



Newsletter No. 11

21st November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Today, staff from across ROBUS took part in an exciting training session about artificial intelligence (AI) and its potential to enhance education. The training was in equal part exciting and terrifying! The training ties in perfectly with our Trust's values of **Collaboration, Aspiration, and Transformation**. By working together to embrace new ideas, aiming high for the children in our schools and transforming the way we teach and learn, we're ensuring the very best opportunities for their future. ROBUS means **stronger together** in Latin and when we collaborate as schools, we believe we can be the best of the best, which is what we all want for our children isn't it?

Year 4 had an excellent trip to the Museum of Power in Chelmsford on Friday, which enhanced all their learning for this term. As always, the children were engaged in the activities they took part in and asked some super questions. A highlight of the trip for many children I talked to was their trip on the double decker fancy coach!

We are coming up to a very busy time of year with performances and events, so do please keep an eye on the calendar on the website.

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance

For the week ended 22nd November 2024, there were 3 classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to Dragonflies who achieved 100%. 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	98.0%
Dragonflies	100%
Butterflies	91.3%
Rabbits	96.6%
Ladybirds	90.0%
Robins	88.0%
Fireflies	94.4%
Owls	94.9%
Bears	95.7%
Sparrows	94.1%
Ants	92.3%
Kestrels	98.0%
Badgers	93.0%
Otters	94.0%
Squirrels	92.3%
Whole School	94.2%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners
DRAGONFLIES

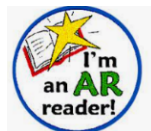
Aspirational attendance target set for the school for
2024 - 2025 is:
97%

KS2 Accelerated Reader

This week:-

Word Count

- 1st Squirrels - 818,677
- 2nd Kestrels - 553,723
- 3rd Bears - 504,155



Quizzes

- 1st Bears - 53
- 2nd Owls - 34
- 3rd Fireflies - 25

Overall:-

Word Count

- 1st Bears - 4,590,568
- 2nd Sparrows - 3,260,138
- 3rd Badgers - 2,742,443

Quizzes

- 1st Bears - 508
- 2nd Owls - 290
- 3rd Sparrows - 226

Year 6 Parent/Carer Involvement Session



On Tuesday, the Year 6 invited their parents/carers in to participate in a session of weaving.

Bella Blackshaw (Otters), George Cox (Squirrels) and Ava Lake (Badgers) give their accounts of the afternoon below:-

"Our parents came in and we did a Mayan blanket and we had to cut a square of cardboard and then we had to cut 6 slits at the top and bottom and then we got wool and then had to put them through the slits back and forth. When we went down to the hall, we had to get a needle and we had to thread it in and out of the cardboard and then we had to tie it at the back and then take it off the cardboard. It then left a little square of crochet which we could use as a little blanket or a hanging ornament. My mum came in to help me and she tied the back bits for me and she took it off the cardboard as I didn't know how to do that. I really liked my mum coming in as she helped me a lot and she said it was really fun too." (Bella Blackshaw)



"We first went in and we sat down and started to do our weaving. We cut a sheet of paper and then slid coloured strips through to make a weaved bit of paper. Then our parents came in and we started our design plan for our real weaving. After that we started to make our looms. We cut cardboard and then put slits in the top and bottom. We then looped coloured wool through the white wool and then we kept changing colours so there was green, purple, brown, pink and blue. We didn't manage to finish it on the day but did later in the week. My Nan came in to help me and she's a craftsperson so knew a lot about craft to help. She tied the knots on the string to help. I really enjoyed it and it was such a fun afternoon and I liked having my Nan to help. My Nan said that she enjoyed it herself too." (George Cox)



help. I really enjoyed it and it was such a fun afternoon and I liked having my Nan to help. My Nan said that she enjoyed it herself too." (George Cox)

"Before our parents came in we prepared our look with cardboard and yarn. Then when our parents came in we practiced with some paper weaving. Then we chose and designed what we wanted our weaving to look like. I chose a brownie red and a dark blue. Then we had to go over and under, over and under to make the first row and then on the second row we had to do the opposite so we had to go under and over, under and over. We finished it later in the week. My mum helped me to thread the needle and helped with some of the weaving. I really enjoyed it because I don't get to see my mum much during the school day and it was really fun." (Ava Lake)



Tag Rugby

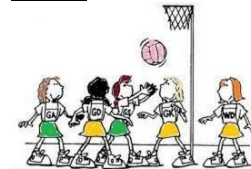
On Wednesday, a group of children from Year 6 made their way to the annual Tag Rugby tournament hosted at Canvey Rugby Club. The children have been training hard during their lunchtimes and were well prepared for the matches. There were three pools of teams competing to make it through to the knockout stages of the competition and the children got off to a flying start with some sensational tagging, wonderful passing and marvellous team work. Their hard work and training paid off as they dominated their group, winning every match. Inevitably this meant that they qualified for the quarter finals where they came up against some stiff competition in the name of Leigh Beck School. The children really stepped up their own performances and ran out as comfortable winners meaning they went through to the semi-finals. As this was the sharp end of the competition of course the standard of play continued rise. The children played fantastic rugby, their organisation and defence was remarkably strong and they beat Woodham Ley to reach the final. Having won every game of the day up to that point, it was particularly difficult for the children when they lost a very narrow and closely fought match. The game could easily have gone either way as it was a very nip and tuck affair with the scores remaining close throughout. Despite the disappointment of losing the final, the children showed great sporting behaviour by immediately shaking hands with and congratulating the other school on their win. The children really did themselves and ourselves proud and they went home with silver medals around their necks. Another example of the children 'being the best they can be'. Lucas Gillett (Squirrels) gives his account of the tournament below:-



"We went into our first game feeling confident and we ended up winning 6-1.

