

The Swan's Bill

Friday 17th October 2025

Headteacher's Message

Dear families,

As this week comes to an end, I'm hopeful that many of you will have had the valuable opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher. Thank you to everyone who has engaged so positively with this process. It often feels like it comes around very quickly, but it is important that we have a clear, shared understanding of our pupils' strengths and areas for development as the year progresses.

I love reading the weekly updates that detail what the children are learning. We know how important it is for families to be kept in the loop about the learning that takes place in school and how much effort families can put into supporting that. It is wonderful to hear when children have been to the local library or visited a museum outside of school to support the topic they've been learning about. I'd encourage families to ask questions to your child about what they've been learning about and dig deeper into their answers. Of course, I do also fully appreciate that a single word answer can often be the most common response and you might have to pick your battles!

This week we welcomed Ms Gill to the Year 4 team. Ms Gill will be working alongside Miss Stabler in class on Thursdays and Fridays. With her wealth of experience and her friendly nature, she has already settled in wonderfully.

Next week brings us to the end of our first half term and we are finishing with a bang for Thorpe Lea's Got Talent. I know we have a busy schedule of acts lined up and I can't wait to see the variety of creativity on show. We will be taking lots of photos to share on our website so please keep an eye out for those.

Have a lovely weekend.
Mr Collin



Classroom Learning

Nursery

Next week we are continuing with our spooky Halloween themed learning. We will be reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar's Creepy-Crawly Halloween' and looking at what bugs they can see by the full moon. The children will also continue to develop their understanding of number and that numbers are used for counting objects.

Reception

Next week, Reception will be looking at the sounds "v, y, w, x" in Phonics and continuing to practise sounding out words during word time. In maths, we will be finding, subitising and representing numbers that are 1, 2 or 3. In art, we will be making a pumpkin using leaves but in the style of a collage.

Year 1

Next week Year 1 will be learning about lists in English and writing one for their own alien they create. In Maths we will write number sentences and look at fact families in addition.

In PSHE we will look at teambuilding and working together.

Year 2

Next week we will be looking at how to create suspense in our writing with punctuation and interesting adjectives. In Maths we will be looking at what happens to a number when we add and subtract by 10.

Year 3

Next week, Year 3 will be writing and editing their information texts. We are going to be using headings, sub-headings and possibly some rhetorical questions to make our writing clear and interesting. We will also be finishing our Maths unit on addition and subtraction with more of a focus on word problems.

Year 4

Next week, Year 4 will be reviewing addition and subtraction and diving deeper into solving word problems using RUCSAC strategies in Maths. We'll be putting the final touches on our Topic work and getting performance-ready for Thorpe Lea's Got Talent! All Dojo taxes have been settled, and our class celebration is set to be a joyful way to end a fantastic first half term as Year 4 Swifties!

Year 5

Next week, pupils will practise responding to multi-step addition and subtraction word problems in preparation for the upcoming unit on multiplication and division. In English, we will continue developing rich vocabulary to enhance setting descriptions. In Science, pupils will explore the process of evaporation and evaluate the key methods studied this term, including sieving, filtering, mixing solutions, and dissolving.

Year 6

Year 6 will be concluding our Calculations topic in Maths by tackling multi-step word problems, applying all the strategies and skills we've built up over the term. In English, we're excited to begin our new Poetry unit, exploring language, rhythm, and creativity. We've also started reading Holes in our comprehension lessons, and the children are already deeply engaged with the story. It was lovely to meet many of you at Parents' Evening. Please don't hesitate to message or come and see me if you'd like to discuss anything further—I'm always happy to chat.



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 Pope who earned the most house points this week!

1st - Pope with 206 points

2nd - Langton with 192 points

3rd - Fitzwalter with 177 points

4th - King John with 145 points

Weekly House
Points

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.

Following a meeting with the Surrey Attendance Advice and Intervention Officer (AAIO) we will be reviewing attendance on a regular basis and letters/meetings will be arranged as necessary to ensure this happens in a timely manner.

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 - 98.9% - This week's winners!

Year 1 - 91.3%

Year 2 - 94.5%

Year 3 - 94.8%

Year 4 - 96.2%

Year 5 - 96.3%

Year 6 - 90.3%

Overall - 94.5%



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.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 22nd October

Reception 2026 Open Afternoon 2pm

Friday 24th October

Thorpe Lea's Got Talent

Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October

Half Term

Twelve15 Catering

Following the Surrey County Council Cabinet meeting on 23 September, a decision was made to enter a period of consultation and engagement to gain input from staff and schools on the proposal to close catering and equipment maintenance services, provided by Twelve15. Surrey County Council plan to start the consultation on 1 October, in line with necessary guidance for Cabinet decision-making processes and the consultation will run until 15 November 2025. It is important to reiterate that no final decision will be made until after the consultation. Once the consultation has closed all feedback will be reviewed prior to a final decision. Another update will be shared once the consultation has finished and a final decision has been made. If you have any questions or comments about this, please email:

SCCTwelve15Updates.Stakeholders@surreycc.gov.uk

Star of the Week

This week's winners are:

Nursery – Charles

Reception – Janan

Year 1 – Rosie

Year 2 – Lily

Year 3 – Logan

Year 4 – Adwoa

Year 5 – Eliza

Year 6 – Donny

Value of the Week

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

Nursery – Sonny

Reception – Ruby P

Year 1 – Nehad

Year 2 – Virraaj

Year 3 – Evie

Year 4 – Isla

Year 5 – Caleb

Year 6 – Afia

Phonics and Reading

Read Write Inc.
Phonics

Below are a couple of links to help your child practice:

Reception – **Fred says – body parts 1**

Reception – **Fred's house – fridge**

Reception – **Fred says – actions**

Christmas Dinner Day



On Wednesday, 10th December, we will be celebrating our school Christmas dinner day. If your child does not normally have a school dinner but would like one on this day, please ensure you order it via their Scoopy account by Friday, 21st November. This applies to all children, including those who usually have a school dinner. On this day there is no third option available.

