

Dear Parents/Carers,



What a busy final week of term this has been! Two years ago, our Grandparent's afternoon tea was the first event that we cancelled, fearing that we would be putting our loved ones at risk, so it was with delight (and a few tears shed) that we welcomed nannies, grandads and other relatives to hear our EYFS children sing some songs and share a scone, cream and jam. The children sang beautifully and were so excited to have their grandparents join them in school. If that has whetted the appetite of any Grandparents to come and hear our children read, we would be delighted to hear from you!



Our Year 5 children had the most wonderful time, either in school deepening their knowledge of the Greeks, culminating in a Greek afternoon tea with their parents or at Bradwell Outdoor Adventure Centre challenging themselves to try new activities and overcome their fears.

Mr Mackay organises our residential trips and we see them as a vital part of our curriculum, helping our children to aspire to aim high and challenge themselves to achieve great things in the future. Our thanks to Mr Mackay and the staff teams who make these possible. Next term, it is the turn of Year 6 who will spend a week on the Isle of Wight.

The Year 4 children welcomed their Parents/Carers into school yesterday to take part in different activities around their topic on Romans. The parents/carers also battled against the children in Times Tables Rockstars much to everyone's amusement!

The PTA Spring Festival has always been one of our favourite events and this year did not disappoint - a great time was had by all hunting the Easter eggs and it was lovely to see Parents/Carers socialising on the school site again - we have so missed this aspect of school. A huge thanks, as always, to the PTA for all they do for our school. A child in Year 2 asked me yesterday why we have so much great playground equipment in KS1 and my reply was because we have a fantastic PTA who helped raise an amazing amount of money! Many of our PTA members are nearing the end of their time at TPS this year - if you are interested in continuing their great work, please let us know.



Last night, our Girls' and Boys' Football teams played against Hadleigh Junior School in two nail biting matches. The girls' fantastic score was 7-0 and the Boys' 0-3. Both teams played really well and did TPS proud, as always!

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing staff at TPS. This has been an extremely challenging term with many staff absent with Covid and those at school covering for their colleagues to ensure that children's learning is not affected. Despite the

challenges, they have remain positive, determined and dedicated to ensuring our children can 'be the best they can be'. We could not want for a better team!

Have a wonderful Easter everyone - and remember 10 minutes hearing your child read each day could change their life!

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

## Attendance



For the week ended 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022 there were 4 classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Ladybirds who achieved 97.9%. 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    | 97.0% |
| Dragonflies  | 79.3% |
| Butterflies  | 87.6% |
| Rabbits      | 92.7% |
| Ladybirds    | 97.9% |
| Robins       | 93.3% |
| Doves        | 86.3% |
| Owls         | 92.7% |
| Fireflies    | 97.4% |
| Bears        | 94.5% |
| Foxes        | 90.7% |
| Ants         | 95.8% |
| Sparrows     | 93.6% |
| Badgers      | 97.5% |
| Kestrels     | 91.9% |
| Squirrels    | 93.2% |
|              |       |
| Whole School | 92.6% |
| Target       | 97%   |



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1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

## Return to School

Please note that the children return to school on **Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022.**

## Reading Score

1<sup>st</sup> - Bears and Ants 100%  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Foxes 96%  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Badgers 91%

Well done to Bears and Ants on achieving 100%. Please note the scores run a week in arrears.

Please, please hear your children read each night. We know that children who read 5 times per week do better at school, not just in reading but in all areas of the curriculum.

## Summer Uniform

Please note that when the children return after the Easter break, they are required to wear our Summer uniform which is:-

Yellow Polo shirt (School logo)  
Grey trousers, grey shorts, grey skirt or yellow gingham dress  
Grey sweatshirt or grey cardigan (School logo)  
Sturdy school shoes/black trainers

PE kit remains the same.

Please also note the following:-

Children with shoulder length or longer hair must have it all tied back during the school day.

Children must not wear nail varnish or makeup.