Then our second game was a bit harder but we won 6-2. We had to win our third game to get through to the quarter final and we ended up winning it. We went into the quarter final and it was quite hard but we managed to win it meaning that we went into the semi-final. We won it still but it was really, really tricky. Then we went into the final. It started with a big lead from the other team but then we caught up to make it 3-3. Then they beat us in the end. It was a really good match and despite losing we gave it our all and I really enjoyed it.

Netball



Another great netball game, this time starting our mixed season and the boys

didn't let the girls down! Our children worked hard as a team and defended brilliantly, so much so that Montgomerie didn't manage to get any goals past them. Our netball team however, managed to score 10 goals! As the goals came, their confidence grew but Mrs Hoeb was happy to see that the team remained focussed throughout and were gracious winners. It was a wonderful game to watch and Mr Wilson said "The netball team played a terrific game against Montgomerie. It was a brilliant attacking display which saw Thundersley score lots of goals. Mrs. Hoeb has worked really hard with the netball team this year and they look really good. The children are really looking forward to their next game."

Basketball



Year 6 loved playing basketball in P.E. lessons at school this half-term and so it was with great excitement that 24



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children made their way to Waterside for the District Tournament. Team Lightning and Team Thunder took their places in two different groups and then played each team to determine who would progress to the semi-finals. It was fantastic to watch the children competing - showing teamwork, tenacity and no shortage of ability. Team Thunder won two games and lost two which meant that they finished a creditable third in their group. Team Lightning won all of their games with one single draw - which meant that they went on to play Grove in a tough semi-final, which they narrowly lost, along with a bronze medal game against Hockley. Mr Yorston and Mr Wilson were both so proud of the children's efforts over the course of the afternoon. For all but two of the 24, it was their first competitive game of basketball - but they represented the school superbly. Huge thanks go to the parents who gave the children such positive support over the course of the afternoon. Katie Allen (Otters) tells of her experience below:-

"We went by minibus to Waterside. When we were there, we went down onto the courts in our schools and they told us who was playing first. We weren't first so we watched the first two matches which were ok but we got to see just how good they were. Then it was our turn. It was a good match and we won. Then we went back up to the viewing gallery to watch some more games. Then we were back on and we won again! We played 4 games in total and we won all of them which meant that we went through to the semi-finals. In the semi-finals, we lost so we had a 3rd/4th pay off. At the end we had to pick



three people to have a shot - boy, girl, boy - and I was chosen. I went second and I just missed the hoop. After that, we got into our school groups again and they said who was 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st. We came 4th overall. The event was a lot of fun whilst we were playing and I enjoyed watching the other teams too."

Karate Congratulations



Stanley Hamilton (Robins) recently took part in a competition held at Waterside Leisure Centre. Stanley has attended Westwood Karate Academy for about 18 months and participated in his first karate competition on 16th November 2024. Despite some initial nerves, Stanley went

on to win first place and a gold medal. Stanley's parents are extremely proud of him. Stanley said "I had to do three rounds and on the first round all the judges said I had won the round. It was really fun and I want to do another competition soon."

Well done Stanley - what a great achievement especially for your first competition!

Southend Festival for Performing Arts

On Monday, 18th November 2024, Nellie Gaskin (Bears) took part in the Southend Festival for Performing Arts with her dance school, Junior Masters Performing Arts which she has been attending since she was 3 years old. Nellie and her best friend Gracie had a duologue in the 11s and under section. Their duologue was called Picking a Parent by



Gerrie Benzing. They placed 1st and won the Irene Creigh Challenge Cup. Nellie said "I really enjoyed the festival this year because I got to perform with one of my best friends. My teacher, Miss Wendy, helped us to really understand and enjoy our duologue and I'm very pleased we won the cup too."

Well done Nellie - a fantastic achievement!

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 - Nancy Walters (Rabbits)
Year 2 - Archie Stuart (Ladybirds)

Well done to you both!

House Point Scores

The weekly house point scores are:-

Blue Dolphins	3801
Golden Eagles	3665
Red Arrows	3566
Green Dragons	3114



Well done again Blue Dolphins!

Stars of the Week

Year 6:- George Cox,
Jayden Carrington and
Chase Gray-Harman
Year 5:- Lily Crawford and Teddy
Thompson
Year 4:- Alfie Carrington
Year 3:- Alion Pjetra and Sophia Jarvis





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Year 2:- Maddox McKinlay and Yusra Biyiklioglu

Year 1:- Mia Haxhia

EYFS:- Calvin Newman and Edward Thorne

Playground Stars of the Week

Ollie Smith, Hollie Tinsley, Harry Sayer, Lina Pur, Elsie May, Olivia Oswald, Tilly Bolden, Isla Jacobs, Lilly Morgan, Lilly Hawker, Rebecca Major, Phoebe Burns, Henry Underdown and Mason Evans-Dani

Honesty is the best policy!

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

Dylan Williams (Kestrels)
Harley Punt (Kestrels)
Mrs. Hayward (Office)

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.

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

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

Telephone 01268 967542

www.daniellesshop.co.uk

PTA News

Next Meeting

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

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

