



Dear Parent/Carer,

Throughout the year, we are inundated by our kind, Thundersley children who want to help support a wide variety of charities, so we have, over the past two years, had our Years 5 and 6 children run a charity sale at Christmas time for a wide variety of causes. This year our sale is on the morning of Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

Our aim is that the Years 5 and 6 children organise themselves into groups and decide what charity they would like to support. They then work like busy bees at home (and at school at lunchtimes and playtimes if they wish) to make their products or to plan their stalls. In the past, children have sold loom band bracelets, bookmarks, pom-poms, cakes they have made, books/cuddly toys (they ask other children to donate these), they have organised games and much, much more. This has been a great success and the children running stalls have learned many skills such as budgeting, team work, marketing and selling. Children in EYFS to Year 4 will participate by bringing in a small amount of money to spend and getting ideas for when it is their turn! In the past, the Green Hall has been packed with children buying and selling – a joy to behold! The Years 5 and 6 children know to ask their teachers if they have any questions, but do please let us know if you have any queries.

An exciting week all round this week with our Nativity performances in EYFS and Years 1 and 2 – this is the highlight of our term and such a lovely way to celebrate this time of year. We look forward to seeing you – and do please make sure that you bring your ticket on the day.

Have a super week!

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

### Attendance

For the week ended 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024, there were two classes who achieved 97% attendance or above.

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	93.1%
Dragonflies	92.2%
Butterflies	92.0%
Rabbits	94.3%
Ladybirds	90.0%
Robins	94.3%
Fireflies	98.7%
Owls	93.0%
Bears	94.0%
Sparrows	97.4%
Ants	90.7%
Kestrels	96.0%
Badgers	95.7%
Otters	95.3%
Squirrels	90.1%
Whole School	93.8%
Target	97.0%

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

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for  
2024 – 2025 is:  
**97%**

### KS2 Accelerated Reader

This week:-

#### Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Badgers – 1,294,482  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bears – 592,866  
3<sup>rd</sup> Kestrels – 372,362

#### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears – 99  
2<sup>nd</sup> Badgers – 33  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sparrows – 30

Overall:-

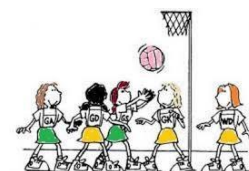
#### Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Bears – 5,756,752  
2<sup>nd</sup> Badgers – 4,036,925  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sparrows – 3,804,138

#### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears – 646  
2<sup>nd</sup> Owls – 358  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sparrows – 264

### Mixed Netball match (away) vs. Robert Drake



The children had their first away game of the season and the nerves were more jangled

than usual. They played brilliantly with some fabulous attacking and defending. Annoyingly, those goals just would not go in and despite having lots of shots, sadly, TPS were defeated 6 goals to 4. Mrs Hoeb was as proud as usual of her team as they gave their all and listened to every instruction given. A wonderful bunch of netballers! Sam Clark gives his account of the game below:-

"I got picked up by my mum and taken to Robert Drake. Once we arrived we warmed up and knew the game wasn't going to be easy from seeing the opposing team warm up! When the whistle blew, adrenaline was

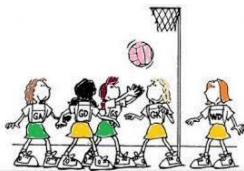




pumping through me. The first quarter ended 2-0 to Robert Drake. In the second quarter, we put up a fight and managed to gain a point. In the third quarter it was incredibly close and it ended 5-2 to Robert Drake. In the final quarter, we tried to go down fighting and we managed to come back to 6-4 to Robert Drake. I played centre, goal keeper and goal attack. I like playing centre the best because I can go nearly everywhere on the court. I really enjoyed the game and I think that on another day we would have won it. We played really well as a team and will hopefully win the next one."

### Mixed Netball match (home) vs. Canvey Juniors

A wonderfully fierce game of netball this time with the team pumped to play their



best. After a week of shooting practise, Mrs. Hoeb is pleased to announce that her mixed team scored 12 goals!! Sam Clark took one shot from the edge of the circle and it went in without touching the sides. All of the preparation coupled with a strong mind-set saw Thundersley beat Canvey Junior School - what a game! Lucas Jackson (Squirrels) gives his account of the game below:-

"We played Canvey Juniors and we knew they were going to be a really good team as they beat the team who beat us last week. We got prepared for the game and when we were about to start we all felt nervous. We started off strong, with a couple of shots which went in and then they scored again so we knew it was going to be quite a tight game so we carried on going and we were all doing really well. Around half way through the game we were winning 6-3 and then we finished off with a great score of 12! We had a nice drink of juice and biscuits at the end. We all played magnificently as a team and Canvey were the same. I really enjoyed the match and liked playing goal attack the best because I scored. I don't know

when the next match is but I'll be looking forward to it."

