



# Newsletter No. 1

11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,



What a super start we have had to the new academic year - albeit a hot one! The children are raring to go and showing already

that they are determined to do well this year. Thank you for preparing them so well. We do not take your support for granted and really appreciate you helping them to 'be the best they can be'.

Although it is very busy in the morning, having all the children in at the same time means an excellent start to the day.

As a staff, we are determined to ensure we continue to improve what we provide our children. We want all children to succeed and our aim is to nurture their own individual talents and interests because we believe that if a child identifies something they really enjoy and are good at, it helps them to believe in themselves across the whole curriculum. Our top priorities for improvement this year are:-

- To continue to ensure that the teaching of early reading is excellent and to help all children to improve their writing.
- To help all children to improve their problem solving skills in maths.
- To identify strengths/talents in all children and support them to achieve depth in learning in these areas.
- To help children to 'be the best they can be' by developing metacognition - knowing how they learn best.
- To improve the attendance of the group of children whose attendance was less than 90% last year.
- To use learning outside of the classroom as much as possible - Forest Schools, our wonderful outdoor environment, trips etc

I want to emphasise the importance of reading with your child and their good attendance. Reading with your child each day is vital to them becoming a good reader. If you do not read with your child regularly, they will be at a disadvantage now and into the future. There is no short cut and our experience tells us that those parents who have a routine for reading each evening with their child will be setting their child up for success.

Likewise, if your child's attendance is below 95%, they are at a disadvantage academically and more importantly, socially - new friendships are made when they are not in school and dynamics change. Unless your child has particular medical issues, which we will be aware of and working with you on, please ensure your child is in school each day. This link contains information about sending your child to school with mild illness.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

We have rigorous attendance procedures and will follow up all cases where attendance dips below 95% with letters or meetings. Whilst we are sympathetic to the present financial situation for many families, holidays during term time are not authorised.

We are absolutely committed to working with you to help your child to succeed. Throughout the year, we run Parent/Carer Involvement sessions, Workshops, Consultations and 'Open Doors' to ensure that you know what your child is learning. If at any time during the year, you have concerns about your child's learning or anything else in school, please do not hesitate to come and talk to your child's teacher in the first instance. Phase Leaders, Mrs Armour our SENCO, Mr Mackay our Deputy Headteacher and I are all also available should you feel it necessary.

Our new Learning Mentor, Kay Wells, is available if you have any concerns about your child's welfare or need advice on how to support your child's emotional needs.

Mrs Wells, Mrs Armour, Mr Mackay and I are at the main gate or the Year 6 gate in the morning and at the end of the day if you wish to talk to us.

I know this is going to be another great year at TPS as we all work together for the good of our wonderful children.

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

## **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 (applications open from tomorrow, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023) by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023. To register your choice please visit:-

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>

## **School Gate Opening/Closing Times**



Please note that the school gate will be opened at 8.40am. Children must be in class for an 8.45am start. Gates will be

closed at 8.50am. Children arriving after this time must be signed in late at the main office. The gate will be opened again at 3.05pm ready for EYFS/KS1 children to be collected at 3.10pm and KS2 children to be collected at 3.15pm. For the safety of all our children we ask that everyone leave the school site promptly. Thank you.

## **School Office Hours**

Open at 7.30am (for phone calls)

Open at 8.40am (front desk for enquiries)

Closes at 5.00pm (4.15pm on Wednesdays and 4.30pm on Fridays)

## **Polite Reminders**

### **Absence**

If your child is unwell or not in school for any reason, please contact the main School





# Newsletter No. 1

11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Office on 01268 793251 before 9.15am to advise staff. Please then kindly confirm in writing or by email ([admin@thundersley.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thundersley.essex.sch.uk)) why your child was absent. Thank you.

## Leave of Absence

All 'Leave of absence' requests in term time will be unauthorised unless there are exceptional circumstances and will be at the discretion of Miss Dawson. Please complete a 'Leave of Absence' form which you can obtain from the main School Office and provide an accompanying letter with an explanation as to why you are taking your child out of school during term time. Please give as much notice as possible. Thank you.

## Visitors

Please note that all visitors must sign in at the main School Office. Please do not enter the buildings without signing in first and receiving a 'visitor's sticker'. Thank you.

## 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.

## Medication

Please note that staff are not able to administer medication unless your child has a Care Plan for an ongoing medical condition. Thank you.

## SCARF At Home

In Personal, Social, Health and Economics (PSHE) our whole school theme this half term is 'Me and My Relationships'. We explore feelings and emotions, develop skills to manage conflict and help children to identify people who are special to them. We equip them with skills to recognise the qualities of healthy friendships and how to manage them. If you would like to continue these conversations at home and participate in some follow up activities please visit the SCARF at Home website using the link below:-

<https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/family-scarf/scarf-at-home/me-and-my-relationships>

## Gymnastic Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Eva Mandizha ((Robins) who recently attended the Essex County 2-Piece Teddy Bear competition at Colchester School of Gymnastics. This was Eva's first competition since taking up gymnastics at the beginning of June 2023 and she had some amazing results:-

Gold and 2023 Vault champion in her age group

Bronze for Floor

Silver overall

Well done Eva! What an amazing set of results. You should be very proud of yourself.





## Honesty is the best policy!

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

Finley Fitzmaurice (Badgers)  
Teddy Thompson (Bears)  
Henry Walters (Bears)  
George Ridgwell (Squirrels)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

## 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





# Newsletter No. 1

11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

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

## PTA

### Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PTA will be tonight (11<sup>th</sup> September 2023) at 7pm in the White Hart. If you would like to join us, we would love to see you there! 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

Adventure Island Inside (Soft Play) -  
£5.00

23/7/24

## Community News

### Walk for Wards

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Sharp Shooters Junior Golf Academy

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Volunteer Befrienders

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Essex Fire Museum - Open Day 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Find your Active

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

23/10/23 to 27/10/23 - Half Term  
21/12/23 to 03/01/24 - Christmas Break  
04/01/24 - Start of the Spring Term  
19/02/24 to 23/02/24 - Half Term  
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

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

20/11/23

26/2/24

22/7/24

