



# Newsletter No. 24

25<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Parent/Carer,

Four years last week, we went into lockdown. At once, it seems like a world away and only yesterday! We all have our memories of those times - good and bad, but when I think about what we achieved as a school community in those trying times, it brings tears to my eyes. Relationships within our community have continued to flourish and each day this is helping our children to 'be the best they can be!' Thank you for your support, then and now - we never take it for granted.

Last week we had sporting success, our favourite people in school, wonderful singing from Robins and a treat from Year 3!

Our netballers and footballers were in fine form at their various events last week, proving that at TPS we really are the best sports people we can be - huge well done to them!

Our children in Early Years had their favourite people in school - their grandparents! This is one of the highlights of the year and it is just lovely to see the interactions between the children and their special people. Their singing was just wonderful. Robins too treated their parents to a fantastic performance, singing at the Infant Music Festival - an annual event which one class in Year 2 takes part in - and I know everyone who watched was made to feel very proud.

On Wednesday, our Year 3 children entertained and educated us brilliantly with their vast knowledge of the Ancient Egyptians. It just made me realise how much they have grown up this year - we all loved every moment and were treated to drama, history, dance and singing. A veritable feast!

This Wednesday, it is the turn of Year 5 to perform to their parents/carers at 2.30pm and show all that they have been learning. We are looking forward to it.

A reminder that the PTA Spring Fair is on Thursday and our lovely team would be delighted for lots of help. Please click on this link to volunteer.

<https://signup.com/go/wTZXPuR>

You know that I absolutely believe that children reading at home has a significant impact on their progress, so this week, please find attached information all about what can be achieved and how to do it when reading with your child.

Have a wonderful Easter when it comes and remember that school restarts on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April as we are closed as a mark of respect and so that staff can attend the funeral of our dear friend and colleague, Millie Hook.

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

### Attendance

For the week ended 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 there were 3 classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Bees who achieved 98.6%. 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.

Congratulations to this week's winners  
**BEES**

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for  
2023 - 2024 is:  
**97%**

Attendance figures:-

Class	Week
Chipmunks	96.6%
Dragonflies	92.9%
Butterflies	94.7%
Rabbits	93.7%
Ladybirds	97.1%
Robins	92.7%
Fireflies	88.0%
Owls	98.3%
Bears	95.7%
Sparrows	96.3%
Ants	83.6%
Bees	98.6%
Kestrels	87.2%
Badgers	92.1%
Squirrels	86.8%
Whole School	92.9%
Target	97.0%

### Summer Uniform

Please note that after the Easter break, from Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024, the children are required to wear our summer uniform as listed below:-

- Summer Term yellow Polo shirt (School logo)
- Grey trousers
- Grey shorts
- Grey skirt
- Yellow Gingham dress
- Grey sweatshirt/grey cardigan (School logo)
- Black trainers (EYFS)
- Black school shoes (no sandals)

### PLEASE ALSO NOTE THE FOLLOWING:-

All children with shoulder length or longer hair must have it fully tied back during the school day.

All children must not wear any nail varnish or makeup during the school day.

All children may wear stud earrings only which must be removed for P.E. and swimming lessons.





## World Poetry Day

On Thursday, it was World Poetry Day and the KS2 children made an acrostic poem during their assembly time as detailed below:-

Tall and proud - we stand as one  
Helping others to get our work done  
United together, we dream big and believe  
Never underestimate what we children can achieve  
Determined and resilient, that's what we are  
Engaged in our learning, to help us go far  
Respecting each other  
Special and unique  
Lots of amazing children, as you can see  
Everyone is part of our Thundersley family  
Yes, at Thundersley we are the best we can be!