### Years 3 & 4 Boys' Football match (away) vs. Jotmans



A brilliant game for the Years 3 & 4 boys as they travelled down the hill to Jotmans. It was the second game of the season after recently beating our neighbours Kingston and the boys were looking forward to playing again. The boys played very well in both halves and battled all the way to the final whistle. Charlie Elliott scored a super goal but it wasn't enough to beat the resilient Jotmans team who scored in the last minute to win the game. Unfortunately, the boys lost this game but they all played some wonderful football. Well done boys, a fantastic effort! Charlie Elliott (Sparrows) gives his account of the game below:-

"When we got there we had to get our football boots on and all our shin pads and we had to walk around the corner to Jotmans and we had to go on the field. When we got to the field we did training and everyone put on different types of bibs to know whether they were attacking or defending. I was attacking. We had groups of three - there were two midfielders and one striker and I was the striker. George and Albert were the midfielders. We started kick off in the first half. When I scored, Reggie crossed it in to George and I was standing in front

of George and the ball slowed down and a defender was going to get it so I tapped it in. I've scored lots of goals so it was normal for me. The final score was 2-1 to Jotmans and they made quite a good comeback scoring right at the end. I really enjoyed the match and I think we're playing Robert Drake next and they are a hard team but I'm looking forward to it."

### Years 5 & 6 Girls' Football match (away) vs. Westwood



On to the second game of the week and this time out it was our Years 5 & 6 Girls' team with a friendly. It was a fantastic game with many girls playing their first game for TPS and a few with their first game ever! It was an enjoyable challenge for the girls and one that they all played very well in. The girls were narrowly beaten by a good Westwood side but a valiant performance that the girls are proud of. Ava Nery (Badgers) tells of her exciting match below:-

"When we got there we first of all did some passing between us and then we got told our positions and I was playing in defence. Defence is a position I really like to play in because I'm quite tall and can stop a lot of them. When we went on the pitch the game started and it was going well until a girl on the other team got past us and scored. They scored another goal after but then a girl from our team scored in their goal and we all celebrated. This





# Newsletter No. 13

9<sup>th</sup> December 2024

made the score 2-1. They had 2 goals after this but one was a lucky goal as they had a penalty. I'm sure everyone who was playing enjoyed the game as it was really fun and good overall. I'm really looking forward to all the games we will play in the future and I'm sure they will be as fun as this one."

## Years 3 & 4 Girls' Football match (away) vs. Grovewood

Finally, the last game of the week and it was the Years 3 & 4 Girls' football team with their first game of the season. Yet again, there were some girls who were playing their first game for the school and first football match ever. A very tense match for the girls that saw Grovewood have most of the ball. The girls kept battling and kept pushing for a goal. Grovewood scored a good goal to put them in the lead. Grovewood's lead in the game didn't last for long as a bursting run through saw Scarlett-Rose O'Dell get a shot away from outside the box and score for Thundersley. The game finished 1-1 and yet another super Thundersley display. A game that both sides came away smiling from and happy to share the points. Well done girls on a magnificent effort for your first game. Emily Duggan tells of her exciting match below:-

"So the person who scored was Scarlett and then it was only a couple of minutes later that Grovewood scored. Then there was one girl in Grovewood who was very very competitive so when I went on I was



a bit nervous because they looked a lot stronger than I was expecting and it was my first ever match. I enjoyed the match a lot once I got used to it. Mr. Jetten and Mr. Wilson said they were really proud of us when we came off. They haven't told us about our next match but I'm very excited for it. I quite like playing football."

## Jack and the Beanstalk - Pantomime



On Wednesday, Hurricane Productions performed the Pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk to all the children and much fun was had by all. Sonny Murrell (Chipmunks) tells of his first experience of the School pantomime below:-

"The beanstalk grew. Jack climbed up it. There was a giant. They chopped the beanstalk down. It was a little bit funny. It was really good."

## Year 2 visit to Colchester Zoo



As part of their work in Geography and Science, the Year 2 children enjoyed a visit to Colchester Zoo on Thursday and had a special visit to the Reindeer experience. Isla Jackson (Ladybirds) and Leo Waiwaiku (Robins) give their respective descriptions of the exciting day below:-

"I went to my group and got on the coach. I fell asleep on the coach. When I got there I saw penguins, seals, giraffes, rhinos, elephants and zebras. I liked the penguins the best because they were fluffy. We met Father Christmas and we

got a little reindeer toy. It was really good." (Isla Jackson)

