

# The Swan's Bill

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Headteacher's Message

Dear families,

It has been a busy week here at Thorpe Lea with lots going on. There has been plenty of rain but that hasn't dampened our spirits.

Year 4 had their first swimming session on Tuesday over at Egham Orbit. These lessons are so crucial to help the children develop the skills and confidence to keep themselves active, healthy and most importantly, safe!

Our enrichment clubs began this week, with children experiencing a range of after school activities, from football to Disney art club. Please do enquire if your children are interested in taking part - some clubs do still have spaces available.

I wrote to you on Wednesday morning about our visit from Surrey Fire Service. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for their quick response to our fire alarm and making sure our site was fully safe for our children. We are grateful for their service and dedication.

Wishing you a restful - hopefully dry - weekend.

Best wishes,  
Mr Collin

Creativity

Collaboration

Courage

Respect



## Star of the Week

This week's winners are:

Nursery	Anay
Reception	Tia
Year 1	Thomas
Year 2	Keerath
Year 3	Nancy
Year 4	Freya
Year 5	Alexandra
Year 6	Daniel

## Value of the Week

This week's winners demonstrated  
throughout their learning:

Courage

Nursery	Mohammed, Navathish, Andrei, Matei, Maryam, William, Enzo, Joey
Reception	Ryan
Year 1	Liam
Year 2	Willow
Year 3	Casey
Year 4	Amelia RM
Year 5	Poppy and Olivia
Year 6	Sophie

# Classroom Learning

## Nursery

Next week - Next week in Nursery we will be learning all about Michael Rosen! The children will be enjoying some of his famous stories such as 'We're going on a bear hunt', and poems such as 'Chocolate Cake'. We will be continuing to deepen the children's understanding of number through counting games and we will begin to learn what rhyming words are.

## Reception

Next week, Reception will be looking at the role of the Police Officer. In Literacy, we will be continuing to practise our segmenting and blending and practising our special friends. In Maths, we will be comparing mass, balance and capacity. In Art, we will be making a paper plate police car, in Science, the children will be identifying different parts of a plant and in PSED we will continue to learn why it is important to listen carefully by playing different listening games.

## Year 1

Next week we will be comparing and ordering numbers to 20 in Maths. In Writing we will be planning to write a character description for our main character from 'I want my hat back.' In Science we will be looking more closely at the taste and touch sense and in Computing will be sequencing algorithms that require a correct order.

## Year 2

Next week, we will be looking at tourist adverts and the language used to persuade people to come and visit. In Maths we will start looking at multiplication by counting in equal groups.

## Year 3

In English, we will begin planning and writing our own folktales. The children will be using descriptive language to help develop their ideas and include a clear moral in their storytelling.

In Maths, we will be working on multiplying two-digit numbers by one- and two-digit numbers. Regular practice of times tables at home will support their learning in class and help build up their confidence.

**Read Write Inc.**  
Phonics

**links to help your child practice:**

[Reception - Fred talk Set 1](#)

## Year 4

Next week, in English, we'll begin creating postcards based on FARThER, focusing on how the son's feelings are shown in the story and using these ideas to write thoughtful postcards from his perspective. In Maths, we'll continue our multiplication and division unit, looking closely at factor pairs to strengthen our understanding of number relationships. In Science, we'll be investigating sound by researching and measuring the decibel levels of everyday noises around the classroom and school.

## Year 5

Next week, we are learning about persuasive language in our writing sessions. In Maths, we will multiply up to 4-digit numbers by 1 digit number. In Science, we are exploring our solar system and will be thinking about the size and distance of the celestial bodies. In Geography, we will be discussing what we can do to protect our oceans.

## Year 6

Next week in Maths Year 6 will be wrapping up our topic on percentages and moving on to an exciting new focus: area and perimeter. The children will be writing a balanced argument in English, exploring the question: "Is Macbeth evil?". This will help develop their reasoning and persuasive writing skills. A reminder that SATS booster sessions start on Monday. We strongly encourage all children to attend as many sessions as possible to support their preparation for the tests in May.

## 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 Fitzwalter who earned the most house points this week!

**1st** - Fitzwalter with 259 points

2nd - Pope with 240 points

3rd - King John with 130 points

4th - Langton with 127 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.

