



Dear Parent/Carer,



It certainly feels like Christmas is around the corner and to celebrate this first week of December, our children will be watching the Panto on Wednesday - oh no they won't! Oh yes they will - Jack and the Beanstalk! I know they are in for a treat.

As a school, one of our main priorities for this year is to develop children's oracy skills. Being able to express ourselves confidently and eloquently whether it be in a pair, small group or in the whole class is not something that just happens by chance and our aim is to support children to do so by teaching them the skills they need. Children take part in talk time activities each week in which they learn the skills of active listening and being able to respond to and take part in discussion with other children. Our hope is that these tactics learned in talk time will then permeate all other opportunities children have to talk. Please do ask your child what it means to be a good listener and what they have been learning about in the talk time sessions.

Have a super week and please keep reading - the vocabulary children learn through reading really helps them in their oracy.

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

### Attendance

For the week ended 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024, there were no 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	96.7%
Dragonflies	87.3%
Butterflies	89.6%
Rabbits	92.7%
Ladybirds	85.6%
Robins	94.2%
Fireflies	95.3%
Owls	89.4%
Bears	95.0%
Sparrows	96.8%
Ants	87.9%
Kestrels	93.3%
Badgers	95.5%
Otters	90.7%
Squirrels	94.6%
Whole School	92.3%
Target	97.0%

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

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

Overall:-

### Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 5,185,087  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sparrows - 3,506,976  
3<sup>rd</sup> Otters - 2,828,589

### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Bears - 549  
2<sup>nd</sup> Owls - 332  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sparrows - 243

### Christmas Card Posting Boxes

The Christmas card posting boxes are open from today as follows:-



EYFS/KS1 - in the corridor near Mr. Mackay's office

KS2 - in the corridor opposite the Library

If your child would like to send a Christmas card to someone in school, they **must** write the person's full name and class clearly on the envelope. **Please note that members of staff are unable to give out class lists.** Thank you.

### Year 4 visit to the Museum of Power



On Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024, Year 4 visited the Museum of Power as part of their Science topic. The children participated in workshops and hands on activities based on electricity and sound. Evelyn Deal (Sparrows) and Harry Hills (Bears) give their respective accounts of their exciting day below:-

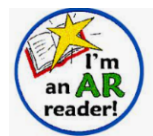
"We did different activities in five groups. One of the activities was hide and seek where we had to find five gnomes and then another activity was to make an electrical circuit. Another activity was where we learnt about the ear. We learnt that

### KS2 Accelerated Reader

This week:-

### Word Count

1<sup>st</sup> Otters - 1,113,000  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ants, 784,975  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bears - 598,577



### Quizzes

1<sup>st</sup> Owls - 49  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bears - 42  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ants - 30





inside your ear is an ear drum and you can hear when sound hits the ear drum. They had a model of an ear. There was also a magician and there was a colouring book and he hit it on someone's head and it changed colour. We had to make a light bulb. One of the men put out 20 objects on the table and we had to find out which ones turned the light bulb on. There was a paper clip and a key which turned it on. I loved the day and I would love to go again. My favourite part of the day was the hide and seek gnomes. We had to use our eyes and look really closely for them as they were very small." (Evelyn Deal)

"When we got there we saw someone called Alan and he took us into this huge room in the museum where there was a man who gave a magic show to us. Then we went into different groups of five and my first activity was a different magic show. They showed us how we can use electricity with the power of coca cola. He showed us by putting different magnets into the coke. The magnets were covered in metal bits and they went all spikey when he used another magnet on the outside. After that activity we went to a shed where we learnt about how to make a light bulb light up and we had different objects which were made out of different materials to see which ones would make the bulb light up. We had stuff like a metal hairbrush, a keyring, a key and a knife and fork. They all lit the bulb up. It taught us that anything which is made out of metal can light a bulb up. After that, we went to this place where there was a tool kit which had a helicopter spinner and we had to make a circuit with batteries which we had to put different objects to join it to the helicopter spinner so it could make it go really high. We learnt that if we had two batteries, it can go higher because it has more power. For our fourth activity we watched a man who made a fairy garden 24 years ago and he spent all his time making these different houses out of different objects. He set us five different challenges to find characters from different movies and if we beat him in the challenge we would get two special fairy gems. We did the earhole and we learnt about different

names of different parts of the earhole. The lady gave us a sheet to complete. We learnt about the outer ear and the inner ear and the inside of it. My favourite part of the trip was the fairy garden as we got to see some beautiful things. I liked the trip and I would give it 9 out of 10!" (Harry Hills)

### Boys' Football match vs. Westwood



On Tuesday, the Year 6 boys' football team played a home game against Westwood.

