

Dear Families,

I hope this letter finds you well. We've had an exciting and eventful week at school, and I'd like to share some of the highlights with you!

Sedgewell and Leas Foot classes had a fantastic time exploring nature during their Forest School sessions. During Forest school sessions the children engage in activities such as outdoor art, den-building, and learning about local wildlife. It was wonderful to see them so enthusiastic about their time spent outdoors, connecting with nature and developing their problem-solving and teamwork skills.

Our budding musicians in Yarmer and Sedgewell classes have been taking ukulele lessons this week. They are quickly learning the basics and having a lot of fun along the way. It's incredible to see their confidence grow as they experiment with rhythm and chords. We can't wait to hear them perform!

**Swimming Lessons for Years 5 and 6** Coming up next week, Years 5 and 6 will begin their swimming lessons. This is a great opportunity for them to develop their swimming skills, which are so important for their safety and fitness. Please remember to send your child with their swimming kit.

**Parent Volunteers Needed** As always, we are so grateful for the support of our wonderful parent volunteers. If you have some time to spare and would like to help with any of the activities mentioned above, please do let us know. Your help makes a huge difference, and the children always enjoy seeing their parents involved in school life.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to more exciting adventures in the weeks to come!

Below, you'll find lots of exciting updates and news from your child's classroom. Have a great weekend,

Miss Coombe

Some important information for next week-

- PE for all classes every **Wednesday** (children may come to school in PE kit and stay in it all day)

- Forest and Beach sessions will resume next week, and this half term **Sedgewell** will be taking part in the morning session and **Leasfoot** will be taking part in the afternoon session.

#### Forest and Beach Dates Autumn 1

Tuesday 24th September

Tuesday 1st October

Tuesday 8th October

Tuesday 15th October

#### Calling all grown-ups!

Following on from the success of our careers week we would be delighted to welcome parents, carers and family members to enhance our curriculum by sharing skills and knowledge from their jobs or special interests. If you would be willing to support our learning in any of the areas below, please let the school office know.

Computer Networks

Health and Wellbeing

Human biology

Animals

Textiles

The water cycle and rivers

## Key Dates Autumn Term

Event	Date / Venue
Swimming Year 5 & 6	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> , Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Junior Life Skills-Quayside leisure Centre	October 11 <sup>th</sup>
Parent Consultations	14th October & 16th October
Children in Need Day	15th October
Half Term	28th October-1st November
Christmas Crafternoon	11th December
Christmas Dinner	6th December
Christmas Jumper Day	12th December
KS1 Nativity (am)	18th December
Last day of Autumn Term	19th December

### *Save money on your childcare costs*

*The cost of childcare can take up a large chunk of the family budget. Whether you have babies, toddlers or teens, you could get support.*

*There are several Government schemes to help families with childcare costs, each one tailored to different needs, incomes and children's ages. They're not just to help pay for nurseries and childminders during term time, they can also cover wraparound childcare before and after school as well as help during the holidays.*

*To find out about all the schemes, [visit the Government's Child Care Choices website](#) and enter your details to see how you can save money on your childcare.*

*We have a duty to ensure there is enough childcare to meet parents' needs. [Use our online form](#) to tell us if you haven't been able to find the childcare you need.*

### *Get a healthy start this autumn*

*If you receive certain benefits and are more than ten weeks pregnant, or have at least one child under four years old, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk.*

*If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card, with money added every four weeks to buy cow's milk, fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables, fresh, dried, and tinned pulses and infant formula milk based on cow's milk.*

*You can also use your card to collect Healthy Start vitamins to support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding and vitamin drops for babies and young children suitable from birth to four years old.*

<https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/how-to-apply/>

## **Autism and Us Programme**

*Devon's popular Autism and Us programme returns in September, with a combination of free four-week courses and one-off workshops.*

*It offers support for families of children and young people who are either on the neurodiversity assessment waiting list or who have received a diagnosis of autism.*

*Parents and carers have opportunity to develop your understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting your child's presenting needs, whilst also connecting with other parents or carers.*

