

Dear Families,

A Huge Thank You to Our School Family!

We are thrilled to unveil our brand-new play equipment today, we couldn't have done it without the incredible support of our school family and the Friends of Thurlestone School. Your hard work, generosity, and dedication in raising funds have made this dream a reality for our children.

A very special thank you goes to Mrs. Sims Stirling, whose tireless efforts in organising quotes, coordinating installation, and working closely with contractors have been instrumental in bringing this project to life. Your commitment and care are truly appreciated by us all. Here's to many happy hours of play and adventure for our children—thank you!

Have a great weekend,

Miss Coombe

### **Free school meals**

If you're struggling to pay food bills, we encourage you to check your eligibility and apply for free school meals for your child.

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. From year 3 onwards, just children whose parents are receiving certain benefits are entitled to free school meals during term time. However, parents are encouraged to apply for free school meals when they enrol their child in school, as this can help their child's school to attract additional 'pupil premium' funding to support their learning.

Some children whose parents meet the eligibility criteria and whose child attends a school nursery all day can also get a free school meal when they are two, three or four years old.

You can apply for free school meals for your child on the Devon website-

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>

you'll get an instant decision. Or you can call the education helpline on 0345 155 1019.

If you have applied unsuccessfully before and your financial circumstances have since changed, please apply again.

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)

## Key Dates Autumn Term

Event	Date / Venue
Christmas Crafternoon	6th December
Christmas Dinner	11 <sup>th</sup> December
Carols on the green	9 <sup>th</sup> December @4:30pm
Christmas Jumper Day	12th December
FTS Christmas Event	13th December
KS2 Carols (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Parents Welcome to attend)	17th December 9am All Saints Thurlestone Church
KS1 Nativity (am & pm) 10am / 1.30pm	18th December
KS2 Christmas performance 1:30pm	19th December

## 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 our focus has been.... Feelings and emotions

This week Steeple Cove have been exploring our own feelings and other people's emotions. Trying to recognise the different feelings by facial expressions that our friends are representing.

During story times the children have been sharing their own emotions and discussing why they feel them, what makes it recognisable for others to know how we are feeling. The children enjoyed colouring their colour monsters, this showed how they felt at the time and that the different colours represent different feelings.

We used the feelings post boxes to recognise the different situation on the cards, then posted them in the correct corresponding post box, the children then posted their own pictures in the boxes that they were currently feeling.

Poco Loco-

On Thursday we were joined by Mrs Brownjohn for a Poco Loco session, the children were emersed into a Spanish lesson, learning different nursery rhymes. This week we learnt- 'twinkle twinkle, five little frogs, caballito (little horse) and little chicks. We can't wait for next week.

Applying for a reception place for September 2025!

You can now apply for Primary school places for your child to start reception class in September 2025.

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020- 31st August 2021 you can apply for your Primary school place on the Gov.Uk site.

Make sure that you have applied before the closing date January 15<sup>th</sup> 2025

Apply for a primary school place - GOV.UK

As the weather is beginning to turn, please can we remind all parents to pack a waterproof coat, if you wish to bring in welly boots can you please wear or pack some shoes for inside the classroom rather than wearing welly boots in the class.

Tesco stronger start-

When you re next shopping in Kingsbridge Tesco please remember to pick up a stronger start blue coin and slot it into the Thurlestone Primary school section, the more coins we have the more money we will receive for the nursery to buy cooking equipment and resources. This will provide the children with so many more opportunities to learn cooking skills.

This week's phonics sounds have been...

Lllll- Leg

H h h- Horse



## Star of the Week!



## Star of the Week

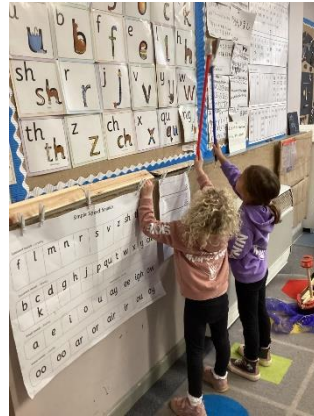
Theo

Theo is our wonderful star this week for his enthusiasm during our Poco Loco sessions, for making so much progress with his learning this term and for his amazing recognition with his phonics. You're a superstar Theo!



## Yarmer Reception / Year One

The week has flown by and the children have been fantastically busy. The craft area has been a hive of activity as the children modelled with clay, cut, stuck, painted, explored cornflour gloop and generally wowed us with their creativity and imagination. Please continue sending in your cardboard tubes, small boxes, bottle caps etc to help keep our junk modelling basket topped up – we know how much you love receiving their awesome creations! Within our maths learning, the year ones have continued their work on addition. We have been looking at word problems involving addition and you will see that this forms the basis of the maths home learning task this week. Please can we ask you to keep practising the special friends 'qu, th, ch, sh, ng and nk' as well as all the other sounds on your child's keyring. There is a lot to remember, and the more embedded these sounds are the better – keep going!



### Home Learning

Reception – Handwriting: 'r' and 'j'

Year 1 – Maths – Addition word problems

Reading in Yarmer: 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 note, Reception children will not be receiving a reading book until their newly taught phonic knowledge is fully embedded. Instead, they will be choosing library books for you to share with them. We will endeavour to visit the library each Friday.

RWInc reading books due in: Thursday

Library reading books due in: Thursday

New reading books: Friday

**EVERY**day  
counts  
attendance matters

#### **Attendance**

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

#### **Star of the Week**

Lotty

Your kindness, your positivity, your eagerness, your thoughtfulness, your determination and your joyous nature have shone through especially bright this week. Keep being you. You are such an asset to Yarmer class!