### Attendance Letters

We are reviewing attendance figures again over the next week. If your child's attendance is below the expected levels you will be receiving either a letter, or an invitation to a meeting.

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 - 89%

Year 1 - 89.7%

**Year 2 - 95% - This week's winners!**

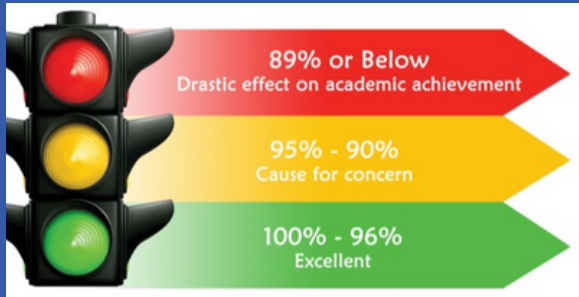
Year 3 - 93.1%

Year 4 - 92.8%

Year 5 - 91.9%

Year 6 - 94.3%

Overall - 92.2%



### 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



# FACE January Timetable

FACE January 2026 Timetable	
All sessions delivered live online via zoom, 30 minutes long	
<b>£24 each or FREE with School Membership</b>	
Book online at <a href="http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk">facefamilyadvice.co.uk</a>	
Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talks)	
Autism - Improving Communication	5 Jan 10am
Improving Family Communication	5 Jan 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	6 Jan 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	6 Jan 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	12 Jan 10am
Understanding Anger	12 Jan 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	13 Jan 10am
Facing Defiance	13 Jan 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	19 Jan 10am
Anxiety Explained	19 Jan 7pm
Introduction to OCD	20 Jan 10am
What is ACT	20 Jan 7pm
<b>FREE Responding to Angry Behaviour</b>	22 Jan 7-8pm
Raising Self-Esteem	26 Jan 10am
Decreasing Depression	26 Jan 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	27 Jan 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	27 Jan 7pm

Please see attached the January timetable for FACE.

FACE offers parents practical advice, information and support, across a wide range of topics, including supporting neurodiverse children, understanding emotions and managing behaviour.

Go to [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk) or [click here](#) Go to PARENTS – Live talks page.

Accessing the talks free of charge: Thorpe Lea Primary School and Nursery access code is TL270325

This can be used by any parents or staff from our school for unlimited access to all the regular FACE Parent Talks (usually £24 each). The code cannot be used on any other FACE services and must not be shared with parents or staff from other schools.

At the payment stage of booking, add the school code where it says ADD PROMO CODE. This will drop the price from £24 to £0.

**Happy New Year!**

A secondary school with 1000 pupils, pays 38p/student, a primary school with 300 students, pays 77p/student for their parents to have free access to all these sessions for 12 months

- Autism: Improving Communication
- Raising Self-Esteem
- Supporting Healthy Screen Use
- Supporting Healthy Sleep
- Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness
- What is ACT?
- Introduction to OCD
- Anxiety Explained
- Anxiety Based School Avoidance
- Supporting a Child with ADHD
- Facing Defiance
- Understanding Anger
- Addictive Behaviour
- Understanding the Teenage Brain
- Decreasing Depression
- Improving Family Communication

contact Jane  
[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)  
[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

### Support programmes for parents & carers of children with autism

A variety of 6-part support programmes for parents and carers of children with autism (or suspected autism) are available online and in-person around Surrey. Your child must live in Surrey or attend a Surrey education setting.

- Early life programme for parents of children aged 5 years and under**
  - Understanding autism
  - Communication
  - Understanding autistic experiences
  - Supporting care giving
  - Health and wellbeing
  - Connections
- Cygnus programme for parents of children aged 5-18 years old**
  - Introductory session
  - Overview of autism with parent and carer experience
  - Threading & sensory
  - Social interaction & communication
  - Understanding & supporting behaviour
  - Analyzing behaviour
- Teen Life for parents of children aged 10-16 years old**
  - Understanding autism
  - Understanding autistic identity
  - Stress, anxiety and understanding behaviour
  - Health and wellbeing
  - Policies
  - Education and transitioning into adulthood

Can I ask some questions?  
 (Email us at [info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk))

How do I join a course?  
 Please scan the QR code to register your interest to be part of our mailing list. We will email you each time a new set of courses are available for booking.

