



# Newsletter No. 3

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Our new Year 6 'Head' team are Sam Clarke, Ivy Cook, Charlie Macdonald and Lois Oke. I know they will do a great job of representing their peers and be excellent role models to the younger children. Lots of our Year 6 children applied for this job and also to be ambassadors for various roles around school, which they will learn the outcome of soon. This just shows what a committed year group they are. Their attitude to learning is very positive and they have really risen to the challenge of being in Year 6. We have high expectations of them as we prepare them for life after Thundersley and are delighted that they are trying so hard to meet these. We are seeing this in our classrooms, on the playground, on the football pitch and the table tennis tables! They are also in the throes of selection tests for a variety of schools in the local area and beyond. At the weekend, we had more children than ever sit the 11+ test - I know they will have done their absolute best.

On Saturday, it was International Day of Peace which in the current international climate I feel is really important to mention to our children. In assembly with Years 1 and 2 today, I talked to them about what peace might mean to different people - calmness, friendship, tranquillity - and told a story about kindness seeds. In it, a wise old owl gives two children a pouch of kindness seeds to plant 'wherever there is sadness, anger or worry' and this they do. They learn that peace is something we can grow—one kind act or word at a time. This is what we want in our school for children, their families and also our staff.

This week, we have the Year 6 curriculum meeting and Year 1 and 4 parental involvements. Please check the calendar on the website or eSchools app for details.

I hope you have a peaceful week.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024) by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024. To register your choice please visit:-

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

### Attendance

For the week ended 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024, there were 5 classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Robins and Kestrels who achieved 98.7%. 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	98.1%
Dragonflies	95.7%
Butterflies	95.0%
Rabbits	94.1%
Ladybirds	94.7%
Robins	98.7%
Fireflies	95.3%
Owls	94.7%
Bears	97.3%
Sparrows	96.9%
Ants	96.7%
Kestrels	98.7%
Badgers	91.4%
Otters	95.0%
Squirrels	97.4%
Whole School	96.0%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners

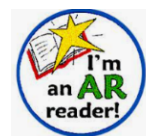
**ROBINS & KESTRELS**

Aspirational attendance target set for the school for

2024 - 2025 is:

**97%**

### KS2 Accelerated Reader



This week:-

**Word Count**

1<sup>st</sup> Sparrows - 382,167

2<sup>nd</sup> Badgers - 305,382

3<sup>rd</sup> Kestrels - 184,316

### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 21

2<sup>nd</sup> Sparrows - 23

3<sup>rd</sup> Fireflies - 15

Overall:-

### Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Sparrows - 1,042,468

2<sup>nd</sup> Badgers - 697,741

3<sup>rd</sup> Owls 430,477

### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 80

2<sup>nd</sup> Sparrows - 54

3<sup>rd</sup> Owls - 35

### Parent Governor Vacancies

We currently have two vacancies for Parent Governors and welcome applications from parents, grandparents and carers who are keen to make a positive contribution to our school. In this



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voluntary role, you will work as part of a team and play a vital role in ensuring the Local Governing Body is connected with parents/carers and the community, whilst promoting the ethos and values of the trust. We are particularly looking for individuals who can add to our skillset in the areas of finance and/or strategic leadership.

What does a good Parent Governor need?

- A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for pupils.
- Good interpersonal skills, a willingness to learn, develop new skills and attend relevant training.
- The ability to support and challenge the school and contribute to the vision and ethos of the trust.
- The ability to attend and contribute in meetings whilst maintaining confidentiality.
- The ability to work as part of a team and value the contributions of others who may hold alternative views to your own.
- An understanding that this role does not involve discussing your own child/grandchild.
- To attend at least one full meeting every half term.
- To be willing to join a subcommittee/working party/panel which may meet more frequently.
- To visit the school in between meetings to gain a greater understanding of the school, how it functions and makes progress towards goals, including a termly "monitoring day".

Being a Governor is a "hands off" role - decisions made by Governors can influence the whole school, but Governors are not responsible for, or involved in, the day-to-day running of the school. For any further information regarding the role or to submit an application please contact Simon English (the Chair of the Local Governing Body) at

[chairgov@thundersley.essex.sch.uk](mailto:chairgov@thundersley.essex.sch.uk)

These applications will then be compiled and, if an election is required, the

nominations will be sent to the parents/carers for voting.

Nominations should be emailed to myself by noon on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

**Simon English**  
**Chair of Governors**

## Year 3 visit to the Chelmsford Museum



The children in Year 3 visited the Chelmsford Museum on Tuesday, as part of their topic work on Stone Age to Iron Age and participated in a number of activities including handling real and replica objects, getting hands-on with experimental archaeology, investigating an exciting new interactive Stone Age to Iron Age gallery and building a living timeline to reveal how and why life changed from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. David Stan (Fireflies) and Sophia Jarvis (Owls) give their respective accounts of the day below:-

"At the museum we made paint with coal and chalk. We had to draw around our hands and then paint animals inside as they were important. I liked it super much because it was fun. We took photos with a tablet of old swords and a hammer. They were used for chopping down trees. We also took pictures of coins, special rocks and an old mirror. We looked at some

pictures from different countries. We also looked at a handle of a knife and they put a piece of wood on top of it and asked what we would need to glue it together and I said "honey". I thought the day was very good and my favourite part was drawing." (David Stan)

"On Tuesday, we went to the museum and we did cave painting. We had to pretend that we were painting in a cave and we also made some paints with water, chalk and charcoal. We learnt about artefacts. First the lady showed us some sharp flints they used and then we saw some sticky black Stone Age glue. Next we saw a wooden smooth pot and I thought it was a drum but it was where they put berries and water in. After that we held some heavy stones which were used as a hand axe. We saw some big horns from cows and they made an axe that was from wood and stone. I liked the paint caving the best as I thought it was really interesting. The whole day was really fun and exciting." (Sophia Jarvis)