*The free four week 'live online' programme is run twice a term, with weekly two hour sessions on Microsoft Teams, each focussing on a different topic starting with an overview of autism, then communications needs, understanding and supporting behaviour and sensory needs.*

*There's also popular themed or topic based workshops, which lead on from the course, covering things like managing stress and anxiety, vulnerability and online safety and demand avoidance.*

*Full details, including course dates and how to secure your place, are available on the website.*

## Autism and Us Devon

No.	Programme topic	Programme one date	Programme two date
1	Autism overview	Tuesday 24 September: 10am – 12pm	Thursday 14 November: 4.30pm – 6.30pm
2	Sensory	Tuesday 1 October: 10am – 12pm	Thursday 21 November: 4.30pm – 6.30pm
3	Communication	Tuesday 8 October: 10am – 12pm	Thursday 28 November: 4.30pm – 6.30pm
4	Understanding and supporting behaviour	Tuesday 15 October: 10am – 12pm	Thursday 5 December: 4.30pm – 6.30pm

Workshop topic	Date and time
DiAS (Devon Information and Advice Service) and PCFD (Parent Carer Forum Devon)	Thursday 17 October: 10am – 12pm
Autism – Sensory processing and integration	Tuesday 5 November: 9.30am – 12pm
Autism and girls	Wednesday 23 October: 9.30am – 12pm
Autism – Demand avoidance and PDA	Wednesday 20 November: 10am – 12pm
Autism – Communication (speaking children – support strategies)	Tuesday 10 December: 10am – 12pm
Autism – Managing stress and anxiety	Thursday 7 November: 10am – 12pm
Autism – Vulnerability and online safety	Thursday 14 November: 10am – 12pm
Autism – Communication (non/limited speaking children – support strategies)	Thursday 21 November: 10am – 12pm



### Free Webinar - Supporting children to talk and read at home

We know that speech, language and communication are vital to all areas of learning and future success in school and at work.

Action for Children are running a free webinar to give parents reassurance and understanding of the importance of speech and language development and learn strategies so that you can support your child and their learning opportunities and help them to talk and read at home.

The webinar will cover the following topics:

- Developmental milestones and what to expect at different ages and stages
- How to support your child with strategies to encourage and develop speech and language skills
- What can impact a child's speech and language development
- Bilingualism
- Dummies
- Common concerns parents may have

Visit Action for Children's Eventbrite page to book your place on the webinar which will take place on Microsoft Teams at 7pm on Wednesday 11 September 2024.

There will also be a free follow-up online workshop on Wednesday 25 September between 10am and 11am.

# All Saints Thurlestone Academy Weekly Bulletin

Welcome to our weekly bulletin. Below you will find lots of useful information and lovely news from your child's classroom.



## Steeple Cove Nursery

This week Steeple Cove have been focussing on..... My body

This week we have been looking at 'My body,' having a go at naming our body parts and learning about how to keep our bodies healthy. We have been making 'mini' versions of ourselves, designing the perfect replica, as well as playing games to help us remember the body parts.

Steeple Cove became dentists this week to help learn about how to keep our mouths healthy and cavity free!

We learnt how to keep our bodies healthy through exercise and healthy eating by joining in with racing and dancing games. The children learnt the differences between themselves, by measuring their heights and observed the different eye and hair colours between themselves.



Phonics sounds of the week-

A a a -Apple

D d d -Dinosaur

Star of the Week!



Star of the Week

Henry-

Henry has settled into Steeple Cove beautifully, making friendships and joining in with the classroom routine. We have been so impressed how he has joined in with the phonics sessions each day and tried his hardest.

Well done, Henry!



## Yarmer Reception / Year One

It has been wonderful to enjoy this blissfully warm, early Autumn sunshine. The children have made the most of being outside and have immersed themselves in lots of water play, the mud kitchen, construction, biking, and many crafting activities. The Reception children have learnt several new sounds this week. Look out for your child's keyring and keep practising these sounds regularly. Please return this daily as we may add more sounds throughout the week.

We have enjoyed more wonderful ukelele practise with Mrs Bickle and have gained confidence with our ball skills from our PE sessions with Mr T. In geography this week, the Year 1 children enjoyed creating their own weather forecast for the upcoming weather. We have been learning about the seasons and the different types of weather and how it can affect us.



