

Dear Families,

What a wonderful week it has been! I've had the pleasure of visiting classes and seeing the fantastic learning happening across the school. It's been brilliant to witness our Reception children taking their first steps on the journey to becoming confident, enthusiastic readers.

This Autumn Term, we are immersing ourselves in the rich history, geography, and art of our local area. It's a joy to see the children connecting with the place they call home in such a meaningful way. Our oldest pupils are exploring the work of the local artist Valerie Davide, while our youngest are discovering the beautiful creations of Plymouth artist David Pollard. The children have been producing such thoughtful and inspiring artwork, and the teachers have been absolutely thrilled with the creativity and effort they are showing.

I am so proud of the progress being made in every classroom, and I'm sure you'll feel the same when you hear all about it from your child.

Below, you'll find plenty of exciting updates and news from your child's classroom, and as always, we look forward to continuing this wonderful learning journey together.

Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable weekend,

Miss Coombe

PS -

Exciting times in school this week as our School Council got to vote on their favourite design for our new play equipment!



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 Cove** will be taking part in the morning session and **Leas Foot** will be taking part in the afternoon session.
- Swimming for Year 5&6 pupils at Quayside Leisure Centre. Pupils to be collected at 3pm, unless you have arranged with the school office alternative arrangements.

Forest and Beach Dates Autumn 1

Tuesday 1st October
Tuesday 8th October
Tuesday 15th October

Parent Survey on birthday celebrations in school

We had a great response rate to our survey on birthday celebration in school with 99 families taking the time to share their ideas.

Here are some of the key findings:

2. Would you like the option for your child to bring in sweets to share to mark their birthday?

[More Details](#)

● No	37
● Yes	61



Q. What alternatives might you consider?

14 respondents (24%) answered **Cake** for this question.



Next steps

Whilst many families shared concerns about sweets being brought into school and shared as part of birthday celebrations the majority of families would like to retain the possibility of sending sweets to school for birthdays.

Many families also shared some ideas for healthier alternatives including pencils, bubbles and stickers.

Key Dates Autumn Term

Event	Date / Venue
Harvest Festival	1 st October Thurlestone Church 9am start- Pupils only
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..... Colours

Steeple Cove have been exploring colours this week, through games and paintings. The children have used cars to paint with and have started to recognise when colours have mixed and created a new colour. The children have been colour sorting their toys and playing matching games with colours.

This week we were visited by Mrs Shea in from Tesco; we learnt about the colours of the rainbow and how different fruits can represent the rainbow. The children used red strawberries, orange satsumas, green limes, yellow banana, red and green apples, blue blueberries, orange plums.



Phonics sounds of the week-

Recapping all set one sounds and introducing Sssss - snake

Recapping:

A a a -Apple

D d d -Dinosaur

Mmmmm - Moutain

T t t t -Tower

Star of the Week!



Star of the Week

Laurence-

You have shown amazing amounts of growth since the beginning of this term, engaging in our phonics sessions, and working hard until you achieve the sound correctly.

Well Done, Laurence!



Yarmer Reception / Year One

The children have blown our socks off within their RWI learning this week. The Reception children have learnt and practiced many new sounds and have begun to use their new knowledge to blend and read simple words. They have been gaining confidence with their mark making and emerging letter formation daily. I wonder if any of the children can show you their 'perfect pencil position.' Within our Science learning, we have been thinking about materials and their properties. We have been on a material hunt around school and have begun to use interesting vocabulary to describe the properties of the materials we found. We have been fascinated about Sir Francis Drake, who we are learning about within our History lessons. Who was he? When was he alive? How did he travel? We will be learning lots of fascinating facts over the next few weeks. As geographers, we have been learning about different climates around the world. These include tropical climates where it is warm and wet, and arid where it is dry and hot.



Home Learning

Reception - Handwriting: practise the 't' sound. Down the tower and across the tower. And 'i' - Down the insect and a dot for its head.

RWI Videos: Reception have learnt these sounds this week g o c k u below are links to the videos for each of these sounds should you wish to practise them at home.

g - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/g1dcrc84/NOAmD1D9>

o - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/BSv4JOWc/ECLqjb1W>

c - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/4fH4kXHo/Rqjd1c3O>

k - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5IzSCnmn/mzJsxMC1>

u - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/FKjiUQnY/UaHlHYJZ>

Year 1 - Maths: Worksheet - comparing numbers using inequality symbols: greater than, less than and equal to.

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

Rafael

We have been unbelievable proud of how Rafa has conducted himself this week. Not only has he wowed us with the confidence he has displayed entering the classroom independently each day, but he has worked so hard with all his learning. He has also been unbelievably helpful and kind. Well done Rafa!



Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%

Last week's attendance was 97%

Really close...let's try and improve next week!