"We went on a double decker coach and I went right on the top and there was a tv right in front of us. When we got there we saw orang-utans, seals and Santa. We saw elephants, rhinos, giraffes and a baby hippo. He went in the water. We saw penguins and there was a professional trainer there. They said that they live up to 25 years and in the wild they live up to 32 years. We had lunch there. We saw a king python. It was a normal colour. It was very long. Santa gave us a reindeer and I named mine Comet. I thought the whole day was really good and the best bit was when I saw the penguins and the orang-utans as a few weeks ago we were learning about penguins and now we are learning about orang-utans. I learnt lots of things about penguins and orang-utans." (Leo Waiwaiku)

## Year 2 Sporting Event at The Deanes School



On Wednesday, Ladybirds' class visited The Deanes to participate in a sporting event where the children took part in lots of difference sporting activities together with local schools. Jake Sewell gives his account of the event below:-

"We had to hit a golf ball and see if we could hit a cone at the back which was 100 points. I managed to hit it. We had to put the parachute up and down and keep a ball





on the parachute but the ball came off every time. We made faces with different types of items like tennis balls for eyes, cones for ears and the nose and a skipping rope for the mouth. We had red and blue balls and we had to roll them to hit a white ball and I hit it. We had to do an obstacle course. We had to hold a ball with our foreheads between two people and then try and hold it there whilst we did the obstacle course. We couldn't do it. I loved it so much as it was so fun! My favourite bit was the parachute because we had to try and keep the ball on it."

### Squirrels' class daily dose of nature

This week, Squirrels' class have begun their journey of connecting with nature through the WWF's daily dose of nature appeal. We ordered a free calendar and resources from the WWF website so that we can tick off each day when we spend time in awe of the natural world. The WWF say that just 20 minutes in nature each day can improve your mental wellbeing!



We started with a sensory safari on the playground to calm our minds and bodies by observing our senses. It was amazing how being present and still, helps calm our busy minds during the busy day! Throughout the week, we have also watched a short video of the wonders of the Congo rainforest, created a painting using leaves as a stamping tool and made



our own bird feeders to help support our local wildlife.

### Numbots Certificates

Well done to all children in Year 1 and Year 2



that have used NumBots to help support their fluency in Maths. Certificates will be given during Celebration Assembly. The following children are our NumBot superstars this week!

- Year 1 - Lily Burrill (Rabbits)
- Year 2 - Ruby Molloy (Ladybirds)

Well done to you both!

### House Point Scores

The weekly house point scores are:-

Golden Eagles	3165
Blue Dolphins	2874
Red Arrows	2452
Green Dragons	2314



Well done again Golden Eagles!

### Stars of the Week

- Year 6:- Charlotte Onsloe, Ellen Weeden and Charlie Macdonald
- Year 5:- Joshua Sandford and Henry Grover
- Year 4:- Harry Burns and Mia Birch
- Year 3:- Ruby Trew
- Year 2:- Dylan Nunez and Luna Galley
- Year 1:- Lenny Little and Teddy Terry
- EYFS:- Aurora Clark and Kaitlin Bennett



### Playground Stars of the Week

Isla Taylor, Dexter White, Ava Lake, Eleanor Henry, Quinn Godfrey, Ronny Reid, Harry Robinson, Alion Pjetra, Sylvie McEvoy, Mila Balci, Ronnie Toogood, Amelia Betts, Zack Petrellis and George Grigson

### Honesty is the best policy!

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

- Isabelle Hawkins (Sparrows)
- Olivia Oswald (Ants)
- Jenson Main (Ants)
- Patrick Ridgwell (Ants)
- Leon (Otters)
- Elsie Phillips (Robins)
- Olivia-Grace Nevill (Robins)
- Hermione Delf (Sparrows)
- Emily Duggan (Bears)

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

### 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.





# Newsletter No. 13

9<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## 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 News

### Next Meeting

The PTA's next meeting is being held at 7pm on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at The White Hart. All are welcome!

## Community News

### The School Nursing Team

The school nursing team are always available to offer advice and support to the families and children here at Thundersley. For details of what they can offer, please see their face book page, which is Little Lions Family Hub Castle Point District.

From 13th January 2025, they will be offering drop in sessions at Little Handprints Children's Centre. They will run every other Monday morning. We will send further information out to you in the New Year.

If you would like to speak with the School Nursing Team, please call 0300 247 0013. If you would like a referral for your child, then please talk with your class

teacher or make an appointment with Mrs. Armour.

## Thundersley Christmas Fair - Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

The Thundersley Christmas Fair will be taking place on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024 between 2.30pm and 5.30pm at the White Hart, Millie's Eatery, Lord's Barbers and the Charity Shop in the village. There will be various stalls, Santa's Sleigh and the Grinch will be making an appearance. It would be amazing if you could support this event.

## Mega Camps Christmas 2024

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## Karting with Santa

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## Monster Inflatables

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## Mulligans Festive Family Fun

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

## Future Term Dates

23/12/24 to 03/01/25 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  
18/07/25 - Last day of Term

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

14/02/25

21/07/25

22/07/25

