

The Swan's Bill

Friday 19th September
2025

Headteacher's Message

Dear families,

I am sure you will agree we are truly back into the school routine and the summer break feels like a distant memory. Of course, from our point of view - that's certainly not a bad thing! Children are collaborating, thinking deeply and learning every day, which is wonderful to see.

We are delighted that many children have now accessed our new library. We want to use this space to foster a love of reading throughout the school and encourage our students to read many different genres of books and widen their knowledge. It is well documented that improvement in reading is closely linked to improvement across all subjects.

Please remember to look at the FACE timetable which outlines all of the free advice and online training that is available to families through our school. There is a lot of helpful information available within this series and I'd encourage families to make the most of it.

You will hopefully have seen the information on the 'Meet the Teacher' meetings which take place next week. We hope to see as many people as possible there for an opportunity to learn more about the year ahead and ask any questions to school staff.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.
Mr Collin



Classroom Learning

Nursery

Next week we will be reading 'Monkey Puzzle' and learning about different families and making family portraits

Reception

Next week, Reception will be learning the new sounds "t, i, n, p, g" in Phonics. In Maths, they will be learning how to identify a set and to match pictures and numbers together. We shall be reading the story "Monkey Puzzle".

Year 1

Next week in English we will be continuing to write our character description for Beegu. In Maths we will be looking at 'one more' and 'one less.' We will continue to learn about different activities that take place in each season in Science

Year 2

Next week we will be learning how to write in first person in English to recount the story The Bear Under the Stairs. In Maths we will be looking at adding a single digit number to a two digit number.

Year 3

In Maths, Year 3 are going to continue to consolidate their understanding of Place Value. In English we are moving onto a new text, Heart in a Bottle. Well done on some lovely writing, describing settings in Leon and the Place Between. We really enjoyed learning about the skills needed in netball and hoping to play some games next week.

Year 4

Next week, we'll be building flexibility in Maths by exploring different ways to partition numbers. In English, suspense takes centre stage as The Iron Man reappears from the ocean. Our young writers will be crafting thrilling narratives from the fisherman's point of view. In Comprehension, we'll shift from retrieval to inference, using clues from How Does a Lighthouse Work to deepen our understanding, while continuing to practise answering in full sentences. And in Science, we're diving into the digestive system, just in time to prepare for the Harvest Festival and learn what really happens to our food!

Year 5

Next week, we will be exploring the fascinating life and accomplishments of Philippe Petit by reading his biography. In Maths, we will practise rounding numbers up to 100,000. In Geography, we will investigate why the Alps attract so many visitors. In addition, in Science, we will create a diagram to illustrate how sieving works.

Year 6

In English, we will continue writing our suspense stories. The children have worked hard planning them this week, ensuring they include a variety of writing features.

In Maths, we'll be focusing on the four operations and revisiting key Year 5 concepts to challenge and consolidate understanding.


A reminder that all homework is set online:

English and Maths: via IbQ

Spelling: via Purple Mash

Please encourage your child to complete their homework, practice their spellings, and read regularly.

If you have any queries, feel free to contact us via Studybugs.

 Monday After School: We'll be hosting a brief welcome meeting in the classroom to outline expectations and learning for the year ahead. We look forward to seeing you there!



House points

The pupils here are awarded house points for all manner of things that they do well.

Each week they are counted up by our House Captains and the winning house announced in assembly.

Congratulations go to King John who earned the most house points this week!

1st - King John with 138 points

2nd - Langton with 117 points

3rd - Fitzwalter with 91 points

4th - Pope with 83 points



Changes to 2026-2027 Term Dates

Surrey have announced that from September 2026, community and voluntary controlled schools in Surrey will have a two-week autumn half term. To make this change, five days will be taken from the summer holiday in July 2027.

Attendance

Attendance is very important to us. Under the Education Act (1996), parents in England have a legal duty to ensure their child attends school, to get a full-time education between the school term after their 5th birthday and the last Friday in June in the school year they turn 16.

Penalty notices will be issued by Surrey County Council if there are 10 unauthorised absences within 10 weeks, or if attendance does not improve once a 'Notice to Improve' has been issued by the school.

You can support your child's physical, social and mental wellbeing by ensuring they are in school everyday.

If you have any questions about your child's attendance then please do come and speak to the office, or alternatively Mr Turner or Miss Nickless.

This week's attendance figures are:

Reception - 97.8% - This week's winners!

