



Dear Parents/Carers,

We know that being active is great for the body and mind, so we are delighted that Thundersley children love taking part in PE, joining our wide variety of sports clubs and competing in competitions against other schools locally and across Essex. This week, our children have taken part in Sportshall Athletics at The Deanes, netball against Robert Drake, football against Robert Drake and Canvey Juniors and on Wednesday, a team of 25 children represented us at the Essex County Cross Country Finals at Garons Park. As always, the children showed resilience, determination and were super ambassadors for our school. Well done everyone who took part and a huge thank you to those who trained them.



During Earth Day, the Forest School sessions were such a success for EYFS and Year 1 children, that they are going to have 8 more sessions throughout the course of this term. Taking part in Forest School stimulates the senses, keeps children active, encourages them to work in a team, supports them to take risks and builds confidence. We are delighted to give our younger children this opportunity, especially after having such a disrupted start to the start of school.



Next Tuesday, we are delighted to be hosting schools in the local area to take part in Anti-Bullying training run by a representative from The Diana Award. Preventing bullying is vital for us and we know that the 15 Thundersley children who will take part in the training will help us to continue to improve what we do. Once the children are trained, they will help to train others.

Have a super Bank Holiday weekend.

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance



For the week ended 22nd April 2022 there were 6 classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Fireflies who achieved 100%. They will receive a £10 Amazon voucher to spend on something for their class and will look after Attendance Ted next week. 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	97.9%
Dragonflies	96.3%
Butterflies	93.8%
Rabbits	97.5%
Ladybirds	92.9%
Robins	93.3%
Doves	95.1%
Owls	96.3%
Fireflies	100.0%
Bears	91.8%
Foxes	97.4%
Ants	95.3%
Sparrows	98.7%
Badgers	99.0%
Kestrels	96.6%
Squirrels	94.0%
Whole School	96.0%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

FIRELIES

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2021 - 2022 is:

97%

1 Minute Maths

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Thank you to all those Year 2 parents/carers and children who worked so hard during Maths workshops this week. We hope that these sessions will help parents/carers

understand the methods we use in our teaching and therefore to support their children. This term, we are working on improving children's problem solving skills. Children's arithmetic has improved significantly over the past few years - despite lockdown - but often they find using their arithmetic skills to solve a word problem trickier. You can help your child at home by talking about using Maths in real life - counting out enough cups for everyone to have a drink, sharing sweets equally, working out change, totalling shopping bills etc. Children in Year 4 will be taking part in the first national Multiplication Tables Check in June, so they are working really hard to master their tables and we ask parents/carers to support by helping them practise and encouraging them to use TT Rockstars or SumDog Maths.





Earth Day

On Friday, we were very excited to celebrate our first Earth Day at Thundersley. Our day started with a special visit from Seb and Alisha from Essex County Council who taught us about how to become more sustainable and lower our carbon footprint both at home and at school. They then launched our bid for a sustainability grant, which can be awarded to the school, giving us some ideas of what we may like to bid for. All the classes then worked on their ideas throughout the day, which will then go forward towards this bid - the children were really excited to be a part of making such a big difference! In addition to this, we also had Year 3 go litter picking in the local area and EYFS and Year 1 had a wonderful Forest School session. Zander Weedon (Chipmunks) and Lucas Jackson (Doves) give their respective accounts below of the Forest School session and the Litter Picking session:-

"I did some digging and I got to have a turn with the wheelbarrow and I got lots of animals and bugs. My favourite bug was a spider - there were 2! I made a wand out of a stick and some pipe cleaners and something else crafty. Me and Preston found a trap with a skipping rope. I found some dinosaurs and a village with some fairies and elves. I was surprised! I liked going on the hammock the best because the wind blew too hard and I slipped off and it was funny." (Zander Weedon)



"I went litter picking and I found a baker's bag. I also found a wine bottle. I found a carrier for alcohol. I found pieces of glass. I found some plastic stuff. We went litter picking to save the environment because if you litter it will do damage to the earth. I did litter picking because it was Earth Day. I enjoyed it because it was fun and also I was saving the planet." (Lucas Jackson)

Sportshall Athletics



Thundersley took two teams of children from Year 4, 5 and 6 to the district Sportshall Athletics competition last week at Deanes. It was a chance for the children to compete against 15 schools in the area in 'track' events such as sprinting, hurdling, baton relay racing and 'field' events such as standing triple jump, speed bounce and javelin. It is an extremely high-energy event and all the Thundersley athletes competed brilliantly, showing determination, tenacity and not to mention talent! When the overall results were announced, the morning team finished 2nd in their group and 9th overall and the afternoon team finished 2nd in their group and 2nd out of all 15 schools - which is a tremendous achievement. Mr Jetten and Mr Yorston were so proud of both teams and they are both now looking forward to the Summer athletics season! Coral Aston and William English (both in Squirrels) give their accounts of the day below:-

