



THORPEDENE SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

ACHIEVING, CARING AND RESPECTING WITH CONFIDENCE

ISSUE 23 : 13 MARCH 2026



Our wonderful KS1 choir sang their heart's out at the Infant Music Festival this week. During their performance at Kings United reform Church they showed fantastic enthusiasm and confidence as well as beautiful singing alongside three other schools in front of a huge audience. I was extremely proud to be there watching them and would like to thank the parents and carers who attended to support their children, there certainly was plenty of audience participation including clapping, wiggling, shaking and dancing!

5LG performed their class assembly this week sharing their knowledge of Space and the Solar System, the French language and the Romans all combined into one assembly! They also included so great media videos where we clearly have some budding actors! The confidence the children showed was fantastic and we were all particularly impressed with the class singing the Roman numerals song - there were so many words to learn!

As part of Science week there have been plenty of activities going on across the school - Year 1 have been on a Minibeast Hunt, Year 2 have been making catapults and Year 4 invited parents and carers in to take part in a Science experiment all about parachutes! - thank you to all those who attended.

Don't forget to book your Parent Consultation appointment on My Child at School - these sessions are being held on the 18th and 23rd March. This is a great opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to find out about their progress and what they have been learning about school this year as well as some top tips for supporting your child at home.

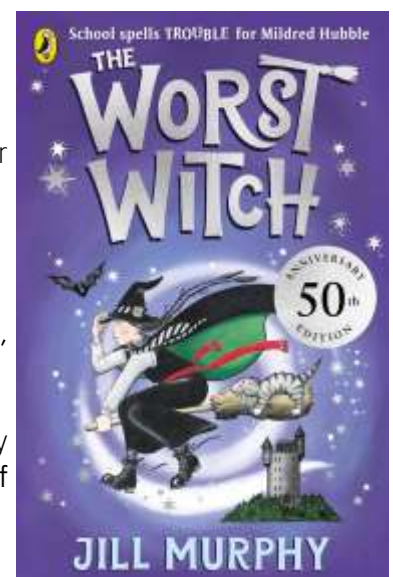
Mrs. Frost

At TPS, we love to read! Mrs Frost shares one of her favourite books from her childhood.

The Worst Witch - Jill Murphy:

This book is about possibly the worst witch EVER. If there's a spell to mess up, she'll mess it up. If there's a broomstick to fall off, she's already on the floor.

Set at a school for witches, this story is full of magical disasters and grumpy teachers, where everything that can go wrong ... does. But it gives us proof you don't have to be perfect to be brilliant!





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INFORMATION & ATTENDANCE

Class	%
4W	99.5%
5M	97.9%
6L	97.6%
2W	97.5%
2B	96.5%
5W	96.3%
3C	96%
5LG	95.6%
1S	95%
4SR	94.8%
4B	93.3%
3F	92.1%
1N	91.8%
6S	91.8%
Swans	90%
Total	95%

Congratulations to 4W for getting 99.5% attendance

And 5M, 6L, 2W, 2B, 5W and 3C for reaching the school attendance target of 96%

NOTICE ABOUT HOLIDAYS

Please remember that all holidays should be taken within school holidays, rather than within school term time.

Holidays will not be authorised and this will have an affect on your child's attendance.

If holidays are taken in term time when your child should be in school, you may receive a fine from the Local authority.

Remember: It is a legal requirement that all children should attend school. Your child's academic and social learning can be affected if they do not attend regularly.

As Parents/ Carers were made aware at the end of the last academic year on the 19th August 2024 the government introduced the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes were made:

PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS CHANGING

1 FIRST OFFENCE

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days
Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

3 THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a Parents future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

2 SECOND OFFENCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£150 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered.

The following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

10 SESSIONS (5 DAYS) OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10-WEEK PERIOD

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.

Please follow the link for the Publication that will start from 19th August 2024.
www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance





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CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN

Thorpedene Stars!