Children may wear stud earrings only (which **must** be removed for P.E. and swimming)

## 1 Minute Maths Challenge



Challenge, please visit [whiterosemaths.com](http://whiterosemaths.com).

If your child would like to participate in the 1 Minute Maths

## Kestrels visit to The Deanes

As with the two other Year 6 classes recently, Kestrels had an exciting visit to The Deanes last Friday to spend the afternoon in their new Science block. The children enjoyed making burglar alarms and conducting experiments using the Bunsen Burners. Megan Hare gives her account of the afternoon below:-

"Last week my class (Kestrels) went to Deanes to do some Science experiments. On our walk to The Deanes we saw some of our old friends who now go there. When we arrived at Deanes, we went to their new building and we were welcomed. Then we went to the top floor where the Science lab was. When we went in the Science room, we got our safety goggles and lab coats. Then we met Mr. Winkworth. The first experiment we did was creating a burglar alarm. We did this by using a voltage box, some wires, 2 pieces of cardboard and a buzzer or light bulb. Harrison, Jack and Me were successful on our first try. After that, we did an experiment to see whether the urine had glucose - glucose is sugar and it wasn't really urine. Harrison, Jack and Me thought it was food colouring and one had sugar in it. To do the experiment, we used a Bunsen Burner, a tripod and beaker filled with water and test tubes with food colouring and one had a spoon full of sugar in it. With the Bunsen Burner, we put it on to the blue roaring flame and we put it under the tripod and it boiled the water until it looked like it was going to explode - it was probably up to 100 degrees. After, one of them changed



really urine. Harrison, Jack and Me thought it was food colouring and one had sugar in it. To do the experiment, we used a Bunsen Burner, a tripod and beaker filled with water and

test tubes with food colouring and one had a spoon full of sugar in it. With the Bunsen Burner, we put it on to the blue roaring flame and we put it under the tripod and it boiled the water until it looked like it was going to explode - it was probably up to 100 degrees. After, one of them changed

colour and that one had glucose in it. After we did this, we changed the colour of the Bunsen Burner flame and my favourite was the sodium. My favourite part of the afternoon was using the Bunsen Burners."

## EYFS Grandparents' Afternoon Tea



On Tuesday and Wednesday this week, the EYFS children welcomed their grandparents in to school for afternoon tea. The children made paper flowers to give to their loved ones, a place mat, sang some songs and read. Everyone had a really special time and Annie Vine and Layla-Star Wright Martin (both in Chipmunks) give their reviews of the afternoon below. We also list some comments we received from Dragonflies' grandparents who attended the event.

"We sang songs, Skidamarink I love you and 5 Little Ducks. My nannies thought my singing was fantastic! We had scones with jam and cream and I had jam and cream on my face, which was funny. I got sticky. We read a story with my nannies and we had a fun time." (Annie Vine)

"Afternoon tea was good. I liked talking to my nanny and grandad and my friends. I sang a love you song and had a scone. I put a little bit of cream on my scone and it was yummy. I love my nanny and grandad. Grandad wants to come to my school more







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and have a jacket potato!" (Layla-Star Wright Martin)

A great opportunity to see Mila in school. This afternoon has been an absolute treat. It's been wonderful to see Mila and the other Dragonflies, they sang beautifully together. I was made to feel very welcome. Thank you for a wonderful afternoon.

Well! What a lovely time. It was so nice hearing all the children sing and the scones were yummy! It was also so nice having Bobby sitting with me and having a wonderful chat and Bobby telling me all about his class and friends. A wonderful idea. Thank you. Bobby's Nanny Sue.

I had a lovely time this afternoon listening to Luna singing and spending time with her in her school environment. Thank you for inviting me and I look forward to any future invites. Michelle Thomas (Lucas' Nanny.)

It was lovely to be invited for afternoon tea and be involved with Toby's school. He enjoyed having his grandparents to share the many books that he likes reading!! Thank you so much.

