



Newsletter No. 19

10th February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Our Year 6 children had a fantastic time at The Deanes Sports Hall Athletics tournament last week! We sent the largest team of any school, giving many children their first opportunity to compete in this type of event. They displayed incredible competitiveness, resilience, and were great sports! Well done, everyone. (Please see the next newsletter for full details).

Tomorrow is Safer Internet Day. The theme this year is around how to avoid scams, but we will also be reminding the children about how to keep themselves safe online. I am sure that many of you will be as concerned as I am of the harm our children can come to on the internet. However, there are many resources out there to help us keep them safe, <https://www.internetmatters.org/> has lots of useful leaflets and advice and <https://www.common sense media.org/> gives details of the games children might be playing or the films they are watching. I have included what it states about Squid Games in an attachment with the newsletter.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Open Door sessions this week on Wednesday and Thursday. This is a chance for you to see your child's work and look at the progress they have made. You will receive their achievement report at the end of the Spring term.

A reminder that we are closed on Friday 14th February 2025 for training and school returns again on Monday, 24th February 2025

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

Miss E. Dawson
Headteacher

Attendance

For the week ended 7th February 2025 there were four classes who achieved 97% attendance or above. Well done to

Butterflies who achieved 100%. They will receive a £10 Amazon voucher to spend on something for their class.

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	94.8%
Dragonflies	96.2%
Butterflies	100%
Rabbits	99.3%
Ladybirds	97.1%
Robins	94.0%
Fireflies	97.4%
Owls	94.6%
Bears	92.0%
Sparrows	96.0%
Ants	94.3%
Kestrels	95.3%
Badgers	96.1%
Otters	95.5%
Squirrels	96.7%
Whole School	95.9%
Target	97.0%

Congratulations to this week's winners
BUTTERFLIES

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

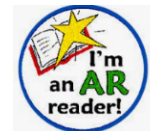
KS2 Accelerated Reader

For the week ended 7th February 2024:-

This week:-

Word Count

1st Kestrels - 539,708
2nd Bears - 513,473
3rd Sparrows - 372,173



Quizzes

1st Bears & Owls - 43
2nd Fireflies - 29

Overall:-

Word Count

1st Bears - 10,502,260
2nd Sparrows - 5,608,652
3rd Badgers - 5,133,017

Quizzes

1st Bears - 1,023
2nd Owls - 582
3rd Fireflies 461

We would also like to congratulate Griffin Gibson (Kestrels) who has become a Millionaire Reader. Well done Griffin!

Wear Green Day for Millie

We would like to thank everyone who wore green and donated on Wear Green Day for Millie. We raised the fantastic sum of **£553.86** for the National Autistic Society.



Polite Reminders

Breakfast Club and Treetops - Forms

We would like to remind you that if you would like your child to attend Breakfast Club or Treetops next half term, the forms should have been returned last Friday, 7th February 2025. If you would





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like to book your child(ren) in and didn't return the forms, then please do so urgently - thank you.

Bikes/Scooters

We would like to remind you that children must not ride their bikes/scooters in the playgrounds but dismount at the gate and walk their bikes/scooters through the playground - thank you.

Break Time Healthy Snack

Please note that your child should only have a healthy snack (fruit or vegetable) to eat at break time please. Thank you.

Safer Internet Day 2025

Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025/tips-for-parents-and-carers>

School Crossing Patrol Service - Safety Advice

We have received the following advice from Sharon Wallace, School Crossing Patrol Co-Ordinator.

'Your new Thundersley Crossing Patrol will be on duty between the following times:-

0820-0905 & 1455-1540

Thank you to all the cyclists and scooter riders who are dismounting when crossing the zebra crossing as this ensures the safety of all pedestrians using the crossing site plus the safety of the patrol.

It would be appreciated if, when waiting to cross you keep back from the edge of the kerb, as patrols are trained to gather pedestrians in small groups at the busiest times to reduce traffic congestion. Thank you.

Please wait until the patrol is in the middle of the road before stepping off the kerb. Please hold the hands of younger children when approaching the crossing and when crossing in case they fall or in case you need to exit the road quickly. Thank you.

Please do not allow children to exit from cars within the white zig zag area of the crossing site. This practise is both illegal and dangerous as other vehicles can overtake the stationary car close to the crossing site putting both the patrol and any crossing pedestrians in danger.

Lastly, thank you for making the new patrol welcome at the Thundersley School crossing site.'

School Sports Partnership Youth Sport Board

Recently, a large number of children from Year 6 applied to take their place on the Youth Sports Board. The successful applicants will have the opportunity to be consulted and have a clear voice in decisions made around PE, school sport and physical activity across Castle Point and Rochford. They will also help design and run projects and events with the help of the Sports Partnership Team. They will also receive training on sports leadership. Excitingly, we have had four successful applicants who will start their training next week. Lewis Grigson, Edward Potts, Ayah Pounds and Rosie-Belle Horsman. Huge congratulations to these children and we will keep you updated on their progress.

