



# Newsletter No. 3

24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

A huge welcome to all of our EYFS children - they look absolutely wonderful in their new uniforms and are settling in beautifully. Welcome to anyone new to our school - we look forward to getting to know you and working in partnership to support your child to 'Be the best they can be'. If Parents/ Carers are unsure of anything, please contact us through the school office or speak to a member of staff on the gate and we will help you.



What a joy to hear the happy voices of children in our pool this week! They have had a ball and I

hope came home chatting excitedly about it. We hope that these taster sessions will kick start their swimming again and build confidence. One of those enjoying our pool again is Joshua Nix, who has qualified for the Essex Championships at the Basildon Sporting Village next weekend. For the past 2 years, Joshua has trained 4 times per week which has helped him to reach these dizzy heights! It just shows what belief, courage, endeavour and determination can achieve - Good luck Joshua! We are really hoping that the local swimming gala will go ahead this year which, in the past, has been a fantastic event for those chosen to represent the school - Thundersley has a secret weapon in Joshua! As you know, we still await the results of our appeal for the funding to refurbish our changing rooms and install showers, heating and an air handling and dehumidifying ventilation system to ensure the pool is available for year round use. If we are not successful in this bid, we will just refurbish the changing rooms. Please everyone cross your fingers!

Can I please remind all parents/carers to be respectful to our neighbours in the roads around the school when parking. Can I also ask that disabled parking bays are



left for those with Blue Badges - we have a number of families who need these.

Have a super weekend - and please remember to read with your child. I am reading Wolf Brother with my youngest who is in Year 5 and am loving it.

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

## Office Closure

Just a polite reminder that due to staff absence the office will be closed between 10am and 12noon each day until further notice and will close at 4pm. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience.

## 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 13.5.22

Gold award 150 reads, available from 1.7.22

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.

## Reading Leaderboard

1<sup>st</sup> - Sparrows, Ants, Squirrels & Badgers  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Foxes  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Ladybirds

Well done Sparrows, Ants, Squirrels & Badgers who all got 100%!

## Thunderbolts Passports

To celebrate the fantastic reading at Thundersley, we are going to introduce our very own Thundersley Reading Passport. The children will each have their own passport, which we will keep at school. Every time a child reads a book from their year groups' Thunderbolts list, they will achieve a stamp in their passport. EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 will have a new passport every year. Year 3 and Year 5 will have them for two years as we appreciate the books on the Thunderbolts list in KS2 will take a little longer to read. We have decided to create our own passport to encourage the children to read as many of the Thunderbolts books as possible. The list has been created to give the children





## Newsletter No. 3

24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

exposure to a wide range of authors that best suit their age group. It would be lovely to see the children move up through the school with multiple completed passports, if a Year 3 child reads all of the books on the two KS2 Thunderbolts lists they will have read 100 books by the time they leave - what a fantastic achievement that will be! We will be happy to back date the children's passports if they have already read a book from the Thunderbolts list and can share their opinion of the book. It would be lovely to have lots of children with a full passport at the end of the year which will be something that we will celebrate together as a school. We hope this will continue to motivate the children to read our Thunderbolts books and enhance their love of reading!

### 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.

### School Gate Opening/Closing Times



Please note that the school gate will be opened at 8.45am and closed at 9.15am. The gate will then be opened again at 3.00pm and closed again at 3.30pm. For the safety of all our children we ask that everyone leave the school site by 9.15am and 3.30pm. Thank you.

### School Hours

#### **EYFS & KS1**

8.55am start  
3.10pm finish

#### **KS2**

8.45am start  
3.15am finish

### School Office Hours

Open at 7.45am (for phone calls)

Open at 8.45am (front desk for enquiries)

Closes at 5.00pm (please note that due to staff absence the office is currently closing at 4pm each day until further notice).

### Polite Reminders

#### **Peanut Butter/Nutella/Nut Products**

We would like to remind you that your child must not bring peanut butter, Nutella or any nut products into school as we have children with severe nut allergies. Thank you.

### Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has a named bottle of water in school at all times in order to keep hydrated throughout the day. Thank you.

### Asthma Pumps

If your child requires an asthma pump, please ensure that your child has one in the main school office and one in their classroom. Please also check that the pumps are in date. Thank you.

### Labels

Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled with your child's full name in order that they can be returned if found. Thank you.

### Bikes/Scooters

Please note that bikes/scooters must not be ridden in the playground. Please ensure your child dismounts and walks their bike/scooter on the school premises to avoid any accidents. Thank you.

### 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.

Macie Parry (Squirrels)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourself!





## Newsletter No. 3

24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### **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.daniellesshop.co.uk](http://www.daniellesshop.co.uk)

### **Community News**

#### **Mega Camps - October 2021**

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### **Mega Camps - Recruiting**

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### **Fostering - Make a Difference**

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### **The Voice Kids**

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### **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

