank you for your support with this.

Accelerated Reader

The Accelerated Reader results for the week ended 16th October 2026 are:-





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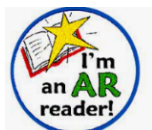
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Quizzes

Bears 54
Sparrows 41
Owls 40

Word Count

Bears 947,183
Sparrows 505,579
Squirrels 464,075



Netball Fun vs. Grove Wood Primary School



Two very excited teams of netballers took part in a pre-season friendly at Grove Wood Primary School after school on Friday. Lots of the players had been training hard with Miss Turner-Powell and Mrs Clark at Netball Club in the mornings and Year 6 had also recently completed a unit of work on netball in P.E. - which helped to prepare them for competition. The atmosphere was great and all of the children tried so hard as they rotated through the positions and gained valuable match experience. Both Black and Yellow team won their games and enjoyed a celebratory biscuit afterwards! Reggie Collins and Briar Bilkey (both in Squirrels) give their respective accounts of the games below:-

"When we arrived we sat down and Mr. Yorston told us what positions we were playing and how it was going to work. Next we got our bibs on and started running up and down the court to get warmed up. After that, we did some drills with the netballs and Mr. Yorston. After about five minutes we started getting into the game. Thundersley went 3-0 up in the

first quarter, then Grove scored 2 hoops and then that was the end of the first quarter. In the second quarter we won 3-0 and we were good in defence that game. In the third quarter we went 2-1 up. We played some good defence and some good attacking that quarter. In the final quarter we played well and won 3-0. I played goal attack, then goal defence, scorer and then goal shooter. I played on the Thundersley Yellow team and I enjoyed it. It was my first time playing on the netball team and it was an amazing experience and I would love to do it again." (Reggie Collins)

"It was really hard because we had quite a lot of tall people in the other team. We all had a chance to get the ball. For the first round I was timekeeper, for the second round I was centre, for the third round I was goal shooter and then for the final round I was goal keeper. I really liked to play goal shooter as I got to have a chance to score. I got one. The score was 8-4 to us. The game was really fun and I hope that I can do it again." (Briar Bilkey)

Year 6 Graffiti Workshop



On Friday, the Year 6 children were treated to a visit from Scott, a local Graffiti artist who held some workshops with the children. The children learned lots of different painting techniques using cans of paint and spray guns to create

colourful artwork. Evelyn Deal (Badgers) gives details of her session below:-

"We did a practice on a board and we got to colour in all different shapes with spray paint but we couldn't go too near the board otherwise it would have dripped straight down. After we did our practice we got to do fill in a drawing which Scott had already done. My drawing was an Inside Out one and we got to do two characters - Sadness and Disgust. Once we had finished it with the spray cans we got to do another one with a spray gun which was much easier. I thought it was amazing and I really liked it as I like art so much. I learned that we couldn't go too close, or stay in one spot, I had to keep moving it around so it didn't drip. I think I would really like to do it again because I liked the different techniques I learned."

Drumming Workshops



Also on Friday, the whole of KS2 were treated to drumming workshops with Mr. Cecil to coincide with the local Jazz Festival. Jaxon-Jai Winter (Sparrows) tells of his exciting experience below:-

"We used the boom whackers and then we made all different tunes and melodies. We also did a scale. We also used different colours to make different sounds. Red made the sound A and then we got to hit the boom whackers to make the same sound. Groups red and yellow were working together and groups green and purple were working together. I did like it because I like music and I like singing. I enjoyed making the different sounds with my team the best."





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Double Gymnastic Success

Essex County Copper Championship



We would like to congratulate Eva Mandizha (Ants) who recently competed at the Essex County Copper Championship in a highly competitive field of 20 girls aged 10-11. Eva showed so much resilience and determination having had a really tough bar routine and fall. Her parents were immensely proud to watch her pick herself up and secure gold in beam, gold in floor and 5th place on vault. She came 2nd place overall. Eva also helped her team come 2nd in the competition. Eva has earned her spot to compete in the Regionals competition in November and has also been selected to represent Essex at the Inter County Championships in November. Eva said "I have been working very hard with my coach to prepare for the start of the competition season. The girls were so good, some were 11 which made me a little bit anxious as I was one of the youngest in the group. I was so happy that I did well and super excited that I made it to the Regionals. I couldn't believe it when my coach told me last week that I have been selected to represent Essex.



IGA National Final



Great News! Aiden Clarke competed in the IGA National Final at the weekend in Leicester and he smashed it. He achieved silver on the floor, silver on the vault and brinze on the parallel bars. On top of this, he placed 2nd overall nationally which is just brilliant.

Well done to you both, you never know, we may be cheering you on in the Olympics in the future!



Thunks and Oracy for Every Communicator

Can a mistake ever be a good thing?



Stars of the Week

- Year 6:-** Ruby Moorcraft and Charlie Baker
- Year 5:-** Sophia Hawkins and Rey Higgs
- Year 4:-** Alexander Aldridge and Lilly Morgan
- Year 3:-** Phoebe Burns and Mia Haxhia
- Year 2:-** Olivia Looker and Mason Evans-Dani
- Year 1:-** Brianna Shearcroft and Ivy Phillips
- EYFS:-** Florence Delf and Max Sylvester



Playground Stars of the Week

Jack Wigington, Ollie Smith, Teddie Jarrard, Rey Higgs, Aurora Curnock, Robyn Caulfield, Max Potter, Calvin Newman, Tyler Martin, Hayden Lee, Harriet Webster and Jack McGavigan



Treetops Stars of the Week



Ronnie Boswell (Badgers)





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House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Golden Eagles	5266
Red Arrows	3224
Blue Dolphins	3163
Green Dragons	2737



Well done again Golden Eagles!

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.robustmat.co.uk

Earlybirds & Treetops this week:-

The weather isn't looking great this week but at Treetops we don't mind at all. There are always plenty of activities to do inside. We particularly enjoy drawing, colouring and construction although the baby dolls get pushed around the hall frequently too.

Remember, if you are having a clear out during the holidays, we are always grateful for anything we can add to our toy cupboard.

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

Community News

Balancing Act Supporting Child Mental Health - Week 2

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above for your attention.

SEND Roadshow

Please find attached information in respect of the above.

Southend United Community Foundation Football Camps

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above for your attention.

Flatford Nature Day - 27th October 2026

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Kidz Camp Essex - October 2026 Half Term

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****

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

