



## Newsletter No. 2

17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,



I am sure many of you will have watched Emma Radacanu and her fantastic achievement in the US Open. She exemplifies the qualities we want to teach at TPS - Belief, Courage, Endeavour and Determination.

We would like to wish good luck to all those sitting the 11+ or selection tests this weekend and in the coming weeks. You have worked extremely hard - now, believe in yourselves!

All the children will be weary tonight because they have worked so hard in this first full week back. Reading has already got off to a flying start, with the vast majority of children reading 5 times per week. Please make sure that you keep your child on track by doing so - 10 minutes reading together or hearing your child read each evening will make a huge difference to their skill and confidence. Practice makes progress!



It has been wonderful to see our EYFS children taking their first steps into school in small groups and our staff have thoroughly enjoyed meeting them (and their pets!) during home visits.



We are excited to start swimming next week. I understand that the uniform shops have run out of swimming hats, so please purchase the rubber hats from any retailer and if you cannot find yellow, do not worry. If your child is in Year 1 or 2, please complete the form about their previous experience in a pool via the link below:-

<https://forms.gle/AoPr8UtpEkbcd1d6>

We have been asked about whether sweets can come back into school for birthdays and the answer to this is yes as long as they are separately packed. A reminder that it is only for birthdays and that sweets and chocolate should not be a regular snack for breaktimes - healthy options only please. Children in Years EYFS, 1 and 2 have fruit each day, provided free of charge.



Have a super weekend!

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

### **COVID Update**

As you know, we have had a number of positive cases across the school this week - the cases at present seem not to constitute an outbreak in one particular year group or class. I am working with Essex Contact Tracing and the Local Authority to monitor the situation. If we find that we have 5 positive cases across a year group where children have had close contact within 10 days which could mean that Covid is spreading within that group of children, we will reinstate certain measures. I will keep you updated. In the meantime, please be vigilant to any symptoms your child may have and remind them about hand washing. In the Government's Autumn and Winter Plan, suggestions are made to measures we can all take such as meeting outdoors where we can and ensuring good ventilation if we cannot.

**COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan 2021 - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))**

### **Internet Safety Alert**

We have been alerted by 'Safer Schools' who have been made aware of several cases where groups of primary school aged children have been exposed to **highly inappropriate, violent, and sexualised content** made within a popular game called 'Gacha Heat'.

'Gacha Heat' uses the characters and backgrounds from this popular roleplaying game and its content currently **presents a serious risk to children and young people**.

Please see details on this link:-

**[Safeguarding ALERT - Gacha Heat - Safer Schools \(oursaferschools.co.uk\)](https://oursaferschools.co.uk)**

### **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 by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. To register your choice please visit:-

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

### **Reading Rewards**



From research and our own experience at TPS, we know that regular reading has a

massive impact on children's success at school. In order to encourage children to read regularly at home throughout the school year, we will once again be running our Reading Reward scheme. Children will receive various rewards throughout the year as they reach certain milestones. We count a maximum of 5 reads per week and do not include part weeks or school holidays.

Bronze certificate 25 reads, available from 8.10.21  
Bronze award 50 reads, available from 3.12.21

Silver certificate 75 reads, available from 28.1.22  
Silver award 100 reads, available from 18.3.22

Gold certificate 125 reads, available from 13.3.22  
Gold award 150 reads, available from 1.7.22





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For all children achieving a gold award there will be an additional treat. In order to receive this treat, children will need to read regularly throughout the year, as there is very little time at the end of the year for them to catch up, especially as we only count a maximum of 5 reads per week. Thank you for supporting your children in achieving these rewards and in becoming better readers.

### TPS School Meals

Please note that due to the current situation with lorry drivers and deliveries, the kitchen may have to change the school dinner menu at short or no notice. Please accept our apologies but this situation is beyond our control.

### Census Day Lunch - Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021

We would like to advise that on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021 it is our 'School Census Day' when the Government requires us to send them information which will determine our funding for the next academic year. On this day, the number of children taking school dinners is registered and our funding for school dinners for the future is calculated. In light of recent funding issues, it is imperative that as many children as possible in EYFS/KS1 have a dinner on this day and we thank you in advance for booking your child in. The menu will be:-

Chicken Burger  
Veggie Nuggets  
Chips  
Baked Beans



Doughnut

The meal is free for children in EYFS/KS1 and costs £2.30 for KS2 children payable via ePay.

### Dance Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Isla Taylor (Fireflies) who took her classical ISTD Primary Tap exam at Mala Dance back in

July and received her results this week, passing with a Merit! Isla will now advance to the next level of classes. Well done Isla, what a fantastic achievement.



### eSchools App



As you are aware, our main form of parent/carer communication is via the eSchools platform. Please find attached details of their new improved app

which we kindly ask you to download (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

### Honesty is the best policy!

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

Ava Long (Foxes)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourself!

### 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.

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

Danielle's Uniform,  
Claydons Lane,  
Rayleigh,  
Essex, SS6 7UP.  
Telephone 01268 967542

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

### Community News

#### RTA Classes

Please find attached flyers in respect of the above.

#### Ballerz BasketBall Club

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### KidAround Magazine

The September issue is here! There is family advice, education, after school clubs and lots of events to keep you and your family busy, fit and healthy.





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[TO READ IT, CLICK HERE](#) or on the image below:-



### **Future Term Dates**

25/10/21 to 29/10/21 - Half Term  
20/12/21 to 03/01/22 - Christmas Break  
04/01/22 - Start of the Spring Term  
14/02/22 to 18/02/22 - Half Term  
04/04/22 to 18/04/22 - Easter Break  
19/04/22 - Start of the Summer Term  
02/05/22 - Bank Holiday  
30/05/22 to 03/06/22 - Whitsun Break  
22/07/22 - Last day of Term

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

01/11/21  
21/02/22  
06/06/22  
07/06/22

