

# Thorney Tribune

## Thorney Island CP School

### Newsletter No 1

#### September 2024

September 2024

Dear Parents, Governors and Friends

Welcome to the new school year and to the first newsletter of the Autumn Term. I hope you all had a relaxing summer holiday. I would like to give a very warm welcome to the many new children who have joined our school, as well as to their parents. I am really looking forward to the exciting and fresh challenges that lay ahead of us and in helping all our learners to achieve their potential.

#### STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS

<b>6 September</b>		<b>13 September</b>	
Osprey Class	- Ivy Billups	Owl Class	- Willow Wilkinson
Falcon Class	- Elsie-Belle Edmonds	Osprey Class	- Josaia Daumeke
Kestrel Class	- James Morgan	Falcon Class	- Nelliah Jackson
Merlin Class	- Jacob King	Kestrel Class	- Daisy Dallimore
Hawk Class	- Edmund Bulmer	Merlin Class	- Heidi Baldwin
Eagle Class	- Max Hatton	Hawk Class	- Ellie-Mae Atkinson
		Eagle Class	- Holly Joyce

#### **Gifts and Cards - Last Term**

On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank all of those who sent in presents and cards at the end of last term. The messages written in the cards were especially welcomed by staff and your acknowledgement of their hard work and dedication much appreciated. Some of the gifts were very personalised and have been displayed around school.

#### **Harvest Festival**

This year's Harvest Festival assemblies will take place on Thursday 17 October at 9.15am for Owl, Osprey, Falcon & Kestrel Classes and 2.30pm for Merlin, Hawk & Eagle Classes. This year our Harvest will be supporting Chichester District Foodbank who provide food for families in our local area who are struggling.

The Foodbank are in urgent need of the following items:

Tinned fruit, rice pudding, custard, sponge pudding  
 Tinned meat, fish, vegetables, soup  
 Biscuits, snack bars, muesli bars  
 Readymade sauce (jars)

Shampoo, conditioner, shaving gel  
 UHT milk, fruit juice, squash  
 Toilet roll, kitchen roll  
 Baby toiletries, baby food (not milk)

All donations should be brought into school on the day of the Harvest.

## Armed Forces Families Fund

I would like to take this opportunity to thank The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust for their continued support of the children at our school. This funding allows the school to provide additional emotional support for children as well as supporting other curriculum initiatives. This year we will be working with other local schools to ensure they can provide the support for service families and children that we do. This year's bid was all about working more closely with locality schools and sharing our expertise. As such we will be working with Southbourne Junior School, Southbourne Infant School and Chidham Parochial Primary School.



## Class Meetings + Class Curriculum Letters

I would like to thank parents for attending this term's Class Meetings; the turnout was exceptionally good. These meetings enable teachers to explain class routines etc. and it gives parents an opportunity to put a teachers face to a name. I know working parents may find it difficult to attend these events at the start of each year and this is why we produce Class Curriculum Letters each Half Term; the link to these can be found here: <http://www.thorneyislandcps.org.uk/Curriculum%20Letters.html>

The relationship between school and parents is a vital one and any feedback on how we could improve these meetings would be welcome.

## School Improvement Priorities

**Priority 1:** To effectively implement the schools new Behaviour Policy.

**TARGET:** The policy will be being used consistently leading to an increase in outstanding behaviour and attitudes to learning across the school as outlined in the current Ofsted Inspection Handbook.

**Priority 2:** To improve continuity and progression between year groups.

**TARGET:** There will be greater consistency in learning and assessments between year groups.

**Priority 3:** To ensure every child is equipped with the vocabulary key to unlock their life-long potential.

**TARGET:** To increase the children's understanding and use of vocabulary.

Alongside the School Improvement Priorities each subject has a range of priorities to achieve. Our main focus this year it is to improve children' use of subject specific vocabulary.

## Cycle Helmets

If children have these, please can they be encouraged to wear them when they cycle to school. This would be much appreciated. This week one child cycled straight across the road without looking and was just being missed by a car!

## Car Parking

After a lot of discussions with Station Command and both Regiments **the shop car park will re-open on Wednesday**. We are working closely with the Provo Staff to ensure the children are kept safe which is everyone's number one priority. Please could parents be very careful when driving near the school. There have been a few near misses recently. We are trying to reinforce road safety messages with the children and your support with this at home would be much appreciated.