## 'Let Girls Play' Campaign

#LETGIRLSPLAY

Over the last two Thursdays all girls from Years 1 up to Year 6 have taken part in a super fun football skills session with Miss

Turner-Powell. The girls from Thundersley were joined by the girls from Kingston Primary School and my goodness there was some incredible footballers on display. This was part of the 'Let Girls Play' campaign to boost opportunities for girls to play football. The events were great fun and many of the girls were commenting that they would be interested in finding a club to join. A big thank you to Mr. Collins from Thundersley Rovers for providing lots of extra footballs and giving our lovely children another opportunity of 'being the best they can be.' Isla-Rose Frimley tells of her session below:-

"We had to go through cones and the defenders had to try and stop us and we

learnt new movements. We had the Kingston school children come too and Miss Turner-Powell. I don't normally play football but I enjoyed it. We had to play a game where we dribbled the ball around and then Miss Turner-Powell shouted out a number and we had to get into a group."

## Infant Music Festival

On Tuesday, Year 2 class Robins attended the Infant Music Festival in Westcliff to showcase and celebrate their love of music and singing with other schools within the county. This event runs annually with many schools attending morning or afternoon sessions over the course of 10 days. With a theme of animals, the Year 2s sang a range of beautiful songs such as 'If I were a minibeast...' and 'The prehistoric animal brigade'. They were also allocated one song to accompany with instruments - the Robins shook their egg shakers, mini cymbals and wooden sticks with great enthusiasm to the 'Animals' song! Each school then had fun performing and exploring a solo song. Whilst our Robins were a little shy to start, they were so brave to perform 'I'm a little chick' together with some lovely actions. The infant music festival was a great opportunity for the KS1 children to be immersed in music and singing with other children their age, performing both collaboratively and independently to an audience of parents. We give our thanks to the kind volunteer organisers and the church venue for running and hosting the event. Ava Macdonald (Robins) tells of her exciting experience below:-

"We went into the hall and got our instruments and then sang a song. After that we sang our own special song which was called "I'm a little chicken in an egg" and then we did another song. Then another school did their song. Then we did a song where we used just instruments. I played the castanets which were quite easy to play. We also had sticks which we banged together. We had egg shakers and we shook them. We had some drums. I really liked the event. My mum and nan came to watch and they said it was really

good. I would like to go again because it was really fun."



We have since received a message from the organisers who said:-

"We are especially proud of the children that you brought with you as their enthusiasm and enjoyment for what they were doing and the way that they rose to the occasion made it all worthwhile. Just a couple of quotes from the emails that we have received - 'The children and our parents had a fabulous time' and 'I just wanted to say thank you. The children had an amazing time and the singing by everyone was beautiful.'

## Year 3 Assembly



On Wednesday, the Year 3 children showcased the work they have been doing on the Egyptians this term to their parents/carers.

Miss Briggs, mum to Norman Wheeler in Fireflies, said "I think Norman's confidence has come on in leaps and bounds considering he has only been here for a couple of months. He stood up on stage, remembered all his lines and sang and I was over the moon! The whole assembly was amazing. It was by far the best play I've seen - singing was in time and the choreographed dance was spot on."

Harry Hills (Owls) gives details of the assembly below:-

"The assembly was about the ancient Egyptians and we did some songs. We all said at least one line and the parents came





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to watch. We had to dress up in black clothes. Leo told everyone how to build a pyramid. My line was "The ancient Egyptians lived and farmed along the Nile to produce food for themselves and their animals". My mum and dad came to watch and said the assembly was very good. I enjoyed the assembly a lot and I learned a lot of new facts.

## EYFS Grandparents' Afternoon Tea



On Tuesday and Thursday, the EYFS children had some very special visitors for Afternoon Tea - their grandparents! The children made scones and their own butter, sang a song and did some colouring. A lovely afternoon was had by all. Mason Buckley and Evie Barfoot (Chipmunks) and Charlotte Morris (Dragonflies) give their accounts of the afternoons below:-

"We made scones and we made our own butter. Miss Bridge shook some double cream in a jar and it turned into butter. Mason's grandma visited and Evie's nanny visited. We sang a song called 'Skidamarink a dink a dink'. After the

song we went to our nannies and grandads. Then we had to find the photos of them. Evie found the photo of her nanny who is in Spain. We had 3 scones each. We decorated the placemats. We felt excited." (Mason Buckley and Evie Barfoot)