# Leas Foot Year One / Two

## Home Learning

We've been practicing for the Nativity, working together with enthusiasm and focus to bring this special performance to life. As mathematicians, we have been deepening our skills with number lines and learning how to estimate on them.

As writers, we've been learning about 'down letters' in handwriting, carefully practicing to ensure our letters are neat and correctly formed. We've also explored past tense action verbs and identified subjects in Sentence Builders, honing our grammar and sentence structure. To top it off, we've mastered a new spelling rule—our word wizardry is growing stronger every day!

As reflective thinkers in R.E., we've written our very own prayers, expressing love, forgiveness, and peace in our words.

As scientists, we predicted which materials would be waterproof to help poor Incy Wincy Spider stay dry. Our experiments were full of curiosity and discovery!

As historians, we delved into the dramatic story of the Spanish Armada, uncovering Sir Francis Drake's daring role and understanding the significance of his actions in shaping history.

It's been a wonderful week of learning and growing—well done, everyone!

### Homework:

Autumn 2 maths mat (4) + spellings

Following on from Miss Coombe introducing our new spelling approach, we will no longer be carrying out a weekly spelling test. Children are being taught the spelling rules and patterns in class with a handful of focus words each week. Children may also generate their own extra words that fit the rule. We will be sending home a sample of words that we have been learning in school to allow families to support their child in learning that spelling rule.

Children can practise learning the words as usual, they can write them out on their own, or maybe as part of a sentence. They can also write sentences that their families dictate to them to help them embed the spellings.

RWInc reading books due in: Thursday

Library reading books due in: Thursday

Home learning due in: Thursday

ART: For our upcoming art lessons, it would be great if each child can have an apron or old shirt to help protect their clothing. If possible, please send one in with your child that they can keep it at school for our creative projects—thank you!

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### Attendance

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### Star of the Week

Angus

Angus consistently works hard in class, always listening carefully to his teacher and giving his best effort. This week, we are especially proud of the amazing progress he has made with his writing, including neater handwriting, thoughtful sentence structure, and improved spelling.



## Sedgewell Cove Three / Four

### This Week

Sedgewell have been working really hard to plan their Big Write this week which is going to be a persuasive holiday brochure enticing people to visit the South Hams. We are full of ideas as to how to persuade them and are excited to plan, draft and publish our writing.

As mathematicians we have been continuing to learn how to subtract using the column subtraction method. This is particularly tricky now that we are exchanging numbers across different columns – please support your child with this crucial mathematical skill as it opens the door to so many Maths problems and questions.

As Historians we have been exploring the rich and diverse history of Exeter and completed a timeline which mapped events from when it was founded in the year 55, to the opening of the first mosque in 1977.

In PE this week we were creating routines in small groups with set poses, holds and movements that we needed to incorporate and then link together. The children worked really well together, and it was lovely to see them proudly share these routines in front of each other.



### 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 a Maths activity demonstrating your continued learning on column subtraction.

#### Spellings

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### Star of the Week

Kit

Kit has been working really hard to try to understand exchanging when subtracting and myself and Mrs Game have been really delighted with his efforts. Keep up the good work Kit – it's paying off!



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# Butter Cove Four / Five

## This week

This week in Butter Cove we have had another fantastic week!

This week in Science we looked at how we could separate different solutions. We learnt that solutions can be brought back to their original state by using heat to evaporate water (for example salt water) or filtering using filter paper. We then explored reversible and irreversible changes, including how when we combine bicarbonate of soda and vinegar it releases a gas making it an irreversible change and melting butter can be reversed by cooling it down.

During our writing lessons this week, the children have worked incredibly hard to plan and draft their own persuasive adverts. I have been really impressed with the ideas that they have shared and the resilience shown when editing their writing. I can't wait to read their final independent writes! Well done Butter Cove.

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### Home Learning

This week I have set a handwriting task.

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 <p><b>Attendance</b></p> <p>Our attendance target is 98% Last week's attendance was 96% Let's try and improve next week!</p>	<p><b>Star of the Week</b></p> <p>Otis</p> <p>This week Otis has amazed me with his resilience and hard work in maths, when tackling challenging maths questions. Keep it up!</p>

# Bantham Six

A great week in Bantham! We have had our last Forest School session (though we will catch up with our two missed sessions later in the year) and were very lucky to have a dry afternoon so we could enjoy our toasted marshmallows without getting drenched!

We have learned all about the human eye this week and were absolutely fascinated to find that our retina reflects the image we see whenever we look at something upside down, and then it travels down the optic nerve for our brain to flip it the right way up. We also experienced how our brain responds when it gets confused by the images being sent from the eyes by looking at some truly mindblowing optical illusions. In PE we have been working in groups to come up with our own gymnastics routines which are looking really good, and in English we have finished writing our amazing persuasive speeches and are looking forward to sharing them as a class.

## Home Learning

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

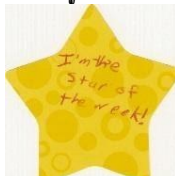
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### Home Learning

We are really getting into SATs practice now and most weeks I will be sending home more SATs-type homework. These will mostly be 10 minute tests (which you can time if you like) so they do not take up lots of time but will be really helpful in the long run. I will also send home more creative homework when I can! This week's homework is a 10 minute spelling and vocab test which we will go through next Friday (6<sup>th</sup> December).

### Star of the Week!



### Star of the Week

Ali!

Ali is someone who finds writing very tricky, but she really wanted to challenge herself to handwrite her latest piece of writing. She worked SO hard to keep her handwriting neat so she could read it back and to make sure she had corrected her spellings and it absolutely blew me away! Thank you for your super effort with your writing Ali – I am very proud of you!

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Lets try and reach our target next week!