



# Newsletter No. 6


16<sup>th</sup> October 2023


Dear Parent/Carer,


I can hardly believe that this is the last week of this half term! This is especially the case when I visit EYFS - they look as if they have been here for months, they are so settled!


Our Year 5 children who went away on the residential trip to Grafham Waters last week had a wonderful time, lucky things! Thank you to all those staff who gave up their time to ensure the children had a super time and Mr Mackay for once again organising such a successful trip.

As promised, voting by children and staff has now closed and I can announce that our new House Captains this year are:-

 Grace Crawford and Harry Green

 Etta-Mae Duke and Chloe Crawley

 Maxwell Blagg and Grace Parmenter

 Thomas Clayton and Finley Fitzmaurice

The children will be leading their houses to 'be the best they can be'. Well done children!

We also list in the newsletter the Year 6 ambassadors who were introduced to the KS2 children in assembly today. These children will be taking responsibility for office duty, supporting lunchtimes with younger children, sport and the library. We are delighted that so many children in Year 6 applied for these roles.

Do you find hearing your child read a challenge? I know, with a son who is dyslexic, this is always a challenge in our family, so I always read page about - or sometimes even sentence about depending on how things go. Research shows that reading to your child has a huge impact on a child's reading, so hearing them read for a short while and reading them a bedtime story has just as much impact as them

just reading to you. This is why teachers at Thundersley try to read to their classes every day.

Our wonderful PTA will be selling sweets on Friday to mark the start of half term and will also have a pre-loved uniform stall available if your child needs anything.

I hope that you will be able to take part in the many Noise Arts Festival events being organised by Thundersley Congregational Church during half term. On Friday, we have science workshops taking place in school, thanks to their generosity.

Have a super week and a lovely half term when it comes.

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

### Attendance

For the week ended 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023 there were 6 classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Chipmunks who achieved 99.6%. 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.

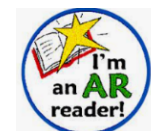
Congratulations to this week's winners  
**CHIPMUNKS**

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

Attendance figures:-

Class	Week
Chipmunks	99.6%
Dragonflies	95.7%
Butterflies	96.6%
Rabbits	95.0%
Ladybirds	99.4%
Robins	95.3%
Fireflies	96.0%
Owls	97.6%
Bears	89.3%
Sparrows	96.0%
Ants	95.5%
Bees	98.3%
Kestrels	98.3%
Badgers	97.7%
Squirrels	78.7%
Whole School	95.1%
Target	97.0%

### KS2 Accelerated Reader



This week:-

Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 553,058

2<sup>nd</sup> Bees - 258,785

3<sup>rd</sup> Kestrels - 208,985

Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 50

2<sup>nd</sup> Owls - 27

3<sup>rd</sup> Firefiles - 19

Overall:-

Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Kestrels - 2,391,198

2<sup>nd</sup> Bees - 1,283,954

3<sup>rd</sup> Ants - 1,273,059

Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Owls - 252

2<sup>nd</sup> Fireflies - 168

3<sup>rd</sup> Bears - 107





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## 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 are now open) 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 Crossing Patrol Vacancy



Do you know someone who would like a rewarding opportunity within the community? We currently have a vacancy for a School Crossing Patrol Officer at

Thundersley Primary School zebra crossing site. The current rate of pay is £11.81p per hour. No experience is required and full training and uniform is provided. The role is part time and term time, assisting pupils and other pedestrians to safely cross the road. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested and want to find out more - please visit:

<https://www.workingforessex.com> or call the School Crossing Patrol Service on 03330 139788 or email your details to [schoolcrossingpatrol@essex.gov.uk](mailto:schoolcrossingpatrol@essex.gov.uk)

## Ambassadors

We are pleased to advise that the Year 6 Ambassadors are listed below:-

## Office

Honey-Mae Hayes	Olivia Hession
Chase Donovan-Toone	Lucas Rowland
Aaliyah Hussein	Sydney Greig
Esmae Emin-Wyatt	Sienna Anderson
Lillie-Mai Williams	Chloe Crawley

Please note that the children will be answering the telephone between 12.10pm and 1.10pm so if you have anything sensitive you wish to say, please ask to speak to an adult - thank you.

## Library

Elsie-Mae Newland	Grace Parmenter
Alexia Lewington	Tom Clayton
Penny Sycamore	Ayda Pudney
Sienna Anderson	Honey-Mae Hayes
Chloe Crawley	

## Sports

Brooke Squirrell	George Fillary
Delilah Thomas	Harry Green
Finley Fitzmaurice	Arlo Puckey
Lara Tune	Freya Longmore
Pippa Hawkins	

## Assembly

Louie Tucker	Lara Tune
Esmae Emin-Wyatt	Aaliyah Hussein

## Playground

Maxwell Blagg	Louie Tucker
Etta-Mae Duke	Arlo Puckey
Grace Crawford	Serena Hawkins
Darcie Bristow	Sydney Greig
Freya Longmore	Evie Gates

## Computing

Lucas Rowland	Jacob Sandford
Tom Clayton	Ayda Pudney

## EYFS Parent/Carer Involvement Session



Last Tuesday, it was the turn of the EYFS parents/carers to visit the children in school for the first time. The children took part in a sponsored

Number Hunt and the money raised will be used to buy resources for the EYFS area. Once all monies have been collected we will announce the final figure in the newsletter.