### Home Learning

Reception – Handwriting: practise the 's' sound. Slither down the snake. And 'd' – round the dinosaurs bottom, up its tall neck and down to its foot.

Year 1 – Maths: One more, one less worksheet.

#### Reading in Yarmer:

Reading is key to everything your child will do in school. At Thurlestone we want our children to be confident readers with a love of books. Your support with reading at home is essential. Your child will bring home their reading record along with their RWInc book. It is important that they read their book at least three times a week with a grown up. Please make a comment about their reading in the reading record and we will follow this up in class.

Please note, Reception children will not be receiving a reading book until their newly taught phonic knowledge is fully embedded. Please practise their sound keyring regularly.

Please can RWInc reading books to be sent into school daily. We have regular volunteers who help by listening to readers. We therefore need their books in school.

Books will be collected in for updating on Thursday and returned on Friday. The book will only be changed once it has been read a minimum of three times.



**Star of the Week!**



**Star of the Week**

James

Since returning to school, James has been such an amazing Year 1 role model. We have been so impressed by the kindness he has shown towards our new Reception friends. He has also approached his learning with a fierce determination. Keep it up

James!



**Attendance**

Our attendance target is 98%  
Last week's attendance was 96%  
Let's try and improve next week!



# Leas Foot Year One / Two

This week in Leas Foot, we had an exciting start to forest school! The children enjoyed making dens, working with clay, and using leaves for rubbings to create beautiful flags. We've also been reading *Ruby's Worry*, a lovely story sparking great discussions about feelings. In History, we've started learning about the life and adventures of Sir Francis Drake. In Art, the children have taken on the role of 'Brian Pollard,' carefully adding detail to their sketches in preparation for adding colour next week. We've continued our computing work with the help of the Year 6s, who assisted us as we develop our tech skills. In RE, we have been learning about the story of creation, exploring its meaning and significance.

## Home Learning

Year 1 - Maths: one more, one less

Year 2 - Maths: Maths Activity Mat Autumn 1 (2)

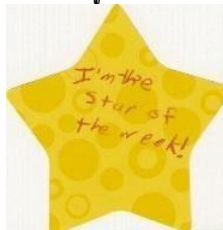
Home learning due in: Thursday

**Reading in Leas Foot:** Reading is key to everything your little one will do in school, and we want every child to be confident readers with a love of books. Your support with reading at home is key to this. Your child will bring home their reading record along with their RWInc books. It is really important that they read their book at least three times a week with a grown up. Please make a note of any comments in their reading record and we will follow them up in class.

Please bring RWInc books into school daily. We have regular volunteers who help by listening to readers. We therefore need their books in school.

Books will be collected in for updating on Thursday and returned on Friday. The book will only be changed once it has been read a minimum of three times.

### Star of the Week!



### Star of the Week

Indie

For always being a kind and caring friend towards others and taking great pride in her work. Well done, Indie!

**EVERY**day  
counts  
attendance matters

### Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%

Last week's attendance was 97%

Great start but let's try and improve next week!



# Sedgewell Cove Three / Four

## This Week

Sedgewell Cove have had a really busy week with lots of varied learning taking place.

We were all so excited to begin Forest School again and were blessed with such lovely weather too. The children used their imaginations and creativity brilliantly exploring the field, tracks and shelters. Thank you to the parents who joined us this week and also those of you who have signed up for the upcoming sessions.

We are also incredibly lucky to be learning the Ukuleles this term. That was great fun and we all really enjoyed it.

I can't wait to hear the progress we all make as we learn more each week.

In PE we spent the lesson this week learning the football skill of passing to another player and also how to attract a player to pass to you in a confident, yet polite way. It was fantastic to see the footwork and teamwork skills developing during the lesson. The PE superstar this week was Frank – well done 😊



Home Learning

Home learning this year will consist of reading, spellings, maths, times tables and curriculum themed projects.

### Reading

Reading is key to everything your child will do in school. At Thurlestone we want our children to be confident readers with a love of books. Your support with reading is essential. Children are expected to read at least four times a week with a parent. Please record the name of the book your child has read and the pages they have read.

