



# Newsletter No. 37

15th July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children look amazing today and have broken every rule possible! I do not think anyone will be having Golden Time!!! Another super idea run by the wonderful PTA.

What a fortnight we have had at TPS, as you can see from this bumper edition! Year 2 and Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their trips to Hyde Hall and Southend this week and as always, were super ambassadors for our school. Trips are an important part of our Big Question curriculum as they broaden horizons, inspire curiosity and reinforce key learning in class. Our aim next year is to return to a trip (or in school experience) once a term for each year group.

Wednesday saw the return of the District Sports competition at The Deanes School. In soaring temperatures, our team of 50 excited athletes ran, jumped and threw their way to a fantastic victory on the track, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the field events and 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall out of 7 schools. We were pipped to the post by South Benfleet Primary, whose prowess in the field events sealed their victory. Well done everyone and a huge thanks to The Deanes for hosting the competition so brilliantly.

It was super to see so many parents/carers joining their EYFS children in making their calm boxes with their new Year 1 teachers this week too. We find this is a really successful way of supporting the transition from EYFS to Year 1.

This week we have been treated to the most amazing performance by our Year 6 children in their production of 'Lights, Camera, Action!' The children pulled off this extremely funny musical with absolute aplomb and showed themselves to be wonderful actors, singers and comedians. Just wonderful!

This is our last newsletter at the end of what has been another most remarkable year! A year in which the majority of staff and pupils have had time off with

COVID but despite that, children's progress has been impressive, thanks to our dedicated and talented staff and your support at home.

## Goodbye



As you know, we are saying a fond farewell to four wonderful and very valued team members. Miss Hause has an exciting adventure ahead

of her as she jets off to a teaching role in Thailand! She has been here since she qualified, after training at Kingston, another ROBUS school, and has made an impact on every child she has taught with her calm, determination to help them to 'be the best they can be'. We will miss her very much, but look forward to regular updates. Mrs Evans, who has been here for the past 10 years and played a vital role in the constant improvements at Thundersley in that time, is also retiring. Mrs Evans has supported many children in Year 6 on their journey to secondary school. She has done this amazingly, challenging children to the very last day, determined that they leave Thundersley ready for their next adventure. We wish Mrs Evans luck for hers! We also say a sad goodbye to Miss Pickard, who joined the Infant School in 1990. She has been a wonderful member of staff, ensuring that 1000s of our youngest children at Thundersley have had a great early experience in school. She has also fought passionately and successfully for science to be given the priority it deserves across the school - many, many children and families took part in the 30 Days Wild during lockdown, thanks to her persistence. We will miss her very much. Finally, we say a sad au revoir to Mrs Bezel, who is retiring after 34 years of being at the heart of this school. In her time here, her role has changed significantly and she has not only kept a keen eye on our finances and HR but has played such an important part in the changes and developments in the school. She has been at the heart of all we do and will certainly be a huge loss.

I know you will want to wish them all the best and I would like to say a huge thank you to them for their dedication and commitment to the 1000s of children (and adults) they have collectively had an impact on, especially in the last few years!

Finally, we wish a fond farewell to our fabulous Year 6 children - Badgers, Kestrels and Squirrels. This wonderful group of children have been at Thundersley during the most unique of times. History books will remember that they were the children who were confined to their homes and gardens, who learnt remotely on the Google Classroom, who took part in Zoom dance offs, who shared videos of themselves throwing toilet rolls but who, above all, were resilient, determined and tried each day to 'Be the best they can be', despite the challenges they faced. They will forever be our Lockdown Heroes and we will never forget them.

Children, you have been the most wonderful group of children and a credit to this school and we know that you are going to do exceptionally well in Secondary School. Hold your heads high and 'Be the best you can be'. We will miss you all!

We will be sending them off on their way at 3.20pm on the front playground next Thursday and would love Year 6 parents/carers to join us.

## Thank you!



A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA who have absolutely come up trumps this year - what fantastic events they have organised. The Summer Fair was the best one yet and raised a whopping £3,914.30 profit! We are saying goodbye to Elaine Raymond, Tracy Slate and Rachel Watts from the PTA. These ladies have been stalwarts of the group for years and have, in that time, raised literally thousands and thousands of pounds for the school. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We now need parents to replace these lovely ladies and carry on their great work, so please





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contact the PTA if you too want to make a difference.

