

The Swan's Bill

Friday 7th November 2025

Headteacher's Message

Dear families,

This week we welcomed Mrs Dinah to Thorpe Lea as our new Year 3 teacher. We are delighted to have her on our team and looking forward to working closely together throughout this year. We are also delighted to have Mr Turner back in school; he has been desperate to get back in the classroom and is excited to really push forward for the rest of this term.

I must remind families of a few practical points regarding drop-off and collection times:

The morning gate opening times are 08.40 – 08.55.

This does mean that parents need to be cleared from the school site by this time. Keeping the gate open later can jeopardise accurate pupil registration which is ultimately a safeguarding issue. If you need to speak to your child's class teacher in the morning, please allow enough time to do so.

Please park legally and safely.

Unfortunately we continue to see repeated examples of poor parking which is also a clear safeguarding issue as it puts our families at risk. There is simply no need to park on double yellow lines or block the Huntingfield Way/Langton Way junction or to block pedestrian crossing areas.

Finally, I'd like to finish with a recommendation. Having spent some time over half term, re-establishing my own routine of reading at home – I'd like to reiterate how vital the skill of reading is for our children's education. Sometimes it can be hard to find good ideas for new books for your children; this website is here to help!
<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book-recommendations/bookfinder/> You can select your child's age and interests and see a range of high quality texts. I hope you find it useful!

Have a lovely weekend.
Mr Collin



Classroom Learning

Nursery

Next week Nursery will be reading 'Where the Poppies Now Grow'. They will be learning about the friendship between the main characters and how war effected their lives. We will also take a close look at the illustrations and talking about how animals were used during WWI.

Reception

Next week, Reception will be continuing to practise their word time in Phonics and spell words using Fred fingers. In Maths, we will be learning about 2D shapes specifically circles and triangles. In Art, we will learn about Remembrance Day and make our own poppy picture.

Year 1

Next week Year 1 will practice more writing to eventually create a 'wanted poster' for Vacuum and Filth, the antagonists of our new story. In Maths we will be learning our systematic number bonds to 10 and adding more. We will continue to learn our winter dance unit in PE and in Science will look more closely at the difference between objects and materials.

Year 2

Next week we will be learning about persuasive writing techniques. In Maths we will be looking at 2D shapes and their features, including symmetry.

Year 3

This week in English, the children have been exploring poetry features and are really enjoying our class book The BFG, which is inspiring them to read more. We continue to explore poetry next week. In Maths, we are learning about multiples and how multiplication links with division. We will continue to learn more about this.

Year 4

Next week, Year 4 will begin investigating what makes a great journalist as we prepare to write newspaper articles on the fascinating discovery of Tutankhamun. In Maths, we'll be wrapping up column addition and subtraction, but not before applying our place value knowledge to practical problem-solving. In History, we'll be travelling even further back in time to explore the Ancient Maya civilisation and uncover what made their community so unique.

Year 5

Next week, we are learning about whether the Vikings were raiders, traders or something else. In Maths, we will be identifying prime, square and cube numbers. In English, we will be writing a news article about The Lost Thing. In Science, we are going to recap transparency of materials by grouping them. In PSHE, we will be discussing the importance of rest. In DT, we will begin designing our very own pop-up book.

Year 6

Next week, Year 6 will be focusing on adding and subtracting fractions. In English, they will be creating non-chronological reports inspired by the short film The Dream Giver. On Wednesday morning, the class will be heading to Thorpe Park to take part in the Junior Citizenship Programme. This exciting event will give pupils the opportunity to learn about safety, responsibility, and how to make positive choices in everyday life.



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 173 points

2nd - Langton with 153 points

3rd - Fitzwalter with 130 points

4th - Pope with 101 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.

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.

Penalty Notices for Unauthorised Absence - Reminder

If your child(ren) is(are) absent from school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), you will be liable to receive a penalty notice.

This week's attendance figures are:

Reception - 94.6%

Year 1 - 93.8%

Year 2 - 91.2%

Year 3 - 94.8% - This week's winners!

Year 4 - 94%

Year 5 - 90.4%

Year 6 - 88.6%

Overall - 92.6%



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. More details will follow



Upcoming Events

**Monday, 10th November –
Friday 17th November**

Anti-Bullying Week

Monday, 10th November

Odd Socks Day

Tuesday 11th November

Remembrance Day

Tuesday 11th November

PTA – Christmas Panto – Snow White
Performed by M & M production

Wednesday 12th November

Year 6 – Junior Citizen Morning

Friday 14th November

SEND Coffee Morning in the school
hall 9am – 10am

Friday 14th November

PTA – KSI Cake Sale Donation of cakes
to be handed into you child's class by
Friday morning



Star of the Week

This week's winners are:

Nursery – James

Reception – Athan

Year 1 – Milena

Year 2 – Anmol

Year 3 – Casey

Year 4 – Levin

Year 5 – Noah

Year 6 – Scarlett

Value of the Week

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

Nursery – Jacob

Reception – Amayrah

Year 1 – Thomas

Year 2 – Lora

Year 3 – Reine

Year 4 – Amelia T

Year 5 – Seher

Year 6 – Sophie

Phonics and Reading

Read Write Inc.
Phonics

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

[Reception - Body Parts 1](#)

[Reception - Actions](#)

[Reception - colours](#)

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.

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 Scopay 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.

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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<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.

November Timetable	
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

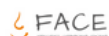
Monday 13th October 10-11:30am

Tuesday 11th November 7-8:30pm

90 minute session. Recording available for 48hrs

£24.

Available to book now
facefamilyadvice.co.uk



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 step by step 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 PDA.

go to facefamilyadvice.co.uk
Book online £48
on the **Online Parenting Courses** page



Runnymede
Family Centre

Every Wednesday
10 - 12

Family Support at the Revive Cafe

99 Guildford Street, Chertsey, England, KT16 9AS
www.revivecoffeehop.co.uk

Family Support Workers from Runnymede Family centre will be available to offer support and advice on all aspects of family life.
Drop in, no booking required.

If you would like more information please scan the QR code or email:
runnymedefamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk



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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!

PTA – Upcoming Events