## Water Bottles

We have noticed that the water bottles children are bringing into school are getting bigger and bigger. Having access to drinking water is vital to help keep children hydrated, something that is key to supporting concentration. We encourage all children to bring a water bottle into school and ask that it holds no more than 500mls of water and has either a 'sports top' or attached flip-lid to stop work being damaged should it be knocked over. Water bottles can be topped up in school throughout the day. We do ask that fashion bottles, e.g. Stanley Cups or Air Up Bottles are not brought into school.



Examples of suitable water bottles

Your co-operation in this matter would be much appreciated.

## Health and Safety - Nut Products

We request that peanuts or products that may contain peanuts are not brought into school as we have a few children who may suffer severe allergic reactions if they come into contact with them. This has happened once in my time at Thorney and although we have Epi-pens in school and staff are trained to use them, it is not an experience I would like to repeat.

## Medicines in School

With the exception of paracetamol and antihistamine, any medicines brought into school for your child to take during the school day, **must be prescribed by a doctor, in the original packaging and with your child's name clearly marked on it. Medicine should be handed into the school office by a parent/carer**, where it will be kept in a locked cabinet/fridge. If you would like a member of staff to administer a prescribed medicine to your child, you must complete a Consent Form that is available from the school office. The school **cannot** accept a verbal instruction or instruction from a child to administer medicine. **Only medication that has to be administered more than 3 times a day should be brought into school** (exemptions apply, see Medicines in School Policy for further information).

## Book Bags, Reading Books & PE Kits

Book Bags should be brought to school every day. Remember we can only do so much in school; your support is vital if your child is going to make expected progress.

Staff are also concerned that many children do not have their PE Kits in school. Please can you ensure that your child brings their PE Kit to school every Monday, they will then bring it home on Friday to be washed.

## Congratulations Mrs Day

We are pleased to be able to tell you that Mrs Day gave birth to a healthy baby boy on Sunday 1 September at 11.46am. Ezra Harry Day weighed a healthy 6lb 4oz. Both mummy and baby are doing well.



## Sickness Absence

If your child is ill and unable to come to school, please telephone the office before 9.30am. If you do not inform us of the reason why your child is absent from school, they will receive an unauthorised absence mark in the Register. Please inform us of any medical/dental appointments before they are due. If possible, these should be made outside of school hours.

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild illnesses. These would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. We have been asked by the Chief Medical Officer to share the following document with you that has been produced by the NHS. [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#)

## Behaviour Policy

Please note that this Policy can be found on the school's website. The government has requested that we send an annual reminder to parents about this. The Policy clearly sets out our expectations and the actions we will take if children do not behave as expected. The behaviour of the vast majority of children at our school is outstanding. Unfortunately, on occasion, a few children do not behave as expected but they are soon helped to achieve our expectations by both staff and their peers. Your support with promoting outstanding behaviour at school is always much appreciated.

## Free School Meals Eligibility

Is your family income below £16,190 per year and/or you are in receipt of Universal Credit (with no element of Working Tax Credit)? If the answer is yes, your child(ren) may be eligible to receive Free School Meals (FSM)?

Registering for FSM could also raise an extra **£1,480** for our school.

This applies to all children, including children in Years R - 2 who automatically receive Universal Infant Free School Meals.

### Applying for Free School Meals

All FSM applications must be in electronic format. All information and the new form is available on [free schools meals](#). If you require any further information, please contact either Mrs McCrossan at the school or email the FSM team at [fsm@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:fsm@westsussex.gov.uk)

## School Uniform

I would like to say a big thank you to all parents for their effort in adhering to school uniform rules. The children look very smart and are a credit to you. New parents visiting the school, as well as staff, have commented on this. However, **please remember to name everything**. You would be surprised at how many children who have lost a jumper, when asked if it had their name in say, "No but its RED!"

**Please can you also check that your child brings their own jumper home.** Mistakes are easily made and children often arrive at school without a jumper but end up taking a friend's home by accident; after a hard day's work this is easily done. If you do get the wrong jumper brought home, please return it as soon as possible - your child's jumper will most probably be in lost property or a friend will be wearing it! With your help we can soon sort this out.

## MCaS (My Child at School)

Communicating with parents is an important part of what we do, making sure you get the correct information about school news, activities and things that really matter is something we care about. We use MCaS to send out our newsletter, information about trips, visits & events and notify parents about exceptional events, i.e. emergency school closure.