"When we got there we sat down in a row and then we all started to warm up. The children who were doing the obstacle race first were then given bibs. For the obstacle race we had to go through the high steppers, do 10 speed bounces and then run as fast as we could through the cones and back again and then off the reversal board and pass the baton to the

next person. There we 7 or 8 schools lined up for that and we won. Then there was the 2 x 1 relay but I didn't take part in that. The next relay was the over/under relay. The first thing we had to do was go over a hurdle and then under a bridge then over another hurdle, run and then do it all again on the way back. If we were the last person, we had to go off the reversal board and run as fast as we could back to the line. Our team also won this. There was also a little session where people were doing the field events. The field events included speed bounce, triple jump, chest push and standing long jump. For the speed bounce, we had to do as many as we could in 20 seconds. I did the speed bounce and the triple jump. I got 46 bounces in 20 seconds. The obstacle race was the best as it was exciting. I'm best at doing the speed bounce and I only had to do the bounce and run which I like. I was nervous as I've never been to a big competition and I wasn't sure how many people would be there or what it would look like but when I got there and I finished my first race I thought it wasn't as bad and it was more exciting than nerve wracking. I thought the whole morning was really enjoyable and it went quickly. I would love to take part in something like it again." (Coral Aston - morning session)



"When we got there we sat down and waited for the other schools to come. I did the 1 x 1 relay with Stanley. Then we waited for everyone else to do their events. Then we did over and under and then before the javelin, I did the vertical jump. I really liked the 1 x 1 the best because it was a quick sprint and I like going fast. The whole event was really fun and I definitely enjoyed it. I'd love to do something like this again as we worked as a team and cheered each other on." (William English - afternoon session)





Sport

Wow, what a day for sporting excellence! On Wednesday, a group of dedicated and determined runners ventured over to Garons Park for the County Cross Country finals. There were a lot of nerves and excitement in the air as the children stepped up to the line to compete with the best cross country runners in the whole of Essex. Miss Hause could not be prouder of each and every Thundersley runner as they showed fantastic resilience, bravery and sportsmanship and put on an incredible sporting performance - well done to all of you!

On Wednesday afternoon, both the Girls' and Mixed Netball teams took a trip down the hill to play Robert Drake. After a nervous start, the children got into a fantastic flow and played some incredible netball. They all tried extremely hard and never gave up. Although the scores were not what they had hoped, they all came off the court with huge smiles on their faces and were buzzing with excitement. Miss Hause is extremely proud of them all and applaud them for their perseverance and sportsmanship!



Grace Crawford (Bears) describes her experience at the Cross Country Finals below:-

"First, we did a bit of a warm up to warm our bodies up. We had a quick snack to get our energy levels up. When it was a bit nearer the time, we did another warm up to get our hearts pumping. Then we started to run. I didn't realise it would be so hard but it was out of all the fastest children in Essex. At the end there were lots of people behind me so I wasn't sure where I had come but I came 12th! I thought it was very fun and although it was a bit scary I liked it."

Jessica Knight (Kestrels) gives her account of the girls' match against Robert Drake below:-

"There were two matches. There was a mixed one that we had first and then after that there was a girls' one. We were playing some really good girls. I think they have been together longer than us as they were really good. We started playing and they started to score a few goals and in about the second to third quarter we were really improving and we started to get the ball more often and had some really good interceptions with the ball. We scored a goal and then they started to get the ball back and scored quite a few goals. Sadly, at the end, we lost 12-2 to them but we played really well and we tried our hardest. I enjoyed the match because there were lots of girls I know really well and we were all cheering each other on and saying nice things to each other."

Charlie Haggis (Kestrels) gives his version of the mixed netball match below:-

"We were playing the Hi 5 netball which means that every quarter we swap positions. In the first quarter, I played Goal Attack, which is where you shoot. I had a chance to score but as I was too far away from the net, I passed it to Faith and she scored. In the second quarter, I was the Centre Pass Marker. In the third quarter, I was Goal Defence, which is where you defend the goal and don't shoot. In the final quarter, I was the Scorer so I kept track of the score. I liked playing Goal Defence the best as I find it easier to block all the goals. It was really enjoyable as although we didn't win, it was

really fun as we were all passing and it was exciting.