## Table Tennis Tournament

Competitive school sport got underway this week as Thundersley took a team of Year 6 children to a table tennis competition, at Grove Wood Primary School. The children had been practising hard with Mr Yorston and then again in their break times and





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lunch times, so were excited to play against the 8 other schools in a series of matches. As the afternoon progressed, every single child made incredible progress, especially with their consistency and tactical awareness and Thundersley were winning lots of matches as they played each school. After all the scores were in, the boys did brilliantly, finishing in second place. The girls did not lose a match all afternoon and so were relieved and delighted to be announced as winners - lifting the trophy for Thundersley! Well done to all the children involved and thanks also to the parents and carers that gave the children extra practise at home - it clearly paid off!

Rosie Horsman (Badgers) and Lucas Jackson (Squirrels) tell of their exciting experiences below:-

"It was really fun and we had lots of matches and some people lost a few games and some people won a few games. Some of the coaches told us that we had a chance of winning. We drew most of the games. I had 7 games. I lost 3 games and won 4. The first few games people were a bit nervous but people got the hang of it and there were some really good players. At the end, everyone sat down in rows and they announced the results in reverse order. Thundersley Boys came 2<sup>nd</sup> and got a silver medal and then Thundersley Girls won 1<sup>st</sup> with a gold medal and a trophy. I really liked the afternoon and it was really entertaining." (Rosie Horsman)

"We went on the minibus to Grove Wood Primary School. We all felt nervous since it was our first time playing table tennis in a tournament. There were 8 schools competing and they were all really good. On our first game I won 11-3 and we won the whole match in total. After we played one of the best schools there and sadly lost. After that, we played against another school and it was a close game but we still lost. Then we played against the school who won it 6 times in a row and we drew against them. After we won another game and we played the second to last game and we won again and in the last game, if we didn't win, we would have come

just outside the top 3. We all played brilliantly and I managed to get an 8-2 comeback and managed to win 12-10. I loved the event so much and I hope that I have another opportunity to do it again." (Lucas Jackson)



## Year 5 Parent/Carer Involvement Session

On Wednesday, it was the turn of the Year 5 parents/carers to visit to participate in an afternoon of fun looking for the answers to scrambled words on the field and playground in respect of their topic on Anglo Saxons. Isla Bedford (Kestrels) and Ethan Fitzmaurice (Ants) give details of the afternoon below:-

"My dad came in to help me to do an activity. We had to unscramble words to do with the Anglo Saxons. There were 16

words altogether and they were all around the school. Some were on the front playground and some were on the field. We had to see if they were correct and had to go to see Mr. Jetten to get the answers and see which number to do next. It was really fun as my dad was helping me to unscramble them as I didn't know what they were. One of the words we had to unscramble was 'settlement' and Mr. Jetten gave us a clue and I managed to get it." (Isla Bedford)

"My mum came in to help me and we had to get a number and start from there and we had to find out what the scrambled up words were. It was quite tricky but we managed to get them all in the end. It was really fun and we had a good time. I learnt a lot of Anglo Saxon words that I didn't know before." (Ethan Fitzmaurice)

## Year 6 Football match vs. Kingston Primary

On Thursday, our Year 6 football team played their first game of the year in a friendly against local neighbours, Kingston. The game was split into three different rotation of players which all enjoyed some game time. The game was super competitive with both sides playing some fast attacking football. In the first rotation Thundersley scored 2 goals and took the lead. In the second rotation Kingston pulled a goal back to make it 2-1 going into the final third.... In the final third Thundersley scored four good goals to see Thundersley as 6-1 winners in their first game of the season. Well done boys, a great exercise with everyone showcasing their best efforts. Another example of Thundersley children showing themselves to 'Be the best that you can be'. Isaac Swaby (Badgers) gives his account of the match below:-

"We played Kingston on Thursday and we scored early to give us a good start. Then towards the end of the first 15 minutes we scored again to make it 2-0 and then in the second rotation Kingston scored a great goal meaning that going into the third rotation it was 2-1 to us. For the last rotation we gave it our all and ended up





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winning 6-1. It was a great performance from all of us and it was just really fun playing on the pitch for the first time this season."



Rose Beckford, Edward Potts, Ava Nery, Elsie Thompson, Phoebe Barron, Isabelle Hawkins, Snow Peacock, Sophia Hawkins, Ruby Trew, Rosie Hoghsden, Rey Froud, Thalia Churchman, Reggie Morris and Henry Benson

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)

### Honesty is the best policy!

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

Hollie Tinsley (Squirrels)  
Jimmy Hunter (Squirrels)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourselves!

### Community News

#### The Deanes School Open Evening

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

#### The Noise Arts Festival

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

28/10/24 to 01/11/24 - Half Term  
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\*\*\*\***

25/11/24  
14/02/25  
21/07/25  
22/07/25

### 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 - Keziah Playle (Rabbits)  
Year 2 - Eli Swaby (Ladybirds)

Well done to you both!

### Stars of the Week

**Year 6:-** Rosie Anstis, Reid Tuckwell and Dylan Oakley  
**Year 5:-** Oscar Wooden and Poppy Ferdinando-Hemmings  
**Year 4:-** Jeremy D'Aleo and Harry Robinson  
**Year 3:-** Teddie Jarrard and Alice Ridgwell  
**Year 2:-** Jack Muir and Jake Sewell  
**Year 1:-** Elliott Harris and George McGavigan  
**EYFS:-** Elsie Giles and Finley Ashwell



### 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.

### 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,