Year 6 Boys' Football match (home) vs. Holy Family



On Monday, our Year 6 Boys' team hosted Holy Family in the football league. A great footballing display saw

Thundersley's boys win the game 6-0. Some wonderful defending and attacking football from the boys, continued Thundersley's winning streak. 3 games and 3 wins for the boys in the league as they continue their fine league form. Well done to all the boys involved, they look forward to their next league game against Hadleigh

on 6th March 2025. Jimmy Hunter (Squirrels) gives details of the match below:-

"We won 6-0. We scored two in the first half with Isaac scoring a brilliant goal from a difficult angle. Then we kicked off again and won the ball back. Then Holy Family hand balled it in the box giving us a penalty. Chase missed but managed to get the rebound and score in the bottom corner. In the second half we went in 2-0 up then I came on getting 4 assists and Jaxon scored one, Freddy scored one, then Chase scored another two. When we kicked off after the 6th goal, they opened us up but Ed made a brilliant save. I played striker and left wing. I like playing left wing the best because it's new to try and I'm good with my left foot. It was a really good game and it was a good win. Holy Family battled quite hard and got so close to scoring so many times but Ed made a lot of good saves. I'm looking forward to playing in the next match and hopefully we can win again!"

Years 3 & 4 Football match (home) vs. Robert Drake



On Thursday, the Years 3 & 4 Boys' Football team played against Robert Drake in the league. The team was a little

depleted due to illness but they each ran the extra yard for each other. They took an early lead through some fantastic football and exceptional finishing and were pegged back quite quickly by a strong Robert Drake team. The score was 3-3 at half time and it was certainly a close game which could go either way. Unfortunately, despite heroic goal keeping efforts and resilient defending, it was not to be their day and they lost the close game 5-4. Albert O'Connell (Bears) gives his account of the match below:-

"I played left wing and right wing and I scored 1 goal, Ronnie scored 2 and Reggie scored 1. I like playing left wing the best because it's easier to cross it in. Holy Family were really good and won 5-4 in the end. It was a really tough game but we tried our best. I enjoyed it a lot as I





scored a goal. I'm really excited to play another game as we could win."

Learn to Ride



Last week a small group of children from EYFS participated in a 'Learn to Ride' course with coaches from The Deanes School.

The aim was to teach the children to ride without stabilisers and Ziggy Wright-Martin (Dragonflies) gives his account of the session below:-

"I had to pedal. I had to go around the cones. I had to pedal to the other bikes. I rode to the little house on the playground. I couldn't ride my bike. I can ride my bike now. I liked doing it."

Bikeability - Group 2



Last week, it was the turn of the Year 5 Group 2 children to participate in the Bikeability course with the coaches from The Deanes School. The children did amazingly well especially on the open road and Cooper Kenrick (Ants) tells of his experience below:-

"On Monday we started off on the playground so we could see what everyone was capable of. We did certain games and drills. On Tuesday, we went on the roads and we took it in turns to ride down some of the roads and come back up using the skills we had learned on the Monday. On Wednesday, we went a little bit further and we were on the roads and were learning about junctions. We also had to

think about who had control of the road either the cars or us. On Thursday, we went to a road near Raymond's Drive and we learned some more about signalling and looking. We then had our snack and went on a bike ride and then came back to school. At first I was a little bit nervous but when I started it I was excited and glad that I was doing it. I learned lots that I didn't know before like, if you come to a junction you need to signal if there is a car behind you so that they know which way you are going. I really enjoyed it and I feel more confident as when I used to go out on my bike and I had to cross the road I felt worried but I now feel fine."

House Point Scores

The House Point scores for the week are:-

Blue Dolphins	5396
Green Dragons	5143
Golden Eagles	4341
Red Arrows	4148



Well done Blue Dolphins!

Stars of the Week

- Year 6:-** Rose Beckford, Louise Martin and Annabelle Weeden
- Year 5:-** Lola Tucker and Dylan Williams
- Year 4:-** Briar Bilkey and Ronny Reid
- Year 3:-** Maddison Wilson and Felicity Bowman
- Year 2:-** Jack Bush, Roux Bilkey and Dylan Gates
- Year 1:-** Emily Bennett and Mason Buckley
- EYFS:-** Emmanuel Anderson and Devon Brown



Playground Stars of the Week

Alyssa Gay, Charlie Macdonald, Evie Chapman, Poppy Ferdinando-Hemmings, Ricky Van Der Fransen, James Painter, Isabelle Hawkins, Jude Marnham, Matilda Bolden, Lilly Morgan, Dylan Gates, Seth Mhembere, Max Baker, Finley Ashwell and Mabel Keane

Honesty is the best policy!

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

Patrick Ridgwell (Ants)

Well done - you should be very proud of yourself!

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:-





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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.danielllesshop.co.uk

PTA News

Next Meeting

The PTA's next meeting is being held at 7pm on Wednesday, 26th February 2025 at The White Hart. All are welcome!

Community News

BTSA Teacher Training

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

ACL Family Wellbeing - Nurturing Harmony

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Barracudas

Please find attached a flyer in respect of the above.

Junior Music Programme Ages 7 - 11yrs

Would your child be interested in learning to play an instrument? Then come and join us on Saturday mornings where they can have a go at playing an instrument in a group and taking part in musical activities that will support learning music in a fun and practical way.

OR

All-in-Band - 7yrs plus

Is your child learning to play an instrument, mastered the basics and can read music? Then why not come along and join our **All-in-Band** and play with others who are learning too!

Please use the link below to register for either the **All-in-Band** or the **Junior Music Programme**

[Benfleet Community Music Centre - Essex Music Service](#)

Both the Junior Music Programme and the All-in-Band will take place at our Benfleet Community Music Centre, which meets on Saturday mornings in Thundersley Primary School, Hart Road, Benfleet.

School Calendar - Dates

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

or eSchools app Lite

Future Term Dates

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