Year 1 - 91.3%

Year 2 - 89.7%

Year 3 - 92.6%

Year 4 - 97.2%

Year 5 - 94.4%

Year 6 - 91%

Overall - 93.3%

Star of the Week

This week's winners are:

Nursery - Orla

Reception - Eva

Year 1 - Arlo

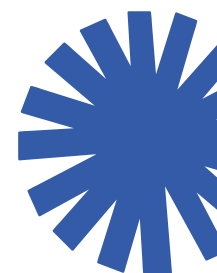
Year 2 - Esha

Year 3 - Matas

Year 4 - Evie

Year 5 - William

Year 6 - Evie



Upcoming Events

Monday 22nd September

Year 6 Meet the Teacher 3.15 – 3.30pm

Tuesday 23rd September

Nursery & Reception Meet the Teacher 3.15 – 3.30pm

Wednesday 24th September

Year 2 & Year 3 Meet the Teacher 3.15 – 3.30pm

Wednesday 24th September

Reception 2026 Open Afternoon

Thursday 25th September

Year 1, Year 4 & Year 5
Meet the Teacher
3.15 – 3.30pm



Value of the Week

This week's winners demonstrated **CREATIVITY** throughout their learning:

Nursery – Anay

Reception – Poppy

Year 1 – Blake

Year 2 – Luca

Year 3 – Isla

Year 4 – Ellis

Year 5 – Charlie

Year 6 – Alex

Our School Site

Please see the final page of this newsletter for an update of the works that took place at Thorpe Lea Primary School & Nursery over the Summer 😊



With the new school year started, and many children moving to Reception classes, you may find the information on the following website useful:

www.startingreception.co.uk



What's On

Following requests from parents this page is going to be specifically aimed at sharing information or parental courses that you may find useful for your families. We will also include local events that might interest you. Some weeks we may not have anything to share but do keep checking.

This week we wanted to make you aware of the new 'parenting courses and advice page' on the Family Information Service website. There is a new 'Upcoming Courses' tab which has the names/dates and contact details of parenting courses and support in Surrey.



Contact Us

The School Office is available 8am -4pm, Monday to Friday. If you require assistance, please message via the Studybugs App or contact us on:

office@thorpe-lea.surrey.sch.uk

Thorpe Lea Primary School and Nursery
Huntingfield Way
Egham
TW20 8DY
01784 456398
www.thorpe-lea.surrey.sch.uk



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FACE September Timetable

Please see attached the September timetable for FACE.

This code grants all Madeup parents unlimited access to all FACE Parent Talks (usually £24 each) for the next 12 months.

The talks are on a four-weekly rotation and from February will be available as morning sessions (10:00-11:30) as well as the regular evening sessions (19:00-20:30).

The code cannot be used for any other FACE services or shared with parents or staff from other schools.

How to Use the Code:

Visit the PARENTS page of the FACE website (facefamilyadvice.co.uk) to view the 16 regular talks for parents.

Click through the booking calendar to find a date and time that suits you.

At the payment stage of booking, enter the code MU010425 where it says ADD PROMO CODE. This will reduce the price from £24 to £0.

****Note:**** Links to recordings of the talks are available for 48 hours after the session. If you cannot make a live session, book on and then email to request the recording link.

Important:

Please avoid booking the FREE sessions for parents, as these are for parents from schools that have not purchased the discount code. They are shortened versions of the regular talks which you now have free access to.

The code can only be used for Parent Talks and cannot be shared with parents from different schools. Improper use can result in immediate code cancellation for the whole school.

September Timetable	
All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long	
£24 each or FREE with School Membership	
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk	
Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)	
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	15 Sep 10am
Supporting A Child With ADHD	15 Sep 7pm
Improving Family Communication	16 Sep 10am
Autism Improving Communication	16 Sep 7pm
Facing Defiance	22 Sep 10am
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	22 Sep 7pm
Understanding Anger	23 Sep 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	23 Sep 7pm
FREE Facing Defiance	25 Sep 7-8pm
Introduction To OCD	29 Sep 10am
What Is ACT?	29 Sep 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	30 Sep 10am
Anxiety Explained	30 Sep 7pm
Understanding The Teenage Brain	6 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	6 Oct 7pm

Summer Holiday Works

A New Library and Learning Room

Over the summer, the old ICT suite was completely transformed into a wonderful new library and learning room. The library has been kitted out with bright new furniture and furnishings, making it an inviting and purposeful place for children to enjoy their reading experiences. Alongside the library, the new learning room will provide a calm space for small groups to work together. We'd like to say a huge thank you to the PTA for their kind £200 donation towards this project, and to Mrs Furnell and Mr Pullen for the time and effort they dedicated to creating such a fantastic environment. The children's feedback so far has been brilliant—we are delighted that they already love their new spaces!



New Canopy

Another exciting change you may have noticed on your way in or out of school is the addition of a smart new canopy across the EYFS area at the front of the school building. High-quality outdoor learning is a vital part of the EYFS framework, which recognises that outdoor experiences are just as important as those inside the classroom. With our new canopy, we are now able to provide these opportunities whatever the weather, ensuring our youngest learners have the best possible start to their education.

SuDS Planters

Finally, we're very pleased to share that new planters have been installed around the school site. Not only do they brighten up our grounds with greenery, but they also serve a very important purpose. The planters are part of a sustainable drainage system (SuDS), designed to help manage rainwater run-off from our roofs. In the coming weeks, the company who installed them will be visiting school to talk to the children about why these systems are so important in today's climate. We are looking forward to seeing how this project inspires our pupils to think about sustainability and the environment.

We are very proud of the improvements made over the summer and hope you are too. If you have any feedback on the works completed, or suggestions for further improvements to our school grounds, please don't hesitate to email us at premises@thorpe-lea.surrey.sch.uk

Thank you!