"We made butter. We made it by shaking double cream. We made scones. My nanny and grandad came. We ate the scones. We sang a song and we did colouring. I liked them coming in. It was fun." (Charlotte Morris)



## Netball Matches vs. Woodham Ley and Robert Drake

What a time for netball! Two games this week, the first was another tough game against Woodham Ley who we know are a strong team. This time it was the turn of the girls to fight for a chance of silver or gold for the league. We started really well but quite quickly in the second half, the opposition pulled away so every pass counted as we were one goal down. We defended brilliantly and let no more goals in but time was ticking by and we were stuck a goal behind...thankfully we evened up the score in the last quarter and Mrs Hoeb was finally able to breathe! A wonderful 4-4 draw to keep us in with a chance and a fair result all round. Then, on Thursday, we had a mixed game against Robert Drake which was at home. Mrs Hoeb was finally able to crack open the biscuits! The children were used to the match pressure now and had a cool, calm and calculated approach which made a lovely change from the previous games. They were able to show how much they have improved over the season and romped home with a respectable 12 goals

to 1 lead! Good job netballers, just one more game left for the season now... Alexia Lewington (Badgers) describes the Woodham Ley match below:-

"When we first got there we did a bit of practice to begin with and then we started to play the match. We were a bit nervous because we had only played them last week in a mixed match and they were quite good. We started off and we did quite well and it was 2-1 to us in the first quarter. Then in the second quarter it was 3-2 to them. In the third quarter it was 4-3 to them and at that point we were a bit nervous as we were losing but we managed to score another point to make it a tie-breaker. I played goal defence and goal shooter but I prefer goal shooter because I get to shoot and I enjoy trying to get the points. I quite enjoyed the game. It was very tight and an exciting game but we were quite happy that we got to the tie breaker. We are quite a good team and we played quite well together. I am looking forward to playing in the next two matches coming up and hopefully we can win the league in the mixed and girls.

Olivia Collins gives her account of the game against Robert Drake below:-

"We scored in the first quarter and we were in their attacking quarter most of the time so our defenders didn't have to do much. In the second quarter they scored 1 but we were still in the lead by quite a lot. In the third quarter we scored a lot more than we did in the previous two quarters. In the last quarter, we got all the hoops and they got none and in the end it was 12 - 1 to us. I thought the game was very fun to play because they were the first ever team we played and we lost by 2. We played well as a team and passed really well. I was Captain and I had to flip the coin and we won and we got the first centre pass. At the end I had to say "3 cheers". I really enjoyed the game and I scored 2 goals as well.







### Year 5/6 Boys' Football vs Montgomerie

A fantastic game in the Year 5/6 boys' football campaign as they had another fantastic win against Montgomerie. A really comprehensive performance from the team saw them win and collect all 3 points! Lucas Jackson (Ants) gives his account on the game below:-

"We had a game vs Montgomerie on Monday. In the first half it was a tight game with their goalkeeper making some excellent saves and they were defending superbly. We managed to finally score three times in the first half. Then, in the 2nd half I came on in goal. In the 2nd half we managed to play our best football and score loads of goals. I made a couple of good saves and passes. Mr. Wilson said our objective was not to concede a goal and we managed to do that! We won 12-0 and all played well. I'm looking forward to playing lots when I'm in Year 6!"

### Year 4 Boys' Football vs Robert Drake

Another thrilling game this week, this time in the Year 4 football league as we narrowly lost out to a great Robert Drake team. It was a tense game where Robert Drake took the lead through a wonder strike! Thundersley then responded with two well worked goals from George Oswald and Teddy Thompson. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> half Robert Drake battled through and won the game 3-2! Well done to all involved - a super close encounter! Edward Payne (Bears) gives his account of the game below:-

"It was a really tough match against a good team. Unfortunately, we lost 3-2 but everyone played really well! My favourite part was I got to play in midfield and we worked really hard as a team. I'm disappointed that we lost, but I'm really looking forward to our next game against Jotmans!"