Leas Foot Year One / Two

This week Leas Foot has been packed with exciting learning experiences! As Geographers, we've been practicing our meteorologist skills by conducting our own weather reports. During RE, we reflected on gratitude, writing thoughtful sentences about what a Christian might say to thank God for the world. As Mathematicians, we explored number lines, enhancing our understanding of numbers and their positions. As Artists, we have been especially vibrant as we added colour to our sketches, making them pop in the style of Brian Polard. To top it off, we've begun exploring *Ravi's Roar*, a fantastic story that's sure to inspire more learning in the weeks ahead!

Home Learning

Year 1 – Y1 Maths: Maths Activity Mat Autumn 1 (3)

Year 2 – Y2 Maths: Maths Activity Mat Autumn 1 (3)

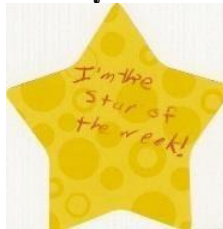
Home learning due in: Thursday

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

Isabella

Isabella has shown amazing dedication to her learning, always working hard and striving to improve. She's also incredibly inclusive, making sure her classmates feel supported and valued. Thank you, Isabella, for your kindness and commitment—keep up the great work!

EVERYday
counts
attendance matters

Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%
Last week's attendance was 98%
Great work Leas Foot!



Sedgewell Cove Three / Four

This Week

Sedgewell Cove have had a great week doing lots of interesting learning.

As writers we have been reading an alternative version of 'The Three Little Pigs' and have enjoyed creating sentences to show the wolf in a new light. We are really enjoying this unit of work.

As Historians we have continued to explore the experiences of the Windrush generation and how they may have felt before, during and upon arrival in the United Kingdom. We carried out role play interviews with journalists to capture 'our' experiences.

As mathematicians we are continuing our work on place value and have been learning to identify gaps on number lines and work out the intervals between two given numbers eg, jumps of 1, 10, 20, 100 etc.

In Forest School this week we all helped each other to create the new seating and fire pit area. It was great to see such teamwork to carry and roll the logs and planks into place and the digging team did a marvellous job moving soil to the firepit. We really look forward to seeing how this area evolves over the coming weeks.

Please can all children ensure they bring their school uniform and shoes to school on Forest School days so we can change back into them upon our return. As the weather and ground becomes wetter, we need clean, dry clothes for our afternoons in school.

Well done to Olly who was our PE superstar this week 😊



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

For home learning this week, I would like you to complete an activity about someone who travelled to the UK on 'Windrush'.

Spellings

The children will have a sheet of look, cover, write, check spellings to complete ready for a test on Friday 4th October

Star of the Week



Star of the Week

William!

William has had a lot of new things to learn since joining the school and has worked hard to listen, get used to new routines, new types of lessons and has worked really hard in all he has done. Keep it up William!



Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%
Last week's attendance was 97%
Great work but let's try and improve next week!



Butter Cove Four / Five

This week

We have had a fantastic week in Butter Cove! This week we have enjoyed continuing our learning in maths. Both year 4 and 5 have been looking at rounding numbers and I have been particularly impressed with how hard they have all listened and work when tackling this tricky concept.

As Historians, we have been looking at who the Windrush Generation are. We thought about people must have felt leaving behind their family and friends to travel on the Windrush. I loved hearing the children get into role and imagine they were taking this journey - their imagination was fantastic!

Home Learning

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

Reading

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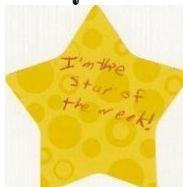
Home Learning

This week for home learning, I would like you to write a book review and be ready to share this with our class next week during our Reading lesson!

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

Nathan

Nathan always puts lots of effort into his learning. This week I have loved listening to him share his ideas with the class and contribute to class discussions. Well done Nathan!

EVERYday
counts
attendance matters

Attendance

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

Bantham Six

We have had a fantastic week of very hard work in Bantham! We have started to have a go at some SATs papers to start to become familiar with the format and see how they work, and I am so proud of the mature attitude that everyone has shown in knuckling down and doing their best!

We have started our swimming lessons this week and we had a very successful first session, and aside from our very hard work in our SATs, we have been getting creative in Science, thinking about how evolution might affect the fictional Molliebird and producing our own annotated illustrations of the changes we might notice and we have been putting ourselves in the shoes of those who travelled to the UK on *HMT Empire Windrush* by role playing interviews as if we had travelled on it, considering our reasons for coming to England.

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.

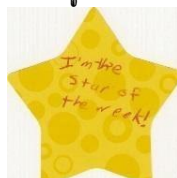
Home Learning

We have been learning about the Christian creation story in RE and we have also been learning about Darwin's Theory of Evolution in Science, so I would love for you to find out about a creation story from a different tradition and illustrate it, whether that be a storyboard or an image showing an important part of that story of creation. I'd love some beautiful artwork to put up around our classroom!

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

Charlie!

For having a fantastic attitude towards his SATs practice papers this week and making sure he tried his absolute best on all of them, even the ones that were a bit trickier! I love your quiet determination Charlie!

EVERYday
counts
attendance matters

Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%

Last week's attendance was 100%

The first of many more 100% weeks...brilliant work Bantham!