Thank you to all parents/carers and grandparents who play such an important role in our school. We absolutely believe that you are a vital part of all we do and that your children are so lucky to have your full support in their learning. The last few years has shown just what we can achieve when we work as a community. Please kindly take time to fill out our online survey following the link below, which only takes a few minutes to complete and is a valuable form of feedback for us:-

<https://forms.gle/ZqUMEx3xM1tMd7Vn6>

Finally, I would like to say a personal thank you to every member of staff, Governor and Trustee for their hard work, courage and dedication again this year. I can honestly say I have never worked with such a brilliant team of people and never felt more proud.

Have a wonderful, safe holiday and we look forward to welcoming you all back on **Monday, 5th September 2022.**

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

## Uniform

Please note that from September the children will be wearing the winter uniform (please find attached the uniform list for your convenience).

## Attendance



For the week ended 8th July 2022 there were 4 classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Chipmunks who achieved 98.7%. They 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	98.7%
Dragonflies	92.3%
Butterflies	91.3%
Rabbits	88.3%
Ladybirds	97.0%
Robins	89.3%
Doves	90.7%
Owls	91.3%
Fireflies	95.5%
Bears	95.2%
Foxes	96.9%
Ants	98.6%
Sparrows	95.2%
Badgers	97.5%
Kestrels	94.8%
Squirrels	94.0%
Whole School	94.1%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

**CHIPMUNKS**  
**98.7%**

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2021 - 2022 is:

**97%**

## Office Closure

Please note that the Office will be closing at 3.30pm on Thursday, 21st July 2022.

## Reading Score

1st - Foxes 100%  
2nd - Badgers 91%  
3rd - Squirrels 87%

Well done Foxes (please note that these scores run a week in arrears).

## Holiday Diary Competition

Exciting news! If your child would like to write a holiday diary over the summer holidays, please



ask them to bring in their diary during the first week back and give it to Mrs Farmer or the office. There will be **Amazon vouchers** for the most interesting and creative diaries and every entrant will receive house points. Mrs Farmer launched the competition in assembly this week but if any children want to come and have a look at some examples to inspire them please go and find her. Mrs. Farmer will look forward to seeing all of their diaries in September.

## Netball Match vs. Robert Drake



What a performance from our Year 5 Girls' Netball Team! Last week, this group of girls competed in their first netball match as a team. Although they were nervous to begin with, they soon grew in confidence and displayed fantastic netballing skills alongside incredible resilience. Miss Hause couldn't be prouder of them all and the progress they have made. Well done girls, you were AMAZING! Isla Church (Sparrows) gives details of the match below:-

"I really enjoyed it. We were playing different positions every quarter. I played Goal Attack and Goal Shooter. Grace in Year 6 was helping us. I liked playing Goal Shooter as when I was playing Goal Attack, I had to mark someone who







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was really tall. Robert Drake won but they are a really good team. We played well as a team and everyone was proud of how we did. Everyone played and co-operated. We didn't really think about the winning we just had fun and enjoyed ourselves. I'm definitely looking forward to playing in Year 6 as we will get better the more we play."

### Spelling Bee Winners



On Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 a team of six children took part in a Spelling Bee via Zoom with other local schools. After six rounds of intense spelling, Thundersley were announced the proud winners! The children received a special trophy and £100 Amazon voucher to spend. Abbie Ioannou (Badgers) tells of her experience below:-

"There were six of us. Myself, Jack Wooden, Harrison Brooker, Nicholas Fallon, Alfie Hulton and Bear Norton. There were six rounds of ten words. The first round was tricky words beginning with 's'. They started off easy and then got harder and harder. The second round was weird animal names. Then there was also a round where we had to make up words with as many letters as possible but only using each letter once. We all worked as a team and it was really fun. Every two rounds, Miss Wilkinson marked the points and input them online and then a lady read out the leader board. At the beginning we were 4<sup>th</sup> but we lead for the last two rounds. I enjoyed it so much. I was really nervous at first but everyone helped each other and we worked as a team. I would definitely do it again. We

won a trophy and a £100 Amazon voucher for the school."

