



# Newsletter No. 5

7<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Our Year 5 children set off this morning on their adventure to Grafham - we know they will have a fantastic time! These trips really bring something special to what we offer our children and I am so grateful to Mr Mackay and the team for all their hard work in making this happen. We look forward to seeing the photos.

I was in and out of classrooms last week and I was just so impressed by the focus that is being shown, particularly by children in KS2. They are really responding well to our refocus on learning behaviours, using the Golden Time system, and this is showing in their listening, in their answers to questions and in the work they are producing. Well done all.

Reading, as you know, is one of our top priorities. As always, can we ask that you hear your child read or read to them each night - or better still, do both! I cannot emphasise the difference this makes to their learning, right across the school and for those preparing to go to secondary school next year, it is a must. It is often said that in primary school children 'learn to read' and that at secondary school, they 'read to learn'. Any parent who has had children move onto secondary school will tell you that the amount of reading and writing they are expected to do is remarkable, so the better able they are to keep up with that, the better. I know, having had two very reluctant readers in my house, how hard this can be. There were times when we read page about, sentence about, word about but still they were reading. You reading to your child also has a significant impact on their comprehension and reading, so if that's all you can do without tears - that is enough. As the children move up the school, please get them to write a record of their reading in the diary - you do not need to do that, but if you can sign it, that would be great.

As I write, our EYFS children are rushing around the site doing a Number Hunt with

their parents - just a delight! Thank you parents for supporting this.

Have a good week.

**Miss E. Dawson**  
**Headteacher**

### Attendance

For the week ended 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024, there were 7 classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Butterflies who achieved 99.3%. They will be looking after Attendance Ted this 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	96.5%
Dragonflies	97.7%
Butterflies	99.3%
Rabbits	97.6%
Ladybirds	96.3%
Robins	98.3%
Fireflies	90.0%
Owls	95.8%
Bears	98.3%
Sparrows	95.2%
Ants	96.7%
Kestrels	93.3%
Badgers	98.9%
Otters	98.0%
Squirrels	93.6%
Whole School	96.3%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

**BUTTERFLIES**

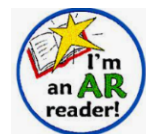
Aspirational attendance target set for the school for  
  
2024 - 2025 is:  
  
**97%**

### 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 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024. To register your choice please visit:-

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

### KS2 Accelerated Reader



This week:-

#### Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 746,169

2<sup>nd</sup> Owls - 608,766

3<sup>rd</sup> Sparrows - 225,680

#### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 91

2<sup>nd</sup> Owls - 60

3<sup>rd</sup> Fireflies - 37

Overall:-

#### Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Sparrows - 1,561,083

2<sup>nd</sup> Bears - 1,328,468

3<sup>rd</sup> Owls - 1,244,924

#### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 187

2<sup>nd</sup> Owls - 123

3<sup>rd</sup> Sparrows - 102



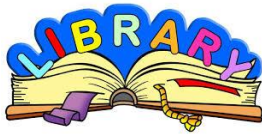


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## Library

Please note that due to an abundance of donations, we are unable to take any further library books at the moment unless they are non-fiction - thank you.



## Graffiti Art

A local Graffiti Artist, Scotty, from Brave Arts came to work with the local schools in the village to create spray-can artwork that will be displayed around the village during the Noise Arts Festival. The children involved, learned how to use spray can paint and had a fabulous time creating artwork on large boards. Jacob Crompton (Owls) tells of his exciting experience below:-

"We did some spray can painting the background. We did the whole bit. It looked cool and it looked good. I enjoyed painting the best. Scotty was nice and he taught us how to spray can."



## Girls' Football Tournament

On Wednesday, our Years 5/6 Football team headed to The Deanes School for the annual SSP Girls' Football tournament. The day consisted of lots of games for the girls against schools from all over the area. There were 26 schools in attendance! Our girls had a very competitive group against some strong footballing schools. After a long morning of games this is how Thundersley girls finished the group stage:-

- Thundersley 4-0 William Reed
- Thundersley 1-1 Winter Gardens
- Thundersley 0-1 Edward Francis
- Thundersley 1-0 Plumbrow
- Thundersley 0-0 Hockley
- Thundersley 1-0 Kents Hill

After this tough group we finished on 11 points! This saw us go through to the next round as first place. This put us through to the quarter finals... vs Jotmans.

A tense game against Jotmans saw us go 1-0 up with 2 minutes left to play, but Jotmans scored a wonder-strike from the half-way line with a minute to spare. This sent the game to penalties which Thundersley unfortunately lost. A really brilliant effort from our girls who were super all day! The girls still look forward to their league action and Essex cup run!" Katie Allen (Otters) gives details of her experience below:-

"We walked there and when we got there we went to the astro pitch and there was a side bit where we put our football boots on. Then we walked through the gates to get to our football pitch. Then we did some training and watched a couple of matches. When it was our turn, we had a team talk and we went onto the pitch. We won this match. It was a good match and I played defence which I like. We won four games, drew one and lost one. After that we all went over to a big group to see who got into the quarter finals. We were very happy as we got through, celebrated and walked over to our pitch. I played defence again and we played Jotmans. It was quite an exciting game but very tough. When the twelve minutes were up the score was 1-1 which meant that we went into penalties. I felt quite nervous. Then we all went into a line on the halfway and Jotmans took the first penalty and they scored. Then it was our turn and unfortunately, they saved it. Then it was their turn again and they scored and we didn't again. This meant that we didn't go through to the next round. I thought the whole tournament was a lot of fun and I enjoyed it because I was there last year and knew that it would be a lot of fun. We did watch Jotmans play their next round too."





