



# NEWSLETTER

September 20th 2024

no.3

Dear Families

The children are well and truly settled back into the school year and the rhythms and routines of school life are almost all up and running. There will be a letter going out soon about after school clubs.

I wanted to take a moment to share some important updates regarding our homework approach this year. Based on your valuable feedback, we have refined our homework policy to better support our children's learning while considering your preferences.

This year, children will be bringing home a reading book which should be logged in their reading record. Encouraging daily reading not only aids comprehension but also nurtures a love for literature. Alongside this, we will continue with spellings and ensure that students utilise Times Tables Rock Stars to enhance their mathematical skills.

We have also sent out creative learning opportunities, which we believe will capture the children's imaginations and allow them to explore topics in more depth. These activities are designed to be engaging and can be completed without the need for screens, as we understand the importance of balancing device time with other forms of learning.

The adjustments we have made aim to reduce the amount of homework that requires the use of devices, reflecting your feedback regarding screen time. We hope this balance allows for not only educational growth but also quality family time.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Bray

## **Snack time**

At Thameside Primary we are a healthy school so can I please remind you of the following: **Foundation and Key Stage 1** children receive a free piece of fruit or portion of vegetables as part of the Government

School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme for their tuck at playtime. **Key Stage 2** children can bring in a healthy snack from home. Healthy snacks could include: fruit, raisins, cheese, vegetables or

yogurt. Please note that grapes need to be cut in half. Also children should have a fresh bottle of water in school every day. Bottles should be taken home each day to be cleaned and refilled. Facilities are available in school where children can refill them at lunchtime and playtimes.



## **Year 6 Applications for Secondary School**

If your child was born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 you must apply for their secondary school place between 1 September 2024 and 31 October 2024. Applications received after the closing date are treated as late applications. This means there will be far less chance of your child being offered a place at the school you want. Please go to the Thurrock admissions page to apply for your place.

<https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/secondary-school-admissions/applying-for-secondary-school-place>

There is a list of secondary school open evenings at the end of this newsletter.

## ***Our Co-operative Values:***

***Self Help, Self Responsibility, Democracy, Equality, Equity, & Solidarity.***

## Going on around school.....

### Reception

Reception children have settled well into school, enjoyed exploring the inside and outside environments, making new friends and learning all about 'Me and My Community.'

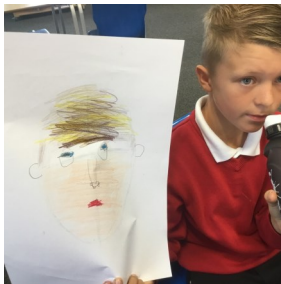
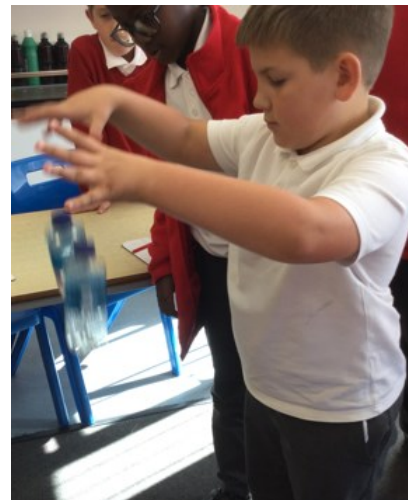


### Nursery

The children have settled into Nursery life at TPS really well. They have had a wonderful first week making new friends, exploring their nursery environment and getting to know their new routine. This week the children have been talking about which activities they enjoy most in Nursery.

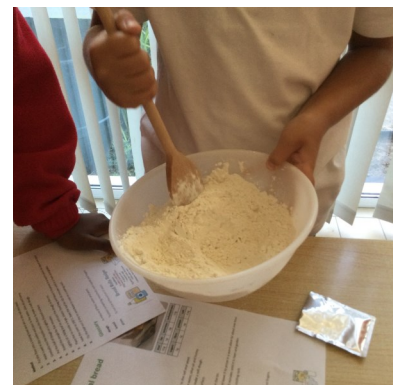
### Year 5

As part of our Science learning in Year 5, we investigated the impact of gravitational force on different objects. We had to drop a bean bag to the ground. We had to describe how the Earth's gravity is acting on the bean bag. We also re-created Galileo Galilei's scientific discovery by dropping two identically shaped spheres of different masses to prove that objects of the same shape accelerate towards the Earth at the same rate. We really enjoyed our practical Science investigation.



