



THORPEDENE SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

ACHIEVING, CARING AND RESPECTING WITH CONFIDENCE

ISSUE 26 : 17 APRIL 2026



Welcome back!

We hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and were able to enjoy some of the much anticipated sunshine we have been seeing!

Our children have returned to school demonstrating our core values across the school - Achieving, Caring, Respecting, Confidence - they have settled back into our routines well and have already been working exceptionally hard, especially our Year 6 children who are preparing for their end of KS2 SATs assessments.

The Summer term is always one of our busiest and most enjoyable times of the year with lots of exciting activities being planned for the children, from curriculum enrichment opportunities to special events and celebrations. We hope that you will be able to join us in school for some of these events - please check the calendar dates at the end of the newsletter to book them in your diary so you don't miss out!

Before the Easter break we held our second Parent Consultation sessions of the year - these appointments are a great opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and find out how they are getting on in school and how you can help at home - we know that as parents and carers you value this information and previous surveys have shown that you feel that you need to know more about what your child is learning and how you can help. We have analysed the number of appointments booked and attended and can share with you the data so you can see the uptake of these appointments.

The final Open Afternoon of the year will be an opportunity for parents and carers to come along and look at their child's workbooks and meet their new teachers in preparation for September. Please remember to speak to your child's class teacher if there is anything you would like to know.

Mrs. Frost





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IMPORTANT UPDATE

Keeping Your Child Safe at School

We wanted to let you know about new government guidance that started on 1 April 2026, about how we keep children safe at school.

What Does This Mean?

Very occasionally, staff may need to use physical contact to keep a child safe. For example, to stop a child from:

- Hurting themselves or others
- Damaging property
- Running into a dangerous situation

We always try to avoid this by using de-escalation strategies. Staff only use physical contact when absolutely necessary, and only use the minimum needed to keep everyone safe.

What's Changed?

From 1 April 2026, if we ever need to use physical contact to keep your child safe, we must tell you about it on the same day. We'll give you a written report and arrange to meet with you to discuss what happened.

Our Commitment to Keeping Everyone Safe:

- We focus on preventing these situations from happening
- Our staff are trained in calming techniques
- We understand each child's individual needs

We'll always keep you informed and work with you to support your child

You can find our policy on Restrictive Interventions on our school website: [Thorpedene Primary School & Nursery - Policies](#)





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ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to 4SR for getting 98.7% attendance
and to 2W, 2B, 4B, 5W, 3C and 1S for reaching the school attendance target of 96%

Welcome Back everyone!

It is good to see everyone back this week after the Easter holiday

Just a Few Reminders

The gates are open at 8.35am until 8.45am, so please ensure that your child is in class ready to learn by 8.45am.

If your child is unable to attend school, to safeguard your child we need to be informed each day by either telephone, leaving a message on the App or by emailing the school office before 8.30am. Please give the name of your child, their class and the reason for their absence.

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

Where is your child's attendance with the Attendance ladder below?

Class	%
4SR	98.7%
2W	98%
2B	97.8%
4B	97.5%
5W	97%
3C	96.4%
1S	96%
Swans	95.8%
3F	95.8%
5M	95.8%
4W	95.2%
6L	93.7%
1N	92.9%
6S	91.4%
5LG	88.3%
Total	95.4%





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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!

- ★ Tyler in 5W for always showing RESPECTFUL behaviour around the school. ★
- ★ Haper in Swans for showing CONFIDENCE in her learning and having a really good week! ★
- ★ Yara in 6L for CARING about her work, presentation and progress as well as caring about her friends and her library and prefect duties. ★
- ★ Lili in 4SPR for being a brilliant human and a credit to our school! We'll miss you! ★

A FANTASTIC Start!



It has been an immensely positive first week back at school. We began the week by revisiting and refreshing our FANTASTIC routines, walking, listening and lining up. We use the FANTASTICS to ensure our corridors and classrooms remain calm, safe and positive spaces for everyone.

In classrooms, we also use our Thorpedene Elite system to reward positive behaviour, and it has been brilliant to see so many children earning Elite stickers over the week.

It has been wonderful to see such a calm and positive atmosphere across the school, and I am incredibly proud of all the children for the way they have returned, ready to achieve.

Mr Hamilton

Most nuggets earned	Most time working
Lewis (4SR)	Brooklyn (4W)
Brooklyn (4W)	Oscar (6L)
Oscar (6L)	Freddie (3C)
Freddie (3C)	Alex (6L)
Connor (5M)	
Freddie (3C)	
Violet (4B)	
Alex (6L)	
Emma (2W)	





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WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

1S have been looking at the different parts of a plant and their functions. We then planted the flowers in our courtyard.



This week Year 1 have started their Exciting Explorer topic, on Monday they made and designed an old looking map to help Explorer Ben get off a deserted island, they wrote a list of equipment he would need and completed an explorer themed scavenger hunt using double digit numbers. Later in the week we started learning about explorers past and present; Christopher Columbus, Dame Ellen McArthur, Matthew Henson and our school ambassador David Attenborough.





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WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

Nursery have been pleased to welcome the children back this term, along with all of their new starters. It has been lovely to see how quickly the children have begun to settle into their routines, building relationships and exploring their environment with growing confidence. The staff are incredibly proud of how well all of the children have adapted, showing resilience and enthusiasm during this transition. They have made a fantastic start to the term, and we look forward to watching them continue to thrive. Well done everyone!



The children in Explorers enjoyed the story of Supertato this week. They had fun in the sensory tuff tray, mashing, squeezing and manipulating the (evil) peas and the Supertato.





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SPORTING EVENT UPDATES

Before the Easter Break, 30 of our elite children went to Indirock to take part in an afternoon of climbing, primarily focusing on bouldering - which is climbing without ropes! The children attempted different climbing routes and had to test their problem-solving abilities to try to make it to the top. They showed amazing teamwork when communicating to the climber from the ground, and it was so nice to see them doing something out of their comfort zones and loving it. Well done!"



On Wednesday, 10 of our Year 6 children took part in a Tri Golf competition at Garons chipping, putting, and hitting games to try and get as many points as possible. The children played brilliantly in a sport that they hadn't taken part in before, and they narrowly missed out on medals and came 4th place overall, which is an incredible success. Great job everyone.





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DATES FOR THE DIARY

DATE	EVENT
APRIL	
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
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