Both Tilly and I chatted and decided we would like to say we had a fun time. We enjoyed the singing and seeing each other in school. I would like to say how much I

appreciate the school bringing the families and community together. We would both like to say a big thank you. Tilly Boden and Nanny Julie Lawrence.

### Year 5 - Greek Afternoon Tea

On Wednesday, some of the Year 5 children invited their parents/carers in for a Greek Afternoon Tea. The children initially made their own invitations and some greek food for their parents/carers to enjoy. Tayfika Sara tells below what the Year 5s did:-

"We made invitations for our guardians/parents. After, we made some greek food on Wednesday. We had so much fun. If our guardians/parents couldn't come, we could take a little treat box home. We made some:-

Feta and mint muffins  
Cheese and onion bread  
Olives  
Carrots  
Crackers  
Chocolate Doukissa  
Greek biscuits

Charlie Anderson (Alisha's sister) visited for the afternoon and said:-

"I tried all the food they made. They made orange cookies, Greek bread, chocolate cakes and muffins. The children gave us some drinks and showed us what they had cooked earlier. It was really good."

### Year 5 Bradwell Residential

Some of the Year 5 children spent two nights this week at the Bradwell Outdoor Centre enjoying lots of different activities. Aiden Taylor (Sparrows) and Daisy Burgess (Ants) give details of their exciting adventure below:-

"I found it really exciting because I got time to spend with my friends which I don't normally do and we got to do lots of different activities. We did crabbing which was scary and fun at the same time.



The first night we got to go on a long walk and we watched a movie. We did Bush Craft which was really fun. We also got to know the people who were there as they made everything a lot better. We did Bradwell Olympics which was five different activities. One of them was to get the fastest time for making 8-9 people go through a rope. There were also 8 crates and we had to get across the water without falling in. There was another one where we had a safety vest, a jacket, leggings and a helmet and we had to put them on as many people as we could in the fastest time. Another one was throwing a wellie as far as we could. Then there was one where we had to guide a ball with a hockey stick around cones whilst people were asking questions and we had to see how many people could do it in the time. My favourite one was the hockey stick because it was really fun and I liked to see all my friends having a go at it. I liked the whole trip because I was in a dorm with my friends and the food was really nice too." (Daisy Burgess)



"Before I went, I was really nervous because there were certain activities that I didn't want to do and I didn't know that I would be able to choose. When we got on the coach, it was really fun as I was allowed to sit next to my friends. On the way we told lots of jokes and had lots of





fun. When we got there, our names were called to go and get our bags and line up with Mr. Mackay. Once we had all got our bags, we went to the house and we went to the games' room and put our bags down. We then went to the lounge and were told what rooms we were in. We got to our rooms and I was with Frankie but the light didn't work so I got moved to another room with Michael, Charlie and Alfie. We then got ready to do our first activity which was high ropes. I wasn't scared when other people were doing it but when it came to my turn, I was. I did have a go though and ended up getting to the top. It felt very good, as it was my personal achievement. After, we had an option to do a Gladiator Glorious Challenge or the Leap of Faith. I chose the Leap of Faith. We had to climb this massive wooden pole. I got to the top but unfortunately, when I jumped I missed the bar but I still jumped. Luckily, I was attached to a rope! After, I went and sat down and watched other people do it and had a chill. Then we had lunch. It was nice. I had Sea Salt crisps which I've never had before, a sandwich and a cherry cake. Then we went up to our rooms. The next day, we woke up and got ready for breakfast which was nice. Then we did Bush Craft. We learned how to make a fire. When we did that, we had some hot chocolate and we also learned how to crack wood with a hammer which had a really cool name but I can't remember it. We also toasted