### Year 4 Girls Football vs Edward Francis

Finally, a super strong finish to the week as the Year 4 girls team kept their winning streak alive and won yet another

game in their league. It was a fast start to the game with Thundersley enjoying a lot of the ball, trying to attack the Edward Francis goal. Edward Francis counter attacked and scored the opening goal of the game. Thundersley soon turned the game around and scored some cracking goals to win the game 4-1! Fantastic result girls, they have one game left... and it's today against Rayleigh Primary. A win today will win them the league! Olivia Oswald (Bears) gives her account of the game below:-

"I really enjoyed the match, it was quite a hard match as the other team were really strong. We were able to win the game and play superbly. My favourite part was when my friend Isla scored her goal and we celebrated together. I really enjoyed the match and I'm looking forward to our next match against Rayleigh!"



### EYFS - Spare Uniform

If you have any spare uniform aged 4 to 5 years old and would be happy to donate it to our EYFS classes, we would really appreciate it. Please drop it to the main School Office - thank you in advance.

### Honesty is the best policy!

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

- Daisy Avison (Bears)
- Katie Allen (Bees)
- Evie Chapman (Bees)
- Alfie Seymour (Fireflies)
- Sienna Lowe (Chipmunks)
- Felicity Bowman (Ladybirds)
- Lacey Gibson (Dragonflies)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

### Numbots Certificates

Well done to all of the Year 1 children that have used NumBots to help support their fluency in Maths. Certificates will be given during Celebration Assembly. The following child is our NumBot superstar this week!



Gracie Mann (Butterflies)

Well done Gracie!

### Stars of the Week

**Year 6:-** Luke Avison and Brooke Squirrel

**Year 5:-** Rosie-Belle Horsman, Oscar Gladwin and Paighton Brown

**Year 4:-** Kody Hearne and Oivia Dean

**Year 3:-** Daniel Arram and Briar Bilkey

**Year 2:-** Marlee Morris and Alion Pjetra

**Year 1:-** Ronnie Hartman and Arthur Barclay

**EYFS:-** Oliver Sylvester and Ethan Archer



### Playground Stars of the Week

Jacob Sandford, Annabelle Weeden, Isla Taylor, Isobel Hawkins, Jenson Main, Emily Duggan, Marlee Morris, Preston Hooper, Ava Moorcraft, Hollie Dulieu, Rey Froud and Oliver Smith

### House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Golden Eagles	3825
Green Dragons	3731
Red Arrows	3624
Green Dragons	3443





Well done again Golden Eagles!

### 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

### Early Birds Breakfast Club & Treetops After School Club

We offer a Breakfast Club called Early Birds (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:-

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

Telephone:- 01268 751724

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



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

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

### PTA

#### Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PTA will be on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7pm in the White Hart. All are welcome.

#### Adventure Island & Adventure Island Inside Tickets



Please note that Lords' Barbers in Thundersley Village are selling the

following tickets on our behalf:-

Adventure Island - £17.00

### Community News

#### ACL Family Learning

Please find attached flyers in respect of the above.

#### Danielles

Please find attached a new price list for Danielles Schoolwear for your information.

#### Harlow Fest 2024

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### Belfairs Woodland Centre - Easter Holidays

Please find attached information in respect of the above.

#### School Calendar - Dates

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

or eSchools app Lite

#### Future Term Dates

29/03/24 to 12/04/24 - Easter Break  
15/04/24 - Start of the Summer Term  
06/05/24 - Bank Holiday  
27/05/24 to 31/05/24 - Whitsun Break  
19/07/24 - Last day of Term

02/09/24 - Start of the Autumn Term  
28/10/24 to 01/11/24 - Half Term  
21/12/24 to 05/01/25 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  
22/07/25 - Last day of Term

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

22/7/24  
23/7/24

Dates for 2024/2025 have yet to be decided.