### Year 6

In Year 6's D.T lesson on bread making, students compared shop-bought bread to fresh homemade bread. They practised skills like kneading, mixing, and measuring ingredients. They explored the differences in texture, taste and process while learning about the techniques involved in bread production.



### Stepping Stones

The children have settled in well and worked on drawing their portraits.

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## Going on around school.....

### Year 4

As part of our new Ark Maths curriculum we have been looking at place value and different visual representations. We have been talking with our partners and then completing a range of activities.



### Footsteps 2

In social skills, Footsteps 2 collected leaves and made a tree collage.

### Year 3

Year 3 have started off the year learning about healthy eating in DT. We have been practicing our peeling and cutting skills and we even made Rata-touille this week!



One of our pupil's, Olivia, met Mo Farah last weekend! The event was the first ever Mo Miniathlon which was organised by Sir Mo Farah and held at Lee Valley. Olivia represented Thurrock Harriers and took part in three events; she came away with two PB's in the 60m and 200m and achieved a silver medal overall in the under 9 girls category.

Well done Olivia!

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## Coffee Morning

Thameside Primary are working with other schools in the Osborne Co-operative as part of the Schools Partnership Programme. Through the Schools Partnership Programme, schools are placed into groups of three and help each other to improve. We decided we would like to think about how parents and carers can become more involved in their children's learning.

On Tuesday 24th September, Kelly Voss, a senior teacher at Horndon on the Hill and Ian Broyd, the headteacher at Little Thurrock Primary, will be carrying out a review at Thameside to understand how Thameside Primary can improve in the area of parental engagement.

Kelly and Ian need to hear your views, which they would like to gather in the following ways:

At 8:35 am, Kelly and Ian will be on gate duty with members of Thameside staff and would welcome talking to you.

They will also be holding a coffee morning at 9 am at Thameside school which again they would like as many parents and carers as possible to attend.

As another way of gathering views, we would appreciate it if you would complete this short survey

<https://forms.office.com/e/QwDsViTaZ6>



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# Dinner Menu


**Week 3** WEEK COMMENCING - 29th April, 20th May, 17th June, 8th July, 2nd September, 23rd September, 14th October.

Day	Menu 1	Menu 2	Menu 3	Menu 4	Menu 5	Menu 6
Monday	Quorn Hot Dog With Potato Cubes	Potato Gnocchi Pasta in a Tomato & Basil Sauce	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Sweetcorn Cobette	Seasonal Salad Bar	Frozen Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Chicken Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce With Spaghetti Pasta	Vegan Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce With Spaghetti Pasta	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Mixed vegetables	Seasonal Salad Bar	Banana Sponge
Wednesday	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy	Quorn Plait with Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Carrots	Seasonal Salad Bar	Fruit Jelly
Thursday	Cheese & Tomato Pizza With New Potatoes	Spanish Omelette With New Potatoes	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Sweetcorn	Seasonal Salad Bar	Lemon Drizzle Cake
Friday	Fish Fingers With Chips	Vegetable Fingers With Chips	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Peas	Seasonal Salad Bar	Fruit Cocktail

Gluten Free    Vegan    Additional daily foods available: Wholemeal bread, Jacket Potato Fillings (Cheese, Tuna Mayo)

## Congratulations! Well done for their effort and resilience

A reminder that each week a pupil is selected by the class teacher as a star learner, possibly a pupil who has demonstrated the Co-op values across the week in their learning and been a positive role model to the other pupils in the class.