Tom Harvey in Otters gives his account of the match below:-

"We played a match against Westwood and we lost 3-1. We tried really hard but they were very good. It was tight. I played in defence which I like as it is fun. I stopped a goal and our keeper Ed, saved lots of shots. We all played well as a team and it was still enjoyable despite losing. Lucas scored our goal by dribbling around the keeper and shooting it in. I'd love to play in another game as I thought it was really enjoyable and I feel like we could win the next one."

### Boys' Football match vs. Kingston

On Wednesday, it was the turn of our Years 3 and 4 boys' team to play an away match against Kingston. Leo Jackson (Bears) gives his version of the match below:-



"We won 4-1. Mason Wheeler scored 2, Ronnie Reid scored 1 and Harry Hills scored 1. I played in defence for the second half and defended 2 shots. Kingston were a great team, very good at corners and driving the ball up to the other end of the pitch. Harry Robinson, one of our goalies, saved two shots and Charlie Baker, our other goalie saved three or four shots. I enjoyed the match a lot but I wouldn't like to play in defence every match as my favourite position is mid field. I'm looking forward to playing our next match against Jotmans but I know they have one particular player who is really good."

### KS1 Winter Games

On Wednesday, Robins' class went to The Deanes and took part in the Winter Games Festival. The children had a fantastic time and took part in various sporting activities such as mini golf, curling and tennis. The children represented the school proudly and were all very tired when they returned to school in the afternoon. Samuel Grover (Robins) tells of his exciting morning below:-

"We did the assault course which was my favourite. We had to balance on benches and then jump onto a mattress. We did hurdles where we had to jump over them. It was easy. Then we had to go under a parachute and jump over the lines of a ladder. We also did dodgeball and I didn't get hit. I'm really good at it! We did football where we couldn't get tackled. We also had to use a golf club to hit the balls and score points. The little circles were 5 points, the cones were 10 points and the hoola hoops were 20 points. I scored 80 points. The whole morning was really good and I definitely want to do it again."

### 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 - Evelyn Barfoot (Butterflies)

Year 2 - Dylan Gates (Ladybirds)

Well done to you both!

### House Point Scores

The weekly house point scores are:-

Golden Eagles	2615
Blue Dolphins	2599
Red Arrows	2447





# Newsletter No. 12

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

Green Dragons

2367



Well done Golden Eagles!

## Stars of the Week

**Year 6:-** Lincoln Bellingher, Jasmine Steyne and Edward Potts

**Year 5:-** Griffin Gibson Willow Leer

**Year 4:-** Renley Baker and Leo Jackson

**Year 3:-** Annie vine and Perla Puckey

**Year 2:-** Evelyn Muir and Arthur Barclay

**Year 1:-** Ivy Beachcroft and Amelia Betts

**EYFS:-** Franklin Peryer and Freddie Inwood



## Playground Stars of the Week

Sophie Axford, Ollie Barker, Oscar Jiggins, Isla Bedford, Henry Walters, Harry Burns, Olivia Cable, Vanesa Lukoseviciute, Jacob Crompton, Wyatt Beachcroft, Stanley Potts, Evie Crompton, Harper Hooper, Luci Gardiner and Emmanuel Anderson

## Honesty is the best policy!

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

Henry Walters (Ants)

Isaac Wood (Ants)

George Mataj (Bears)

Saul Mhembere (Owls)

Lola Duffield (Sparrows)

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](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 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!

## Christmas Fundraiser

We would like to thank everyone who supported this fundraiser - we made an amazing £470 for the school funds.

## PTA Christmas Present Palace - Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## PTA Christmas Raffle - Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## Community News

### BTSA Recruitment Event

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## Winter Reading Challenge - Essex Libraries

Essex Library Service are once again running a Winter Reading Challenge for children. This year's theme is dragons!

The Dragons' Adventure starts on **Thursday, 2 January 2025** and runs until **Saturday, 22 February 2025**, and children can join at any point during that time.

Children will be asked to complete six challenges from a choice of twelve. They earn a sticker for each challenge they complete, plus a certificate and small prize if they manage to complete six! Completers will also have the opportunity to enter a prize draw to win larger prizes such as tablets, book tokens, art and crafts materials and dragon themed toys.

[You can find out more about the challenge on our website.](#)



# Newsletter No. 12

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

## eScooter Safety

Please find attached information in respect of the above.

## Free Family Christmas Open Days

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

## Barracudas Activity Day Camps

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

