

The Swan's Bill

Friday 12th September
2025

Headteacher's Message

Dear families,

What a fantastic start to the new school year! It's been wonderful to see our classrooms, corridors, and playgrounds filled once again with energy and learning. As we settle into the rhythm of the term, we're already seeing our school values—creativity, collaboration, courage, and respect—shining through in everything we do.

We are proud of the courage they've shown stepping into new year groups, the respect they've demonstrated for one another, and the collaborative spirit that makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

I'd like to extend a warm welcome any new pupils and families to our community - we are delighted you've chosen Thorpe Lea and I look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

We are excited for our after school clubs to begin again next week and I'd encourage as many people as possible to take part in these opportunities. We have some great new clubs running this term including golf, cheerleading and dance.

As ever, please can I remind those who travel to school by car to be courteous and safe outside of our school in the morning and after school. Please do not park on the yellow lines or in front of pedestrian crossings. More than anything it's vital to keep our community safe.

Wishing you a lovely weekend!

Mr Collin



Classroom Learning

Nursery

Next week we will be continuing to settle into Nursery and learning about the school and classroom rules.

Reception

Next week, Reception will be starting Phonics learning the first 4 sounds "m, a, s, d". We will be practising writing our numbers from 1-5 and making our own class rules.

Year 1

Next week Year 1 will begin reading 'Beegu' in English lessons. In Maths we will continue learning about counting and representing objects within 10. We will also start our Geography learning on 'What it is like here' where we will use aerial photographs to develop knowledge of the local area and school grounds

Year 2

Next week in English, we will be learning how to write in 3rd person in order to write our own version of Bear Under the Stairs. In maths we will be counting in 10s to plot numbers on a number line.

Year 3

Huge well done to Year 3 for settling in well to a new school year. The children have been working hard in their English, with the book 'Leon and the Place Between,' they have used some wonderful language to describe their magical place and shown great imagination. In Geography the children have been really interested to learn about Antarctica and they have shown good skills looking at longitude and latitude on a world map

Year 4

What a fantastic start to the year with our new Year 4 class! We've explored number lines up to 1,000 in Maths and built confidence with place value. In English, we're writing diary entries as fishermen inspired by The Iron Man. Our Comprehension work focuses on lighthouses and answering in full sentences. We're also beginning our ukulele journey—what a brilliant week of learning and creativity!

Year 5

Next week, we will be writing a news article about Philippe Petit's tightrope walks. In Maths, we will be comparing and ordering numbers up to one million. In PSHE, we will discuss the skills needed for a healthy friendship. In Science, we will learn what sieving does to particles and how useful it can be

Year 6

Next week, Year 6 will be planning and writing a suspense story. In maths, we will be moving on from place value to the four main operations. This year, we are giving out homework online, using the platform LbQ (Learning by Question). The children have been provided with login details. Each week, the children will have 1x English and 1x maths to complete. They have a full week to complete it.



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 - Fitzwalter with 77 points
- 2nd - Langton with 49 points
- 3rd - King John with 43 points
- 4th - Pope with 35 points

Weekly House 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 - 100% - This week's winners!

Year 1 - 94.6%

Year 2 - 95.2%

Year 3 - 93.1%

Year 4 - 96.6%

Year 5 - 98.4%

Year 6 - 97.6%

Overall - 96.5%

Star of the Week

This week's winners are:

Nursery - Myla

Reception - Charles-Henry

Year 1 - Ashley

Year 2 - Freya

Year 3 - George

Year 4 - Gwen

Year 5 - Harvey

Year 6 - Vienna

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 17th September

Reception – Year 6 Nasal Flu
Immunisation

Wednesday 17th September

Reception & Year 6 Height and
Weight check

Wednesday 24th September

Reception 2026 Open Afternoon



Value of the Week

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

- Nursery** – Jude
- Reception** – Ayda
- Year 1** – Diana
- Year 2** – Anmol
- Year 3** – Shiv
- Year 4** – Harry
- Year 5** – Jai
- Year 6** – Monty

Our School Site

As you may have noticed, over the summer holidays, we've been busy enhancing our school environment with several exciting premises projects. They are all designed to enrich the learning experience and wellbeing of our children.

From refreshed learning spaces to improved outdoor areas, these updates reflect our ongoing commitment to providing the very best for our pupils.

We are looking forward to sharing photos of these wonderful improvements in next week's newsletter – watch this space!



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

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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