	EYFS Stars	KS1 Stars	KS2 Stars	
	Nursery - Elon RT - Ahmad RM - Sarah RH - Jayson RB - Jolie-Marie FS - Elisa	1L - Reuben 1A - Melissa 1JP - Archie 1M - Emaan 2S - Jenson 2SU - Harper 2M - Kelise 2B - Adam FSMH - Marcus FS.H - Laily	3N - Mirsad 3C - Daria 3W - 3P - Isla 4R - Antonia 4MU - Gyuney 4MA - Ibraheem 4AD - Edjon  FS2 - Isabella	5CL - Tautvilas 5A - Siyana 5B - Simi 5CH - Darius 6S - Alan 6M - Archie 6SP - Mustafa 6R - Inayah  Stepping Stones - Billy



### Attendance

Please note, when pupils are absent for 3 or more consecutive days without parent contact, we may complete a home welfare check. All pupils who are absent for 3 or more days may be required to provide medical evidence

#### This week the Attendance Awards have been awarded to:

KS1	2S	99%	Mrs Simmons
Lower KS2	4R	98%	Ms Rippon
Upper KS2	6Sp	100%	Miss Spradbery
<b>Whole School attendance</b>		<b>94.5%</b>	

### Punctuality

It is very important that all children arrive on time. School doors open at 8.40am every morning. If your child arrives after 8.50am then they are late and they will not be able to come into school via the usual morning entrance doors but should instead come through the main school entrance. Your child will then need to sign in using our electronic signing in system. We will then be able to amend the registers and ensure your child is marked for a school dinner.

Please note that if your children arrive at school later than 9.20am, we are required to mark them as absent for that half day session.

If children are regularly late, a parent will be expected to attend a meeting to look at how punctuality can be improved.

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## School Rewards

Teams	Emerald	Ruby	Sapphire	Diamond
Dojo points earned this week	1943	1839	1920	2060
Total Dojo points this year so far	4342	4035	3886	3933
Praise cards awarded this week	37			
Total praise cards awarded this academic year	37			

## Sports Stars of the Week



Reception	Raphaella O, Ollie C, Patrick N, Zachary N
Year 1	Blakely S, Eddie H, Desire I, Irina A
Year 2	Alfie G, Isaac M, Albie E, Emran S
Year 3	Harry W, Peighton C, Reagan P, Evelyn M
Year 4	Abdulmuqet W, Junayed A, Levi H, Owen L
Year 5	Aron S, Zofia J, Nusaiba N, Kaona S
Year 6	Lacey – Lyn W, Dennis B, Ruby-Ann D, Emilia D

## Class Dojo Champions

### These children have earned the most dojo points in their class this week

EYFS Champs	KS1 Champs	KS2 Champs	
Nursery – Ivy and River RT – Ayah and Hezekiah RM - Nathan and Izabelle G RH – Meta and Cclean RB – Reuel and Freya  FS – Aisha	1L – Anastasia and Legend 1A – Ilinca and Jeremy 1JP – Desire and Oliver F 1M – Ruqayah and Leonardo 2S – Matilda and Muhammad M 2SU – Iyamin and Munachiso 2M – Yussef and Elena 2B – Saahas and Connie  FSMH – Kyro FS.H – Aedan	3N – Mackenzie and Olivia 3C – Aahil and Gracie 3W – Evelyn and Logan 3P – Antonia and Matei 4R – Jacob and Vikki 4MU – Suprajit and Lexi 4MA – Zahira and Raian 4AD – Alex and Amelia  FS2 – Isabella and Vladut	5CL – Reggie and Sofia B 5A - Emmauella and Desta 5B – Emma and Robbie 5CH – Testimony and Zofia 6S – Kipras and Bella 6M – Sienna and Ignas 6SP – Mara and Levi 6R – Maddison and Rillie  Stepping Stones - Dylan