Jake Godfrey (Dragonflies) and Sienna Lowe (Chipmunks) tell of their exciting session below:-



"It was so good and we had to get a clip board, pen and paper. There were numbers on the paper and we had to find them and tick them off. There were animals on them and I found all of them. It was so, so, so, so, so, so, so good that mummy came in to help me." (Jake Godfrey)



Jake's mum said "It was nice to be able to come and spend time in school with Jake and his friends."

"When mummy came I found so many numbers and also when I found all the numbers with the animals on, I drew them.

I found all of them but number 9 was a bit tricky. I found it around the path. It was so great that mummy came in to help." (Sienna Lowe)



## Year 1 Parent/Carer Involvement Session

On Wednesday last week, the parents/carers of the Year 1 children visited to participate in a phonics themed involvement session. Everyone had a great time using the iPads and searching for words and Amelia Buckland (Butterflies) and Stanley Leer (Rabbits) give descriptions of their afternoon below:-







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"First, we went on the iPads. We had to do My Little Monster and the name of the programme is called Teach Monster. Then we played a puppet game where we had to drag the puppet along. Then we went to our treasure word which was 'shark' and then we caught 'coach', then we caught 'snail', then we caught 'roast' and then we caught 'star'. Then we played snakes and ladders on the iPad and we beat the angry bear with a cross on his head. My mummy told me at home that she was coming to my school and we went into the hall. I liked mummy coming in." (Amelia Buckland)

"We played with the iPads. We did a word hunt trying to find letters and we had to write them on a piece of paper on a board. Then we played a game. I had a nice time playing on the iPads with mummy." (Stanley Leer)

## Year 5 - Grafham Residential



Last week some of the Year 5 children visited Grafham for a two night residential stay. The children enjoyed lots of different activities including high ropes, canoeing, kayaking, sail boating, power boating, obstacle course, rock climbing and archery. As you can imagine, everyone had an amazing time and Lois Oke (Ants) gives her account of the trip below:-



"On Wednesday, it was a two hour drive and when we got there we went to a small white tent like hut and we met our instructors. After that we had a tour by the Head who was named Robbie. After the tour, we went back into the hut and had our lunch on the picnic benches. After lunch we found out who was in our room and I was sharing with Ivy, Bella, Sophie, Isabelle, Olivia, Rosie and Macey. After that we settled into our room and we went back out into the hut and we sorted out who was in our activity group. I was in a



group with Mr. Mackay. The first activity was high ropes. We did crate stacking where we were in groups of four and we had to stack the crates and we would stand on them as we stacked them whilst we were wearing our harness. My group got up to seven crates and we could either choose to jump off or have the crates pushed from underneath us and hang in the air. I chose to have the crates pushed. It was fun as I was hanging there in mid-air for a few seconds. There was a triangle and we had two options, one was higher than the other. I chose the higher



one. We had to walk along slanted beams and climb a ladder. When we got to the top, we had to sit down and dangle our legs over and Simon would then lower us down. It was really exciting! In the evening we had the Grafham Challenge. We had to do an obstacle course which was fun but very muddy. We had a hot chocolate before we went to bed. The beds were comfy but we had to make them. I slept really well. On Thursday, my group were doing water



sports all day. My first activity was learning how to canoe. Then I learnt how to kayak. In the afternoon we went on a sail boat and a power boat. On the sail boat we told riddles and jokes and on the powerboat we were just laughing and talking. I liked the powerboat the best as we got to drive it. In the evening we watched a movie in the lounge room. On Friday, we did rock climbing and archery. I liked the rock climbing because I haven't done it before and Mr. Mackay said that I climbed about ten times my height. I really liked the trip and I would love to go there again."

## Year 5 Fun

What an action packed few days we had in Year 5 this week! A trip to the park, arts and crafts, fun swimming, den building, bug hunting and scavenger hunts to name a few...phew! One of the particular highlights was putting together a gymnastics routine working on synchronisation and timing with twists and rolls. When the children had finished exploring, developing and refining, they then performed to our Year 1 audience, who were very impressed! Lots of friendships rekindled and new friends made. Oscar Gladwin (Bees) gives his account below:-

"On Wednesday we went over to the park and we played football and played in the park. When we got back, we had break time and then we could either do some Halloween colouring or use the Chrome Books. After that we had lunchtime and then we played dodgeball and before we





