



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you had a lovely, albeit soggy, half term. It's just nice sometimes to get off the gravy train isn't it? I understand that lots of our children attended Mr Wilson's LW Coaching Football Camp, which sounds as though it was a super success. We are hoping that Mr Wilson will run this again at Easter.

We had a fun packed week prior to half term with Year 5 enjoying their Opera workshop and then of course their Greek Day. They looked fabulous in their costumes and learned lots, which reinforced their learning for their history theme.

We had a successful week for sport before half term too with our Girls' Football Team continuing their winning streak, the Badminton Squad gaining a silver medal and our Tag Rugby Team equipping themselves admirably at the County Finals. We are always praised at TPS, not only for our sporting prowess but for the way in which our children handle competition, again this was the case in these events. Well done everyone!

It was super to see so many parents coming along to our Open Doors for the classes. I know how much the children love you seeing their books.

This term is another busy one - do keep an eye on the eschools app for the dates.

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

**Attendance**



For the week ended 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024 there were 3 classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Owls 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.

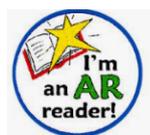
Attendance figures:-

Class	Week
Chipmunks	89.3%
Dragonflies	91.4%
Butterflies	95.9%
Rabbits	97.0%
Ladybirds	94.5%
Robins	93.7%
Fireflies	96.3%
Owls	98.6%
Bears	95.7%
Sparrows	96.7%
Ants	91.6%
Bees	97.0%
Kestrels	95.2%
Badgers	84.5%
Squirrels	95.5%
Whole School	94.2%
Target	97.0%

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

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

**KS2 Accelerated Reader**



This week:-  
**Word Count**

1<sup>st</sup> Kestrels - 668,785  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bees - 330,677  
3<sup>rd</sup> Owls - 189,961

Overall:-

**Word Count**

1<sup>st</sup> Kestrels - 8,083,378  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ants - 5,586,464  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bees - 5,426,645

We would also like to congratulate Felicity Warren (Owls) and Robert Foster Pasterfield (Kestrels) for becoming word millionaires - well done Felicity and Robert.

**In the words of Queen - WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!**

A huge thank you to everyone who popped their Christmas cards into the TLM recycling bin in January - we collected the humongous amount of 156kg of cards meaning that we came first in the competition. A total of 1.740 tonnes of Christmas cards was recycled by local schools which equates to around 25 trees worth of cards. Together with Alton Garden Centre, TLM have put together some prize packs to give back to nature including trees, plants and seeds which will be delivered to us in the coming weeks and we will also receive a certificate. Well done TPS!



**Tag Rugby County Finals**



On Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024, our victorious team from the District Tag Rugby Tournament went forward to the County Finals which

were hosted at Southend Rugby Club. The organisers reminded the finalists that they were the top fifteen schools out of hundreds who entered originally. This became clear once the matches began. Thundersley played sensational rugby throughout the group stage. All four games they played were tightly contested and never won or lost by more than two tries. At the end of the groups, the team discovered that they had sadly not





progressed through to the knockout stage and instead were playing in a round robin with the remaining teams. The children were fantastic and won the majority of their remaining games. They really improved throughout the tournament and played some fantastic free-flowing rugby leading to some of the tries of the tournament. The team represented the school with honour and really did themselves proud amongst the best teams in the county! This is another example of our children 'being the best they can be!'

### District Badminton Competition



Year 6 have loved playing badminton in P.E. lessons at school over the Spring term, so it was great to have the opportunity to compete against

14 schools from the local area at Deanes. Two Thundersley teams went, and for virtually all involved it was their first time playing a competitive game in front of a crowd. Each match included two singles games and three doubles games and the winning school was awarded points in a group system. The children were initially nervous but grew quickly in confidence and developed their tactical play massively, winning plenty of games and enjoying the challenge more and more. At the end of the group stage the two boys' teams both finished runners up in their groups, which was a commendable achievement. Both girls' teams progressed to the semi-finals - unfortunately playing against each other! The girls did well to handle the odd occasion - competing against their friends - and it meant that one team went on to compete in the final and the other to play for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place. Sadly we missed out on third place in a tight match against Hockley Primary and also lost the final against Grove Wood - but regardless of this, to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> out of 14 girls' teams was a brilliant achievement. Well done to all the children involved and thanks go to the parents who encouraged their children and also put in some extra practise at home - it really paid off!