### Sports Day

On Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 it was our Sports Day. The EYFS and KS1 children enjoyed the morning session and the KS2 children enjoyed the afternoon session. The children participated for their House Teams and won points during each activity. During the morning session, Red Arrows won, beating Golden Eagles by just 1 point. In the afternoon, Golden Eagles were the winners. The overall scoreboard was:-

- 1<sup>st</sup> Golden Eagles
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Blue Dolphins
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Red Arrows
- 4<sup>th</sup> Green Dragons

Stanley Beckford (Dragonflies) tells of his first experience of Sports Day and Sienna Stone (Kestrels) tells of her last experience of Sports Day below:-

"On Sports Day, I came 2<sup>nd</sup>. We did football, sack races, a water race, jumping and throwing. I liked the football the best. I liked Sports Day." (Stanley Beckford)



"First of all, we had to sit down in our House Teams - Red Arrows, Golden Eagles, Green Dragons and Blue Dolphins. I'm a Red Arrow and Deputy House Captain. Mr. Mackay had a bell which signified the end of each event. We had different activities to do. The first one we had hurdles and 2 goal posts and we had to kick the ball inside the hurdle to get points. On the second activity there were 2 buckets of water, one at the beginning and one at the end. There were wires in between and we

had to step over them without spilling the water and whoever had the most water in their bucket at the end, won. It was really fun but it was quite competitive amongst the teams. It was quite upsetting that it was my last Sports Day as I really enjoy Sports Day and its fun but I'm looking forward to new sporting events at my new school and I will try my hardest like I did at this one." (Sienna Stone)

### EYFS Calm Box Sessions



This week the children in EYFS have been making 'calm boxes'. The aim of the sessions was to help the children experience a smooth transition into Year 1. During the sessions, the children decorated a 'calm box' with a little help from their adult. They were provided with a small box and they could decorate it with a selection of materials. The children will take the boxes home and over the summer holidays can choose a few small items from home to put in it. The children will then bring them to school in September and they will stay with them for the first few weeks until they are settled in their new class. Sophia Jarvis (Chipmunks) gives her account of making her 'calm box' below:-

"I put lots of gems on my box and also I put some sparkles on there. It's really colourful and it was very fun to make. My mummy glued what I wanted on. My box had a black heart on it. It was really hard to make but I could make it with my mummy. I was excited that mummy came in. It will be really fun to take my box home as I can put stuff in there."





## Year 3 visit to Southend on Sea



On Monday, the Year 3 children visited Southend on Sea as part of their Geography topic. They travelled by coach, visited the Pier museum, enjoyed a trip on the Pier railway, did some Geography fieldwork and lastly had a much needed ice-cream! Despite the weather being super hot, the children had a wonderful day at the seaside and returned to school with smiling faces. Alyssa Gay (Doves) tells of her experience below:-

"The first thing we did was go on the bus to Southend. When we got there, we went to a museum. It was about the trains and how they were going to use electric so they can go faster on the pier. Then we went on the train to the end of the pier which was really good fun. When we got to the end of the pier, we drew things we could see like a car to the East, the end of the pier to the West, an ice



lolly stand to the north and the sea to the south. When we finished, we walked back down the pier. It was really hurting our legs but we had a couple of breaks to have some water. After that, we had our lunch under a shady tree. After lunch, we went to Rossi and got a vanilla ice cream. It was really yummy but dripping a lot. After that, we went onto the beach to make sand castles with a bucket and spade. It was really fun. Annabelle's was the best as she made a butterfly. After that, we hopped on the coach and went back to school. The best bit was the ice cream. I really liked the day because it gave us more energy and exercise and we learned that in London the air was really bad and the rich people wanted to go somewhere nice and have a rest so that's why they went to Southend. The pier was built but it was too long for people to deliver parcels so they decided to have a horse and cart so they could get the parcels to the people quicker. The horses kept putting holes in the pier with their hooves so they decided to use electric trains. I thought the day was gobsmacking!



## Year 2 visit to Hyde Hall

As part of their Science topic, Year 2 visited Hyde Hall on Tuesday. The children enjoyed going on a bug hunt, creating a home for a furry friend and learning about what different creatures need to survive. Ella McGeown (Ladybirds) describes the visit below:-

"We went on a coach to go to Hyde hall. The first thing we did was to collect petals and leaves and put them in a bucket. Then we used the petals to make a bookmark. After we did the bookmark we built a bird's nest out of sticks, petals and leaves.