### strengthening families

For Expectant Parents/ Early Years Help; group starting on Thursday 8 January 2026 at 14:30pm

Want to get some new ideas to help you be the best parent you can be?  
 Enhance your relationship with your children?  
 Learning at a time that suits you?

- 6 online sessions
- 6 group discussions
- Certificate on completion

**What to expect...**

- Information on challenges and child development.
- Hear from other parents, carers and hand-outs.
- Video, quizzes and fun activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Expert help from a real parent each week.
- Choose a course that suits your child's age.

**Topics covered...**

- Healthy adult relationships.
- Understanding and managing behaviour.
- Enhancing children's self-esteem.
- Emotions and empathy.
- What to expect for the age of your child.
- Being part of a community.

**Group Discussion...**

- Speak to a course expert and get answers to any questions you might have.
- Talk about how the strategies are going at home and how to adjust them for you.
- Address other difficulties relating to parenting.
- Hear from others about what works for them.

Find out more or register for the course by scanning the QR code or emailing us at [info@parents@revivefund.org.uk](mailto:info@parents@revivefund.org.uk)

### Runnymede Family Centre

Every Wednesday 10 - 12

**Family Support at the Revive Cafe**  
 99 Guildford Street, Chertsey, England, KT16 9AS  
[www.revivecafeeshop.co.uk](http://www.revivecafeeshop.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](mailto:runnymedefamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk)

**BARNARDOS** Changing childhoods. Changing lives.

### Stronger Relationships

For parents and other adult carers living together or apart. For Expectant Parents/ Early Years Help, group starting Tuesday 6 January 2026 at 6:00pm

Do you want to get some new ideas to help you be an even better parent?

- Would you like to reduce the arguments and disagreements in your family and cope better with stress?
- Would you like to enhance your relationship with your current partner, or improve communication with your ex or the other people helping to raise your children?
- How about learning at a time that suits you?

- 6 online sessions
- 6 group discussions
- Certificate on completion

**What to expect...**

- Information on strategies to identify and reduce arguments.
- Hear from other parents and carers.
- Downloadable worksheets and hand-outs.
- Video, quizzes and interactive activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Weekly support from our course experts.

**Topics covered...**

- Healthy adult relationships.
- Identifying and managing disagreements.
- Understanding how conflict affects your children.
- Enhancing parent-child relationships.
- Managing stress, anger and emotions.
- Strategies to resolve conflict and create a parenting agreement.

**Group discussion...**

- Speak to a course expert and get answers to some of the questions you might have.
- Talk about how the strategies are going at home.
- Address other difficulties relating to your relationships.
- Hear from others about what works for them.

Find out more or register for the course by scanning the QR code or emailing us at [info@parents@revivefund.org.uk](mailto:info@parents@revivefund.org.uk)

### Stronger Relationships

For parents and other adult carers living together or apart. Group starting (Parents of Neurodivergent Children Only) Monday 26 January at 10:30pm

Do you want to get some new ideas to help you be an even better parent?

- Would you like to reduce the arguments and disagreements in your family and cope better with stress?
- Would you like to enhance your relationship with your current partner, or improve communication with your ex or the other people helping to raise your children?
- How about learning at a time that suits you?

- 6 online sessions
- 6 group discussions
- Certificate on completion

**What to expect...**

- Information on strategies to identify and reduce arguments.
- Hear from other parents and carers.
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## School term and holiday dates 2026/2027

	SEPTEMBER Autumn Term 2026	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Monday	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Wednesday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Thursday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Friday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Saturday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Sunday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27

	JANUARY Spring Term 2027	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
Monday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Tuesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Wednesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Thursday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Friday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Sunday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25

	MAY Summer Term 2027	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Monday	3 10 17 24	31 7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Tuesday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Wednesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Thursday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Friday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Saturday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Sunday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29

### Whole School Inset Days

- Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> September
- Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> January
- Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> July
- Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> July
- Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> July

### Nursery Inset Days

- Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September
- Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September
- Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> September
- Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> January
- Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> January
- Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> January