Each week our Senior Leadership Team (Mrs Frost, Mr Hamilton, Mrs Jackson-Mayo and Miss Carter) select one child each from across the school who has stood out for their demonstration of one of our Core Values of ACHIEVING, CARING, RESPECTING and CONFIDENCE.

Congratulations to the children below for being this week's stars!

★ Ilinca in 3C- for always being RESPECTFUL in class and working hard to ACHIEVE ★

★ Annie in 5L for her CONFIDENCE in performing in her class assembly, she was exceptionally clear and concise in her speaking part ★

★ Harrison in 6L who managed to achieve excellent progress in his Maths exam this week ★

★ Margo in 2W for ACHIEVING and CONFIDENCE with her learning. ★

Congratulations to the following students achieving in Accelerated Reader, Times Table Rock Stars and Numbots!



Swans: Albie

4SR: Evie

Yr3: Ilinca

1N: Louie

Most nuggets earned

Most time working

1N: Lucia

4W: Scarlett

Yr4: Owen

1S: Nora

Emma (2W)

Emma (2W)

1S: Yamac

5LG: Sureyya

Yr5: Codie

Freddie (3C)

Freddie (3C)

2B: Harvey

5M: Theo-Jame

Yr6: Alex

Evalynn (4W)

Evalynn (4W)

2W: Fizza

5W: Grace

Theo-James (5M)

Theo-James (5M)

3C: Tajus

6L: Elijah

Alex (6L)

3F: Miley

6S: Nell

4B: Owen





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READING WEEK

AUTHOR VISIT - ELLIE IRVING

Ellie held assemblies for both Key Stage 1 and Key stage 2 - she discussed what it was like to be an author, the process of publishing a book, how and where she comes up with her ideas and also what inspired her to be an author. Children got a chance to ask Ellie some fantastic questions at the end.

Before Ellie's visit, classes were set a challenge for classes to create their own World Record and try to break it, based on Ellie's book 'For the Record' - our winners were 2B and 4B. Their prize was an exciting creative workshop with Ellie!





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WORLD BOOK DAY 2026





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WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

Here are some photos from our Nursery. Their winner was Ezra, he dressed up as Elmer the Elephant. All the children had great fun.

It was lovely to see all the children dressing up/joining in for World Book Day today. The children did very well keeping their costumes on throughout the session. They all looked at each other's costumes, and named who they were dressed as, supporting their understanding. The children enjoyed listening and acting out the Three Little Pigs. Well done everyone!



SPORTS NEWS



On Thursday, our TPS 5/6 football team took on Heycroft away for their 4th league game, and the boys came away with a 7-2 win. They completely dominated the game from kick off and played brilliant football. Each player fought hard in their position, and the win was very well deserved. We have won all 4 of our league games so far with our last game happening after the Easter break - bring it on!





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YEAR 1 BARLEYLANDS TRIP

Year 1 enjoyed their trip to Barleylands Farm. Throughout the day they made Gingerbread Men to support their writing in their English lessons, watched a Birds of Prey show, took a tractor ride and fed the goats and sheep. They had a brilliant day, and the farmers complimented the children on their impeccable behaviour, listening and politeness.





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PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Miss Blatch's photography club continues to go from strength to strength. The theme this week was 'Leading Lines.' She is so proud of the children this week. They have done so well and improved so much!!

The photos are from Jayden, Maisie and Joseph.





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INFANT MUSIC FESTIVAL

On Thursday morning, 19 children from Years 1 and 2 took part in the SEESMA Infant Music Festival at Kings Road United Reform Church in Westcliff. The children behaved immaculately, as they sang six songs, accompanying one with Boomwhackers before taking to the stage and singing two songs; Jump! and Keep on Movin'. The choir showed great confidence to perform in front of a big crowd of parents from not only Thorpedene, but also three other schools in the Borough. Mr Jackson-Mayo is incredibly proud of each and every one of you and it was lovely to see them all collect their badges in Celebration Assembly this morning.