Registering with MCaS is very easy; just look out for an activation email inviting you to set up a password; it really is as simple as that. Once registered we recommend you download the My Child at School app via the App Store.

## Attendance and Term Time Holidays

For some time now, Headteachers have not been able to grant authorised leave for children to take time off school for term time holidays other than in exceptional circumstances. In August 2024 the Department for Education issued new guidance regarding attendance and changes to education-related Penalty Notices for unauthorised attendance. Information about this was sent out to all parents at the beginning of term; if you did not receive this, please request a copy from the School Office.

Any parent wishing to request leave for their child/children should complete a 'Removal from Learning' form available from the School Office.

## INSET Days 2024/2025

The INSET Days for 2024/2025 are:

Friday 25 October 2024

Monday 04 November 2024

Monday 24 February 2025

Friday 23 May 2025

Monday 23 June 2025

Please make a note of these dates as children DO NOT attend school on these days.

### **School Photographer**

The school photographer will be in school on Thursday 26 September. All children will be photographed individually, with their siblings and in class groups.

### **Asda's Cashpot for Schools (2 Sept - 30 Nov 2024)**

Do you shop at Asda? Do you use the Asda Rewards app? Did you know that every time you shop at Asda and select Thorney Island Community Primary School on your Rewards app, Asda will put 0.5% of the value of the shop into our Cashpot. For every customer who chooses our school, Asda will also donate £1.00 into the Cashpot.

### **Dates for your Diary - Please see attached sheet**

Yours sincerely

Dean Clegg  
Headteacher

## DIARY DATES

16 September	Eagle Class - Bikeability - all week
16 September	Owl Class - Monster Phonics Dress Up Day
16 September	Osprey Class - Fairy Tale Dress Up Day & Teddy Bears Picnic
17 September	Owl Class - Phonics Meeting - 2.30pm in the Hall
18 September	Kestrel Class to Tuppeny Barn
26 September	School Photographer
27 September	Merlin Class to Marwell Zoo
03 October	Owl, Osprey and Falcon Classes 'Book at Bedtime' - 4.00pm-5.00pm
09 October	Osprey Class - Fairy Tale Reading with Parents
11 October	Eagle Class to Fort Nelson
14 October	Football Tournament
15 October	Merlin Class - Wear it Wild Day
16 October	Kestrel Class Super Hero Dress-up Day
17 October	Harvest Festival - 9.15am - Owl, Osprey, Falcon and Kestrel Classes Harvest Festival - 2.15pm - Merlin, Hawk, and Eagle Classes
18 October	Eagle Class - Roman Banquet
21 October	International Week - No after-school clubs this week
21 October	Flu vaccination/nasal spray - whole school - more details to follow
21 October	Netball Tournament
23 October	Parents Evening
24 October	Parents Evening
25 October	INSET Day - children do not attend school on this day
04 November	INSET Day - children do not attend school on this day
07 November	Eagle Class - SAT's Meeting with Parents - 2.30pm
08 November	School Disco
11 November	Netball Tournament
13 November	Owl Class Play & Share with parents 2.00pm
15 November	Hawk Class to The Planetarium, Chichester
15 November	Children in Need
18 November	Girls Football Tournament
29 November	Rainbow Theatre performing Cinderella - whole school
03 December	Clarinet Assembly - Merlin Class
10 December	Nativity - Owl & Merlin Classes - 9.30am
11 December	Carol Service - Hawk & Eagle Class - 9.15am
11 December	Christmas Performance - Osprey, Falcon & Kestrel Classes - 2.15pm
12 December	Christmas Performance - Osprey, Falcon & Kestrel Classes - 9.15am
12 December	Nativity - Owl & Merlin Classes - 2.00pm
13 December	Carol Service - Hawk & Eagle Classes - 2.30pm
19 December	Christmas Parties

### Term Date 2023/2024

02 September 2024	Start of Autumn Term
28 October 2024	Half Term
20 December 2024	End of Autumn Term - Break up for Christmas Holiday
06 January 2025	Start of Spring Term
17-21 February 2025	Half Term
04 April 2025	End of Spring Term - Break up for Easter Holiday
22 April 2025	Start of Summer Term
26-30 May 2025	Half Term
22 July 2025	End of Summer Term - Break up for Summer Holiday