marshmallows on the fire. The next activity was archery. It was actually really fun as we learned how to do cool stuff with a bow and arrow and how to shoot arrows. Then we went inside and had lunch. After lunch, we did fencing. I was really worried about doing this but I had a really good time. We had to put helmets and vests on and we practiced jabbing and we had a rubber sword so it didn't hurt anyone. We also practiced our 'en garde' movement. After fencing, we did bridge building. We had a rope and we had to pull it and a red net went across some muddy water and we had to walk across on the blue line. I was the only boy to make it across. I was really proud of myself. Then we had dinner and watched a film. It was the Emoji movie which was fun. Then we went to bed. On the last day, we did crabbing which was really fun. We caught about 51 but put them all back in the water. After that, we got our bags from our rooms and put them back in the games' room. Before we left, we did the Bradwell Olympics. My favourite part was the High Ropes as I managed to overcome my fear. I was sad to leave as I really liked it. I thought the whole trip was extraordinary, brilliant and great fun. I pictured it in my head to be something it wasn't. I'm really glad I went and didn't miss out on all that fun!" (Aiden Taylor)

## Piano Success

We would like to congratulate Sam Clark (Fireflies) on his recent Grade 1 piano exam, passing with a merit. During lockdown, Sam taught himself to play the piano. He enjoyed it and practiced daily so decided, five months ago, to start lessons with a



piano teacher who recommended taking his Grade 1. Sam said:-

"I had to pick four pieces of music from my Grade 1 book and had to play them for my Grade 1. I had to practice them every day. I was very pleased when I finished. I had to wait for two weeks for the results, I was very nervous, but then I thought if I don't pass I can try again. I was bursting with excitement when I found out that I passed with merit. I felt very proud because I tried my best."

Well done Sam! You should be proud of yourself on such a great achievement.

## 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)  
Mason Hills (Foxes)  
Esmee Emin-Wyatt (Foxes)



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Lillie-Mai Williams (Foxes)  
Louie Tucker (Foxes)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

## Stars of the Week

**Year 5:-** Charlotte Dowsing and Rosie Groombridge

**Year 4:-** Ava Long and Grace Crawford

**Year 3:-** Delilah

Stone, Chase Goodwin and Oscar Glodwin

**Year 2:-** Ella McGeown

**Year 1:-** Toby Warner and Briar Bilkey

**EYFS:-** Fearn Horne and Eleny Grover



## Playground Stars of the Week

Marnie O'Connell, Daisy Burgess, Delilah Thomas, Darcie Bristow, Hollie Tinsley, Louis Oke, Nojus Lukosevecious, Rosie Mann, Harry Burns, Teddy Richards, Ava Gladwin and Greison Hydes

## House Point Scores

The weekly scores for the House Point groups are:-

1<sup>st</sup> with 3,998 points - Green Dragons

2<sup>nd</sup> with 3,682 points - Blue Dolphins

3<sup>rd</sup> with 3,419 points - Red Arrows

4<sup>th</sup> with 3,285 points - Golden Eagles



Well done again Green Dragons!

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](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 News

### Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in the White Hart Pub at 7pm. Everyone is welcome.

### PTA Mothers' Day Present Palace



Thank you to everyone who supported this event, we managed to raise **£493.08** for school funds.

### PTA Bag 2 School

On Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022, we are holding a Bag 2 School event. Bag 2 School is a company that specializes in the re-use and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing. All the bags will be weighed and we are then paid for the total weight collected. All clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts and accessories can then be sent for recycling. **Please note they are unable to accept uniforms, work wear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric.** Please take your filled bags to the cordoned off area at the top of the KS1 playground between 8.30am and 9.00am

only. Unfortunately, bags cannot be accepted after this time.

## Community News

### Kid Around Magazine

KidAround Easter Issue is here and bursting with things to do. Read for FREE here:-

Links: <https://anyflip.com/btwy/jqxd/> or [https://issuu.com/kidaround-magazine/docs/easter\\_issue\\_22](https://issuu.com/kidaround-magazine/docs/easter_issue_22)

### Kids in the Wild

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Future Term Dates

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  
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\*\*\*\*

06/06/22  
07/06/22

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