Nathan Cirin (Badgers) and Sydney Greig (Squirrels) describe their respect competitions below:-

"When we got there we talked about our tactics. After a little while a man came up and told us all about the rules then we had our first few matches. In the beginning it didn't go so well but then we started getting the hang of it and won some games. I really enjoyed the games I played as they were really fun and competitive. Unfortunately, both of the boys' teams didn't make it into the semi-finals but one of the girls' teams went into the finals. I play badminton at home with my dad and I really like it and he taught me a lot about the game." (Nathan Cirin)

"We had to walk to the Deanes at 9.15am and then when we got there we had to make a base where Thundersley were sitting. Then we had to be given instructions on how to play and the rules. Then the lady told everyone we had to play. It was the boys first. I was in the group 1 girls and we played first. We played 4-6 games for each school and then we had a break and sat at our base to eat some lunch. Then group 2 girls had to play. After they played we found out who had got into the semi-finals and group 1 and 2 both got in and we played each other. Then the team that lost were quite emotional as they were upset. Then we found out who got into the finals and that was group 1 girls and we had to play Robert Drake and sadly they won. The game was quite difficult as they kept just tapping it over the net. We then got 2<sup>nd</sup> place out of 14 schools so we did well. I thought the whole event was very fun and it was fascinating to see how many people play badminton. I would like to do it again." (Sydney Greig)

### Years 5 & 6 Girls' Football vs. Robert Drake Primary School

On Tuesday, the Years 5 & 6 Girls' team played their third league game against Robert Drake. A fast start



to the game saw Thundersley take the lead early into the game. Thundersley scored three quick goals in the first half which saw Thundersley going into the lead at half-time 3-0. In the second half the Thundersley girls played some brilliant football, while Robert Drake came out and matched Thundersley with a brilliant start. The second half was contested well by both sides. The final score finished 3-0 to Thundersley and saw the team win their third game of the season, continuing their unbeaten record!!! Delilah Thomas scored 2 goals and Olivia Collins scored 1. They next play on 12/03/2024 against Jotmans Hall at home. The girls are looking forward to playing again. Well done to all involved, a great team effort. Lillie-May Archer (Squirrels) gives her version of the game below:-

"We found it really hard trying not to concede as they were really good at attacking. The defence managed to make them not score. Delilah scored the first goal then another and Olivia scored the last goal. I played in defence and I like it because I can use my strength to stop the opposition and I think it is the right position for me. They almost scored from a corner but our team managed to kick it up the pitch and we nearly scored another goal. We all played well as a team and we communicated really well especially the front three. I really enjoyed it and I think if we keep pushing to 'be the best we can be' we can win the league.

### Multi-School Council Meeting

This week our brilliant School Councillors from Years 5 and 6 represented our school at the South Essex Multi School Council meeting. This term's meeting was held at Eversley Primary School and our councillors participated in discussions with school councillors from other schools. After a round of introductions we got going with our discussion about the impact of growing poverty numbers on families across the UK. Thoughts from our councillors included more support for food banks and at Christmas time. Next, we took time to vote on what topics will be focused on in more detail come September 2024 as we





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enter another 3-year cycle. The top results from this group were Crime, Autism and Mental Health, although other topics were close. This led us on to discussing ideas about improving the national curriculum & what should be included. Some of the interesting ideas shared were how we can keep our bodies healthy, cooking lessons, more arts such as sculpture and skills such as woodworking and photography. After the excitement we moved on to discussing the idea of a boards game competition with the MSC as some of our ambassadors feel it could have lots of benefits and help to raise more awareness. Once again, there were several suggestions just like in other parts of Essex but coming out more than once from this group were ideas such as Monopoly, Table Tennis, Uno and Twister. Our School Council were great role models for our school! Ruby Hampson-Long (Badgers) gives her account of the meeting below:-

"We went on the minibus to the meeting and the Chairperson talked to us about what lessons we would like to learn more about at school. He also talked to us about what is important to us. We also played two games. One was saying what we liked and expressing ourselves. Then we had some biscuits and squash. We also talked about how school makes us feel. Our group said that our school is a fun and happy place. The other schools were good because they were giving us ideas for events and we got to meet new people. I thought the meeting was fun and it was a good environment to talk in."

### Cycle/Scoot/Walk to School Week - 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023



During these dates, we are encouraging pupils to

cycle/scoot/walk to school. In this respect, please find attached a voucher for a free cycle check with Cycle King in Benfleet. We hope that as many children as possible will take part in the above event.

### Honesty is the best policy!

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

- Ava Lake (Badgers)
- Ruby Hampson-Long (Badgers)
- Pippa Hawkins (Squirrels)
- Patrick Ridgwell (Bears)

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!

Sienna Dixon - Butterflies

Well done Sienna!

### House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Golden Eagles	3154
Red Arrows	2844
Blue Dolphins	2711
Green Dragons	2400



Well done 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)

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

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

### PTA

### Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PTA will be on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7pm in the White Hart. All are welcome.





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## 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

Dates for 2024/2025 have yet to be  
decided.

## Community News

### SEND Coffee Morning - 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 (10am to 12pm)

Please find attached a flyer in respect of  
the above.

### SEND Roadshow

Please find attached a flyer in respect of  
the above.

## School Calendar - Dates

[https://www.thundersleyprimary.co.uk/  
web/home/86964](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