We had to use things that birds could pick up so we had to use a little clip to pretend it was a beak. Once we built the nest, we put a teddy robin in and when we squeezed it, it made a sound like a robin. Then we had lunch. Next, we did something different. We coloured a picture of a flower with crayons for the petals and in the middle we used chalk. Then we drew a picture of a flower with pencils and then we had to put water over to make paint. It was really fun. Next, we went to a bit where we used magnify glasses to look at some animals which were already dead - we didn't harm them. They were grass snakes, bats, frogs, birds and there was also one beetle. We made a clay mini beast. I made a butterfly. I made the body out of clay but the rest of it from materials in a box. We also made a paper pot and we put compost in it and then we put cress seeds in it. We then put some more compost on the top of the seeds. Then we put faces on them and our names. We brought them







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home with us. Then we went on the coach and I sat next to Tilly and Patrick. I loved it because it was really fun. I love nature so I loved the gardens. There was also a plant which was the closest thing to feel like dinosaur skin and at the bottom it was spikey. I've been to Hyde Hall before at Easter with my mum."



## District Sports



On Wednesday this week, a large group of children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 came into school early and excited for their District Sports morning at The Deanes School. They had been training hard and preparing for their different events and when they arrived, there was a lot of excited energy and children were raring to go. The Years 3 and 4 children had their opportunity to compete first. Some went away to compete in their field events (throwing and jumping) whilst others had their sprint heats on the track. There were some amazing running performances and news was filtering back of some superb field performances also. It was then the turn of the Years 5 and 6 children who gave 100% in all their events and also came back with a smattering of medals from the track. Finally, it was time for the relays and things got off to a fantastic start with the Thundersley

children bringing home 5 golds and 1 silver out of the 8 relay races. Then came the tense wait to find out how the team finished overall. Incredibly, they finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the field events, 1<sup>st</sup> on the track and overall were pipped narrowly into 2nd place. There were some absolutely fantastic individual performances and the team pulled together well, comforting one another when disappointed and celebrating together their successes. As always, the children applauded all competitors and showed great respect for others and had an incredible sporting attitude throughout. Another fantastic example of the children being 'the best they can be'. Jack Wooden gives his account of the event below:-

"We all gathered in the Green Hall at 8.15am and then we got given a number tag and safety pins. We all had to put them on our chest and back and then find a walking partner. Then we walked to Deanes and everyone was really ready and excited to do the competition. I was especially excited because it was my last District Sports and I really wanted to win the throwing. When we arrived, we all gathered on the field and then had to wait half an hour for the competition to start because we were waiting for other schools to arrive. When the competition started, everyone got really excited. The first races were the sprints and we won lots of medals. Then the field events started and I waited for the Year 3s and 4s to do their throwing and field events and then it was my turn with Heidi Wood, Harrison Brooker and Jessica Knight. When we arrived at the throwing setup, we were all really nervous as other people were really good at throwing. It was my turn first out of the boys and I did really well on all my throws. I was really happy with all of them. After the field event, we all gathered up and it was the 600m and we won it with a great comeback. Then it was the relay. The Year 3s and 4s went first and then Year 5s and 6s went last. We all did great and no-one gave up. At the end, we got given a tall golden trophy for coming 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall, a little silver trophy for coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the field events and another silver trophy for coming 1<sup>st</sup> place in the track events. I got a gold

medal for coming 1<sup>st</sup> in the throwing. It was really fun. I'm really going to miss Thundersley a lot as I really, really love this school and the sports are really, really good. It's just a really good school!"

## Year 6 Production - Lights, Camera, Action



On Tuesday and Thursday this week, our Year 6 children performed their end of year production, Lights, Camera, Action at The Deanes School in their theatre.