Football



On Wednesday, Thundersley had what is probably going to be their final league game of the season. The game got off to a fast

start with good chances at both ends but Thundersley managed to break the deadlock with a fantastic strike. Thundersley continued to build the pressure from that point dominating the possession and securing a goal before half time. The second half continued in the same vein and the win was topped off with a final goal close to the end. Due to some resolute defending and excellent goal keeping, Thundersley finished the season with a clean sheet. This was a great example of children 'being the best they can be'. Jack Wooden (Badgers) tells of his exciting match against Robert Drake below:-

"First of all, everyone changed into their football boots and we did a kick around and some training. Then Mr. Jetten huddled us to have a chat about where we were playing on the pitch. I was playing left back and we managed to win the toss to start off the game. We started going uphill so we had the advantage in the second half. We played really well and Stanley in Ants managed to secure a goal so we were 1-0 up before half time. After that, we were playing really well, staying strong and got some really good tackles in. After a few minutes, Vinni managed to score another goal so we were 2-0 up which meant we had a really good first half. Then the second half started. This time, we were going downhill and we managed to get a really good advantage, get the tackles in and Connor scored a really good goal. The final score was 3-0 which means that it was a great possible last league game. I enjoyed it really well as we were playing really good and I really enjoyed myself."

On Thursday, it was the girls' team to play their final football fixture of the season against a strong Canvey Juniors team. The



game got off to a close start with chances at both ends and some super goal keeping which kept the game level. Thundersley were unfortunate to concede a deflected goal from a corner and went into half time 1-0 down. At no point did the children let this show in their confidence and they showed great resilience, defending well and supporting each other as a team. Thundersley scored a well-deserved goal through a clinical finish to level the game. Despite dominating the second half and many good opportunities, Canvey Juniors defended strongly and managed to keep the game level. At the final whistle, the girls celebrated and this was an undefeated season. This is another fantastic example of the children 'being the best they can be'. Delilah Thomas (Foxes) tells of her exciting match against Canvey Juniors below:-

"We warmed up and we were doing striking and defending practise. When Canvey Juniors arrived, we started the game. In the first half, Canvey scored. In the second half, Betsy scored to make it a draw. I played in defence, which I like because we get to help the Goal Keeper. Football is fun because we don't know what is going to happen."

eSchools App



As you are aware, our main form of parent/carer communication is via the eSchools platform. Please download the app

(free of charge), in order that any messages we send you are not charged to the school. We thank you for your support.

Twitter

Please keep checking our Twitter feed for various updates/messages:-

@Thundersley_P_S

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 speak to Mrs. Bezdel in the Green Building Offices.

Honesty is the best policy!

We would like to congratulate the following for handing in money they found recently.

Grace Parmenter (Foxes)
Esmee Emin-Wyatt (Foxes)
Lillie-Mai Williams (Foxes)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

Stars of the Week

- Year 5:-** Marnie O'Connell
- Year 4:-** Jose Lee and Lucas Rowland
- Year 3:-** Freddie Troth-Olasebikan, Sonny Grover and Alyssa Gay
- Year 2:-** Dylan Williams and Ricky Van der Fransen
- Year 1:-** Harry Burns
- EYFS:-** Luna Thomas and Brady Harringley



Playground Stars of the Week

Isla church, Harrison Punt, Darcie Bristow, Louise Martin, Stanley Evers, Ricky Van der Fransen, Evelyn Deal, Emily Duggan, Mila Clarke-Harris, Elijah Aldridge

House Point Scores

The weekly scores for the House Point groups are:-

- 1st with 3,012 points - Golden Eagles
- 2nd with 2,927 points - Red Arrows
- 3rd with 2,658 points - Green Dragons
- 4th with 2,361 points - Blue Dolphins



Well done Golden Eagles!

Please note that the Stars of the Week, Playground Stars of the Week and House Point Scores run a week in arrears.

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 News

Bag 2 School

Thank you to everyone who supported this event. We made **£104.00** for school funds.

Future Term Dates

02/05/22 - Bank Holiday
30/05/22 to 03/06/22 - Whitsun Break
21/07/22 - Last day of Term

05/09/22 - Start of Autumn Term
24/10/22 to 28/10/22 - Half Term
21/12/22 to 04/01/23 - Christmas Break
05/01/23 - Start of Spring Term
13/02/23 to 17/02/23 - Half Term
03/04/23 to 14/04/23 - Easter Break





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29th April 2022

17/04/23 - Start of the Summer Term
01/05/23 - Bank Holiday
29/05/23 to 02/06/23 - Whitsun Break
21/07/23 - Last day of Term

******NON PUPIL DAYS******

06/06/22
07/06/22

01/09/22
02/09/22
31/10/22
20/02/23
05/06/23