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## Dates for your diary



	Date	Year Group	Event
<b>September</b>	25.09.24	Year 5	Bikeability
	26/27.09.24	Year 1	Scooter training
	27.09.24	Year 3/4	Cross Country
<b>October</b>	01.10.24	All	SEND Coffee morning
	02.10.24	Year 2	Local walk
	04.10.24	Year 5/6	Cross Country
	10.10.24	Whole School	Hello Yellow Day
	11.10.24	Year 3/4	Mixed Football
	15/16.10.24	All	Parents Evening
	18.10.24	Year 5/6	Tag Rugby
	21.10.24-01.11.24	ALL	HALF TERM
<b>November</b>	08.11.24	KS2	SEN Boccia & Curling
	14.11.24	Whole School	Individual Photos
	15.11.24	KS1	Mixed Football
	15.11.24	Whole School	Children in Need Day
	29.11.24	Year 5/6	Basketball
<b>December</b>	06.12.24		Panathlon
	17.12.24	EYFS/KS1/ Year 3	Christmas Dinner
	19.12.24	Year 4/5/6	Christmas Dinner
	20.12.24	Whole School	Christmas Jumper Day
	23.12.24—06.01.25	ALL	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

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## Open evenings and days

School	Address	Phone	Type	Ages	Places	Opens evenings and days
Grays Convent High School	College Avenue, Grays, RM17 5UX	01375 376 173	Voluntary-aided	11-16	124	<b>Tuesday 1 October 2024, 6pm to 8pm.</b> Personal tours are available by contacting Mrs L Albrow by email at <a href="mailto:admin@graysconvent.thurrock.sch.uk">admin@graysconvent.thurrock.sch.uk</a> or by phoning 01375 376 173
Harris Academy Chafford Hundred	Mayflower Road, Chafford Hundred, Grays, RM16 6SA	01375 484 580	Academy	11-19	180	<b>Thursday 19 September 2024, 4pm to 7pm.</b> Further details will be available on the school's website.
Harris Academy Ockendon	Erriff Drive, South Ockendon, RM15 5AY	01708 851 661	Academy	11-19	240	<b>Thursday 26 September 2024.</b>
Harris Academy Riverside	London Road, Purfleet-on-Thames, RM19 1QY	01375 802 060	Free School	11-19	180	<b>Thursday 3 October 2024.</b>
Ormiston Park Academy	Belhus Park Lane, Aveley, South Ockendon, RM15 4RU	01708 865 180	Academy	11-19	150	<b>Thursday 3 October 2024.</b>
Orsett Heath Academy	Oakfield, Long Lane, Grays, RM16 2QH	01375 802 800	Academy	11-16	240	<b>Wednesday 2 October 2024, from 5pm to 9pm.</b> Talks by the head teacher will be at 6pm, 7pm and 8pm.
Ortu Gable Hall School	Southend Road, Corringham, SS17 8JT	01375 400 800	Academy	11-19	210	<b>Tuesday 24 September 2024.</b>
Ortu Hassenbrook Academy	Hassenbrook Road, Stanford-le-Hope, SS17 0NS	01375 671 566	Academy	11-16	150	<b>Monday 24 September 2024, from 5pm to 7pm.</b> Speeches will be at 5pm and 6:30pm

School	Address	Phone	Type	Ages	Places	Opens evenings and days
St Clare's School	Butts Lane, Stanford-le-Hope, SS17 0NW	01375 641 001	Academy	11-18	240	<b>Wednesday 25 September 2024.</b>
Thames Park Secondary School	Chadwell Road, Grays, RM17 5FP	01375 470 790	Academy	11-16	180	<b>Thursday 10 October 2024, evening.</b>
The Gateway Academy	Marshfoot Road, Grays, RM16 4LU	01375 489 000	Academy	11-16	210	<b>Wednesday 11 September 2024, 9am to 11am – group guided tours, 6pm to 8pm – open evening for all.</b> Tours are available every Friday at 8:45am and 9:15am from Friday 13 September until Friday 18 October 2024.
The Hathaway Academy	Hathaway Road, Grays, RM17 5LL	01375 371 361	Academy	11-16	112	<b>Tuesday 17 September 2024, 5pm to 7pm.</b>
William Edwards School	Stifford Clays Road, Stifford Clays, Grays, RM16 3NJ	01375 486 000	Academy	11-16	210	<b>Thursday 12 September 2024, 5pm to 9pm.</b> Talks by the head teacher will be at 6pm, 7pm and 8pm.

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