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The children have been practicing for weeks and could not wait to perform in front of their families. Buhlebethu HLongwa (Badgers) and John Weeden (Kestrels) were part of the narrating team and describe jointly, their experience of the production below:-

"To get a speaking part we had to learn a scene and audition and give it some pizzazz! We all went to Squirrels and Miss Wilkinson told us our roles. All those who didn't get the narrator's role got an acting part or a stage props/technical part. We have been practicing for the last eight weeks. We practised on Tuesdays and Thursdays and we were given the lines to the songs for Lucky Listeners. On Monday we went to Deanes and did one full practice run and then we had lunch. Then the Year 4s came and we showed them. Then on Tuesday and Thursday we got dropped off at 6pm and then the parents had to wait about ten minutes. The show started at 6.30pm. We were really nervous but excited. The show went really well and everyone laughed so that was a good sign. We thought it was a great success and really enjoyed doing it."



### Casting Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Ivy Cook on being cast in Disney's the Little Mermaid production at the Towngate Theatre in Basildon on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (tickets are on sale now). Ivy belongs to the Pauline Quirk Academy but was cast by Rare Productions who are putting the show on. Ivy is super excited to be cast in her first production after attending auditions two weeks ago and will be dancing and singing throughout the show. Ivy's parents are super proud of her and cannot wait to watch her shine on stage.



### Football Congratulations



We would like to congratulate George Elliott, Charlie Elliott, Jeremy D'Aleo, Reggie Collins, Ollie Smith, Hermione Delf and Bella-Nicole Arscott who recently played their first games for Thundersley Rovers U7s. The team won 2 of their matches but most importantly had lots of fun playing with their friends. Mrs. Humfrey also watched the team and gave them lovely words of encouragement. All the children's parents are very proud of them.

### 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.

Harry Sayer (Owls)  
Reid Tuckwell (Owls)  
Kai Beale (Owls)  
Jaidon Kaufman (Badgers)  
Mitchell Wilson (Badgers)  
Ava Macdonald (Dragonflies)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

### Stars of the Week

Year 6:- Ollie King and Dominik Siemianowicz  
Year 5:- Darcie Hearne  
Year 4:- Mason Hills and Sydney Greig  
Year 3:- Theo Trevallion and Oscar Gladwin  
Year 2:- Eleanor Henry and Rosie Mann  
Year 1:- Isabelle Hawkins  
EYFS:- Aiyana Miah



### Playground Stars of the Week

Ruby-Mae Betts, Tayfika Sara, Elsie-Mae Newland, Aaliyah Hussein, Bears, Jasmine







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McNamara, Fritz Eyong, Joshua Sandford, Ethan Fitzmaurice, Leo Jackson and Luna Thomas

## House Point Scores

The end of year scores for the House Points will be sent out separately next week.

Please note that the Stars of the Week and Playground Stars of the Week 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](http://www.pennuk.com)

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

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

## PTA

### Summer Fair

Historically the Summer Fair profit normally stands around £2000 but this year we made a staggering £3,914.30 profit, nearly double. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this event!

The raffle prize winners were as follows:-

Preston Hooper - iPad - Castle Point Gas

Rosie Anstis - MOT/Service - Castle Point Motors

Lucas Bartrup - Meal for 2 Legends of Soul - La Quinta

Rosie Mann - 2 Adult & 2 Child passes - Call of the Wild

Brady Harringley - Adventure Island & Sealife Centre passes

Chase Gray-Harman - 2hr E-Bike hire - Hadleigh Park Cycles

Emily Duggan - £20 Danielle's Uniform Shop voucher

Daisy Avison - 2 Mega Centre vouchers

Esmee Emin-Wyatt - 2 Mega Centre vouchers

Chloe Crawley - 2 Mega Centre vouchers

Samuel Beasley - Box of 6 Cupcakes - By George

Nicholas Fallon - Virgin Active Family Weekend Pass

Harry Sayer - £20 voucher for KKAMS Beauty

## Community News

### Mat Hawkes Swim School

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Thundersley Rovers U9s Girls

Please find attached two flyers in respect of the above.

### Essex Police Update - June 2022

Please find attached information in respect of the above.

### In Tune with Essex Music Education Hub - Newsletter

Please find attached information in respect of the above.

### Hadleigh Park Cycles - Free Cycle Events for Women

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### The Essex Horse and Pony Protection Society - Summer Family Fun Day 24<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## Future Term Dates

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  
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\*\*\*\***

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