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WHAT ELSE HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

In cooking club this week with Mrs Wenn, the children made pizza!!





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INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS



WRAPAROUND CARE

Available for children Reception - Year 6

BEFORE SCHOOL

Children will be offered a nutritious breakfast (including dairy alternatives) and taken to their classes ready for their school day.

Monday - Friday
7:30am - 8:40am
£6.00 per Child, per day

AFTER SCHOOL

Children are escorted by their teachers at the end of the school day to a safe supervised space, providing enrichment, where they can build friendships. During the session, children will be offered a nutritious snack, for example a toastie or a pitta pizza. There are plenty of activities to keep everyone occupied, including crafting, puzzles, board games, small world playsets, quiet zones for homework and outdoor play.

Monday - Friday
3:10pm - 6pm
£12.50 per Child, per day

INFORMATION

The club is there to help working parents and offer social interaction and varied experiences beyond the curriculum, focusing on fun and development.

Session can be booked on MCAS parents can also;
email -
dropzone@thorpedene.secat.co.uk
or call 07759720111 (During session times only)

DID YOU KNOW?

Parents eligible for **Tax-Free Childcare** or **Universal Credit Childcare** will be able to use the support to help pay for wraparound care.

Childcare
Choices

HM Government

We are offering a first session FREE for all new children to the club - subject to space available on your chosen day. Please help support our clubs to be successful. The club can be used for adhoc sessions when available - we aim to be as flexible as possible.





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DATES FOR THE DIARY

DATE	EVENT
MARCH	
16 th	Chicks Parent Consultations
18 th	Parent Consultations: 3.45pm - 7.00pm
18 th	3F Class Assembly: 9.05am
19 th	Ducklings Parent Consultations
20 th	Red Nose Day <i>(further details will follow)</i>
20 th	EYFS/Yr 1 Explore With Me Session: 2.30pm
23 rd	Parent Consultations: 3.45pm - 5.30pm
23 rd	Nursery Open Evening for Prospective Parents: 3.35pm - 4.15pm
24 th	Year 2 School Trip to Belfairs Woods
25 th	1N Parent Enrichment Session: 9.10am
26 th	Nursery, EYFS & KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade: 2.15pm
27 th	EYFS School Trip to Hadleigh Farm
27 th	KS2 Easter Activity: 2.15pm
30 th - 10 th Apr	EASTER HOLIDAY
APRIL	
24 th	Healthy Carnival: 3.15pm - 3.30pm
29 th	Year 4 School Trip to Barleylands Farm
29 th	Swans Parent Enrichment Session: 9.10am
MAY	
6 th	5W Class Assembly: 9.05am
8 th	EYFS/Yr 1 Explore With Me Session: 2.30pm
11 th - 15 th	Year 6 SATs
18 th	Year 3 Egyptian Day <i>(children are invited to dress up as an Egyptian)</i>
25 th - 29 th	HALF TERM HOLIDAY





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DATES FOR THE DIARY

JUNE	
9 th	KS2 Borough Sports
17 th	Class Photos
19 th	Father's Day Sale
22 nd - 24 th	Year 6 Residential Trip
23 rd - 24 th	Super Sports
26 th	EYFS/Yr 1 Explore with me Session: 2.30pm
JULY	
1 st	Year 3 & 4 Sports Day
1 st	Year 5 & 6 Sports day
3 rd	Transition Day
6 th	Summer Fayre: 3.30pm
7 th	KS1 Borough Sports
8 th	EYFS/KS1 Sports Day
9 th & 10 th	Year 5 Residential
10 th	Nursery Sports Day
13 th	Enrichment Session for Whole School: 2.00pm - 3.00pm
13 th	Open Afternoon: 3.15pm - 4.30pm
15 th	Year 6 Production: 1.45pm
16 th	Year 6 Production: 6.00pm
23 rd	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly: 9.15am
23 rd	School Closes at 1.00pm to all pupils for the Summer Holidays