PTA – My School Lottery

At Thorpe Lea Primary School we are part of the 'My School Lottery' weekly draws. We raise money for the PTA, while everyone who enters has the chance to win a weekly prize.

Each week your £1 line of numbers (you can buy multiple lines), is entered into a

Thorpe Lea School draw and also a national draw for £25,000. There is also a 'Super Draw' which changes each month.

This month it is for an iPhone 17 Pro.

Anyone can enter the draws over the age of 18. Encourage your family, friends and neighbours to join. The more people in the lottery from our school, the larger the weekly Thorpe Lea School draw gets and more money is then raised for our children.

To make life easier for yourselves, sign up for the direct debit option. Then you can sit back, relax, and wait for your numbers to come up!



SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY TODAY

£1 per week

Weekly cash prizes

£25,000 jackpot

Splitting the £1.00

How it works...

It's simple - choose 6 numbers between 09 and 49 that match the weekly lottery draw, you win great prizes. One of our players will win a cash prize every week, maybe even the £25,000 jackpot! Tickets cost just £1 per week and the proceeds are donated to Thorpe Lea Primary School.

Every Saturday all from the numbers are drawn and printed online. Winners are notified by email and winning goes into the account of your choice.

The easier way to join is to set up a direct debit or debit card.

It's so easy to join and will make a real difference to Thorpe Lea Primary School.

The Maths... 100 tickets sold a week means - £30 weekly cash prize - £2,000 a year for our school

Join us today! yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for 'Thorpe Lea'

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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Egham
TW20 8DY
01784 456398
www.thorpe-lea.surrey.sch.uk



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<https://translate.google.co.uk/?sl=auto&tl=en&op=docs>

FACE October & November Timetable

Please see attached the October and November 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 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 TL270325 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.

| FACE October 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 The Teenage Brain | 6 Oct 10am |
| Supporting Healthy Sleep | 6 Oct 7pm |
| Supporting A Child With ADHD | 13 Oct 10am |
| Understanding Addictive Behaviour | 13 Oct 7pm |
| Autism Improving Communication | 14 Oct 10am |
| Improving Family Communication | 14 Oct 7pm |
| Supporting Healthy Screen Use | 20 Oct 10am |
| Facing Defiance | 20 Oct 7pm |
| Anxiety Based School Avoidance | 21 Oct 10am |
| Understanding Anger | 21 Oct 7pm |
| FREE - Raising Self-Esteem | 23 Oct 7-8pm |
| Anxiety Explained | 27 Oct 10am |
| Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness | 27 Oct 7pm |
| What Is ACT? | 28 Oct 10am |
| Introduction To OCD | 28 Oct 7pm |

| FACE November 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) | |
| Raising Self Esteem | 3 Nov 10am |
| Decreasing Depression | 3 Nov 7pm |
| Supporting Healthy Sleep | 4 Nov 10am |
| Understanding the Teenage Brain | 4 Nov 7pm |
| Improving Family Communication | 10 Nov 10am |
| Autism - Improving Communication | 10 Nov 7pm |
| Understanding Addictive Behaviour | 11 Nov 10am |
| Supporting A Child with ADHD | 11 Nov 7pm |
| FREE ADHD Kids & Homework | 13 Nov 6-7pm |
| Understanding Anger | 17 Nov 10am |
| Supporting Healthy Screen Use | 17 Nov 7pm |
| Facing Defiance | 18 Nov 10am |
| Anxiety Based School Avoidance | 18 Nov 7pm |
| Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness | 24 Nov 10am |
| Anxiety Explained | 24 Nov 7pm |

Supporting a Child with ADHD



Challenge the stereotypes and get practical help
Monday 13th October 10-11:30am
Tuesday 11th November 7-8:30pm
 90 minute session. Recording available for 48hrs
£24.
 Available to book now
facefamilyadvice.co.uk

FACE Are you struggling with a defiant child?



Facing Defiance
 A six part online course for parents that you can complete in your own time.
 A line by line guide through a specific strategy aimed to support parents of children aged between 5 to 12 who are displaying very challenging behaviour, including children with ADHD, ODD and YDA.
 go to facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 (Book online £48)
 on the Online Parenting Courses page



Family Centres offer one to one family support where family circumstances are impacting on health, development, or well-being of a child/children. We will support families to find solutions to the parenting and relationship challenges they face and to grow in confidence to manage future difficulties.

Our aim is to help families build their own resilience and self resilience.

We also offer the following:
 SEN Drop in Cafe's
 Parenting Puzzle Course
 Keeping Your Child in Mind Course
 Parent/Carer advice drop ins

Please scan the QR code below for further information on locations and times.
 You can also regularly check our Family Centre website
www.barnardosfamilycentresurrey.org.uk/what-we-do-at-runymede
 or
 Email: runnymedefamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk



BARNARDOS Changing childhoods. Changing lives.