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## Year 2 Parent/Carer Involvement

### Session

On Thursday, the parents/carers of the Year 2 children visited to help the children make soft toy penguins as part of their Design Technology work. Maddox McKinlay (Robins) and Isla Jacobs (Ladybirds) give details of the session below:-



"Mummy did the cutting because it was a bit hard. Mummy put the needle through and I pulled it. We made a penguin. We put soft stuff inside. We had to put wool eyes on. I loved mummy coming in as she was helping me a lot. I can take the penguin home at the end of the year." (Maddox McKinlay)

"My mum and I cut all the pieces out and then we stitched half of it and then we put stuffing in the other half. Then we had to sew that up. I made a little egg for it. I stuck on the eyes and the beak and then I did some colouring in. I liked mummy coming in because she helped me do the stitching. My penguin was nice and cuddly." (Isla Jacobs)

## Numbots Certificates

Well done to all children in Year 1 and Year 2 that have used NumBots to help support their fluency in Maths. Certificates will be given during Celebration Assembly. The following children are our NumBot superstars this week!



Year 1 - Summer Barber (Rabbits)  
Year 2 - Elsie Phillips (Robins)

Well done to you both!

## House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Green Dragons	2943
Golden Eagles	2810
Blue Dolphins	2720
Red Arrows	2666



Well done Green Dragons!

## Stars of the Week

Please note that the Stars of the Week are for this week and last week.



**Year 6:-** Carter Broad, Ella Sewell, Louise Martin, Gautam Sandeep and Sophie Nix

**Year 5:-** Kody Hearne, Ethan Fitzmaurice, Isobel Hawkins and Olivia Dean

**Year 4:-** Lacey-Belle Fenemore, Felicity Warren and Leo Jackson

**Year 3:-** Luna Thomas, Elliot Hardwicke and Vanessa Lukosevicius

**Year 2:-** Olivia-Grace Nevill, Gracie Mann, Reggie Duke and Isla Jackson

**Year 1:-** Oliver Sylvester, Mason Buckley, Rey Froud and Max Potter

**EYFS:-** Isabella Rees, Maisie Wheeler, Leo Flint and Elizabeth White

## Playground Stars of the Week

Lucas Gillett, Samuel Clark, Henry Frost, Oscar Wooden, Olivia Oswald, Sparrows' Class, Reggie Collins, Felicity Bowman, Elliot Hardwicke, Leo Waiwaiku, Arnie Higgs, Blake Turner, Mason Wright, Phoenix Teanby, Albert Evers, Grace Bowman, Hollie Agas, Joshua Sandford, George Oswald, Emily Duggan, Henry Wise

Bell, Kyla O'Malley, Alex Aldridge, Evie Crompton, Evie Barfoot, Ava Anderson, Lily Roberts

## Honesty is the best policy!

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

Arbie Beswick (Sparrows)  
Jenson Main (Ants)  
Henry Grover (Ants)  
Zachariah Sanders-Mackey Couch (Ants)  
Alfie Seymour (Sparrows)  
Ivy Dove (Sparrows)  
Charlie Macdonald (Badgers)  
Daisy Avison (Ants)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

## eSchools App

We kindly ask that you to download the 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

## 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. Hayward in the main School Office.

## Uniform Shops

We would like to advise that we now have two uniform shops as follows:-





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Penn UK,  
15-17 Kents Hill Road,  
South Benfleet,  
Essex, SS7 5PN.  
  
Telephone:- 01268 751724

#### \*\*\*\*NON PUPIL DAYS\*\*\*\*

25/11/24  
14/02/25  
21/07/25  
22/07/25

[www.pennuk.com](http://www.pennuk.com)

Danielle's Uniform,  
Claydons Lane,  
Rayleigh,  
Essex, SS6 7UP.

Telephone 01268 967542

[www.daniellesshop.co.uk](http://www.daniellesshop.co.uk)

#### PTA News

##### AGM

The PTA's Annual General Meeting is being held at 7pm on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at The White Hart. All are welcome!

#### Community News

##### Essex Fire Museum

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### School Calendar - Dates

<https://www.thundersleyprimary.co.uk/web/home/86964>

or eSchools app Lite

#### Future Term Dates

28/10/24 to 01/11/24 - Half Term  
23/12/24 to 03/01/25 Christmas Break  
06/01/25 - Start of the Spring Term  
17/02/25 to 21/02/25 - Half Term  
07/04/25 to 21/04/25 - Easter Break  
22/04/25 - Start of the Summer Term  
05/05/25 - Bank Holiday  
26/05/25 to 30/05/25 - Half Term  
18/07/25 - Last day of Term