### Home Learning

For home learning this week, I would like you to complete the reading comprehension activity about the Water Cycle.

### Spellings

The children will have a sheet of look, cover, write, check spellings to complete ready for a test on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

### Star of the Week



### Star of the Week

Hannah!

Hannah is impeccably behaved every day and is a great role model to her peers. She is always listening, eager to work and an overall superstar. Well done Hannah!



### Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%  
Last week's attendance was 93%  
But let's try and improve next week!

# Butter Cove Four / Five

This week

We have had another fantastic week in Butter Cove. In maths this week, we have been focusing on place value. Both year 5 and 4 have been partitioning big numbers in multiple ways as well as finding numbers on a number line!

In PE we have started our lessons with Mr Taylor! This half term we are focusing on football.

We really enjoyed the different games and challenges set for us as we learnt how to pass accurately, communicate well as a team and dribble the ball with lots of control. This week our PE super star was Elena! Well done!



## Home Learning

Home learning this year will consist of reading, spellings, maths, times tables and curriculum themed projects.

### Reading

Reading is key to everything your child will do in school. At Thurlstone we want our children to be confident readers with a love of books. Your support with reading is essential. Children are expected to read at least four times a week with a parent. Please record the name of the book your child has read and the pages they have read.

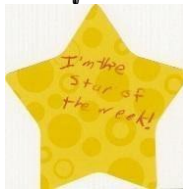
### Home Learning

This week for home learning, I would like you to complete the maths challenge I have set you.

### Spellings

Each week I will be setting the children spellings for them to learn. These will either be set from the Year 3/4 or Year 5/6 spelling lists. The children will be tested on these spellings every Friday.

### Star of the Week!



### Star of the Week

Bee

Bee has absolutely wowed me this week with her incredible ideas and vocabulary in her writing! I have loved reading it! Well done Bee.

**EVERY**day  
counts  
attendance matters

### Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%  
Last week's attendance was 95%  
Let's try and improve next week!

# Bantham Six

Bantham have continued the fantastic start they have made to Year 6 with some really exciting events this week, such as Family Group Captain voting and the opportunity to be a member of School Council. I am immensely proud of all the children who put themselves forward for the roles of Family Group Captains – it is not easy to stand up in front of your peers and make a speech!

Aside from this we have had a fantastic week of learning; we are still really enjoying our writing hook, *Paperman*, and can't wait to watch the rest to see if Malcolm finally gets his happily ever after! In Science this week we have been learning about Charles Darwin's Theory of Evolution through racing each other to pick up birdseed with both chopsticks and tweezers, which really helped us to understand Darwin's ideas. In Geography we have created a water cycle in a bag, taking advantage of our very sunny and warm classroom so we can see evaporation, condensation and precipitation in action!

We will have our first swimming session on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September and would love a parent helper from Bantham to come along with us – if you would like to help us out please catch me after school or contact the office!

## Home Learning

Home learning consists of reading, spellings, Maths and curriculum themed projects.

### Reading

Reading is key to everything your child will do in school. At Thurlestone, we want our children to be confident readers with a love of books. Your support with reading is essential. Children are expected to read at least four times a week with a parent. Please record the name of the book your child has read and the pages they have read.

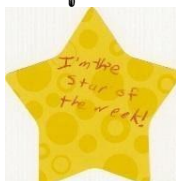
### Home Learning

As part of our Science lesson this week we watched a video about Charles Darwin which really got us thinking about him and his ideas. We wrote three of our own research questions about Charles Darwin and his work and for homework I would love for us to see if we can answer them and see what else we can learn about Charles Darwin!

### Spellings

Each week I will be setting the children spellings to learn. These will come from the statutory Year 5/6 spelling lists. The children will be tested on these spellings every **Friday**.

### Star of the Week!



### Star of the Week

#### Bea!

For trying her best even when she finds things tricky and having the courage to stand up and make her Family Group Captain speech in front of her Family Group despite being really nervous – what a great attitude Bea! Well done!

**EVERY**day  
counts  
attendance matters

### Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%

Last week's attendance was 92%

Lets try harder next week Bantham!