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went home, we did 'play 13'. I liked the park the best because there were lots of things to do there. So on Thursday, we started off the day with a bit of reading. Then we had to go quickly to the hall to see our gymnastic teacher. Then me, Reid, Lucas, Jimmy, Nicolas and Jayden all went to the changing rooms and got changed into our swimming kit and went in the pool for our fun swim. We did races with floats and had a ball which we had to use our mouths and hands to push it. Then we played a basketball competition in the pool. Me, Nicolas and Jayden vs. Reid, Jimmy and Lucas. They won 1-0. After we got out and got changed into our PE kit and headed down to the Green Hall and practiced our gymnastic show for the Year 1s. The Year 1s were happy to watch us and they really enjoyed it. Then we had our lunch and we did den building in the woods. We made our dens out of sticks and they were judged by Hollie and my den came first. I basically liked doing everything on Thursday, it was great fun. On Friday morning, we could do a competition so I did a Maths one and colouring one. They were all Harry Potter themed ones. After that we did the scavenger hunt on the playground as it was raining and no one could find number 10 but Mrs. Hayward found it on the road outside the school as it had blown out there in the wind. After lunch, we went on the Chrome Books. Then we had assembly and Golden Time. For Golden Time, Mrs. Hoeb put on a film and we could also go on the Chrome Books if we wanted to. Then there were prizes given for the best Maths and Colouring sheets and the potion making. The prizes were a Gryffindor bag, a Hufflepuff bag, a Time Turner, a Gryffindor badge and a Harry Potter toy. I enjoyed Golden Time the best on Friday because we could watch a film and go on the Chrome Books."

## Boys' Football Tournament

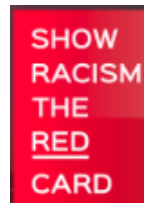
Last Tuesday, our boys' football team participated in a football tournament over at Waterside together with other local schools. Harry Green (Badgers) gives his account of the tournament below:-



"We went by minibus over to Waterside and then went to the pitch. There were 21 schools there and there was a free styler called

Jamie who taught us some tricks. Then we watched one match and after that we played a game and won 2-0. After that we talked about the match and what we could improve on. Then we went out to Jamie to start to do some training as we had a four game wait. Then we watched some of the teams we were going to be playing and saw how we could get past their defence. The next game we played we won 1-0. Next we had part of our lunch and was trying people in different positions. After that, we had our next game and won again 1-0. There was only a 1 game wait so we had to be quick to warm up. Then on our next game we got a quick lead but the other team had a shot and it came off one of our players and went in so for our next game we had to win to go through to the semi finals. In that game we were playing a hard team and lost 3-0. After that, we found out who got through and because there were only three groups, one second place had to go through. So we were second place in our group and the other team in the other group had the same points as us and the same goal difference so it had to go to goals scored and they had one more than us which meant we had to go home. I really liked playing in the tournament to represent my school. I liked playing right wing the best because I got an assist and I could find the striker easily."

## Black History Month



October is Black History Month and at Thundersley Primary all classes will be doing lots of exciting activities and learning to celebrate this. This year we will also be supporting the UK's leading

anti-racism charity, 'Show Racism the Red Card', by taking part in their annual 'Wear Red Day' on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023. SRtRC work to challenge racism through empowering role models within communities, organisations, and sports, in order to dismantle racism in society. On this day, instead of school uniform your child can wear red and bring in a donation to support SRtRC.

## A different kind of homework

Mental Health has declined in almost 40% of school children (NHS Survey). That's why Britain Get Talking is setting the nation a different kind of homework. It's designed to help ease our stress and reduce our anxiety by asking what's on our minds. Have a chat tonight or take part in our national homework exercise in aid of World Mental Health Day. You don't need a pen or paper, but if you're unsure where to start, download our task and try writing or drawing your worries on the front cover. To find out more please visit this website <https://www.itv.com/britaingettalking/> If you have any questions, please speak to Mrs Bailey (Wellbeing Lead).

## 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>







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## Stars of the Week

**Year 6:-** Olivia Hession and Thomas Clayton  
**Year 5:-** Sophie Axford



**Year 4:-** Isobel Hawkins and Saskia Lawledge-Scott

**Year 3:-** Hermione Delf and Emily Duggan

**Year 2:-** Joshua Arram and Elliot Hardwicke

**Year 1:-** Sienna Dixon

**EYFS:-** Mia Haxhia

## Playground Stars of the Week

Alexia Lewington, Freya Longmore, Jacob Nevill, Poppy Ferdinando-Hemmings, Evelyn Deal, Teddy Richards, Ava Macdonald, Elliot Hardwicke, Hollie Dulieu and Robyn Caulfield

## House Point Scores

Scores for the House Point groups are:-

Green Dragons	1891
Blue Dolphins	1621
Red Arrows	1567
Golden Eagles	1235



Well done Green Dragons!

## Honesty is the best policy!

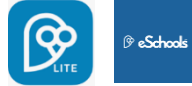
We would like to congratulate the following for handing in money they found recently.

Rebecca Heckles (Robins)  
Harry Cecil (Kestrels)

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

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

## PTA

### Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PTA will be the AGM on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm in the White Hart. All are welcome.

### Sweetie Sale & Pre-Loved Uniform

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Monster Bash

Please find attached flyers in respect of the above.

### 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

### Community News

### Essex Fire Museum - October Half Term 2023

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Rayleigh Operatic & Dramatic Society (RODS) - Once Upon a Time

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### Perform & Dazzle Theatre School

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

### School Calendar - Dates

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

or eSchools app Lite





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## **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  
23/7/24

