

The Swan's Bill

Friday 13th February 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear families,

It has been another wet week, but we haven't let the rain dampen our spirits at Thorpe Lea and there's been a lot going on – including our Wear it Bright Day in support of Children's Mental Health Week!

Working with others within the community is such a vital example of our key school value – collaboration. This week, Year 6 visited Magna Carta school to see their performance of 'The Wizard of Oz', whilst Reception class visited St Paul's church to learn about the features of a the church and their work in our area. These opportunities help the children learn so much through their experiences and interactions.

Year 5 headed off to London yesterday to visit the Science Museum. I have had great feedback and heard about some of the wacky exhibitions they saw throughout the day. Hopefully inspiring some to further their interest in science!

Finally, we worked hard on Tuesday to develop our understanding on how to stay safe in the online world on 'Safer Internet Day'. A big thank you to those who've completed our parent survey from last week. If you haven't yet, please click here. [Parent Voice – Online Safety – Fill in form](#)

Have lovely half term break and we look forward to welcoming children back on Monday 23rd February.

Mr Collin

Creativity

Collaboration

Courage

Respect



Star of the Week

This week's winners are:

Nursery	Maryam
Reception	Amelia
Year 1	Ayaan
Year 2	Dennis
Year 3	Shiv
Year 4	Ariona
Year 5	Jasmine
Year 6	Tegan

Value of the Week

This week's winners demonstrated
throughout their learning:

Courage 

Nursery	Myla
Reception	Harley-Del
Year 1	Rowan
Year 2	Robyn
Year 3	Vaani
Year 4	Evie
Year 5	Seher
Year 6	Harry

Classroom Learning

Nursery

After half term, we will be starting our new topic called 'Traditional Tales'. We will be starting off reading the story 'The Three Little Pigs'. We will be exploring the different materials the pigs used to build their homes with and continuing to develop our number knowledge by learning how to subsidise numbers 1, 2 and 3.

Reception

Next term, Reception will be looking at the theme "Magic Machinery". The first week we will be looking at trains. Reception will be continuing to learn their special friends and to practise writing short sentences in Phonics. In Maths, they will be exploring length, height and time. In Science, they will be exploring how objects move using pull or push and in History the children will begin to understand the concept of generations.

Year 1

Well done on a great half term Year 1—you've all done really well. Next half term in Maths we will explore place value within 20 and in Writing we will begin our new book Naughty Bus, focusing first on a first-person recount. In Computing we will start learning simple coding and in History we'll look at how toys have changed over time. In Science we'll compare different animals and in DT we will be exploring structures. Have a lovely half term break.

Year 2

After the half term, we will be looking at measuring in standard units in Maths. In Comprehension lessons we will be reading a non-fiction book about the continent of Africa.

Year 3

After half term, In Maths the children will be learning about measurement, with a focus on length and perimeter. In English, the children will be exploring poetry and developing character descriptions, using descriptive language to bring their ideas to life.

Year 4

I would like to start by thanking Year 4 for another excellent half term! They have worked hard to publish big writes in English and buckle down with the long stretch of multiplication and division in order to help our next units become simpler and more fun. Coming back after a wet week off will see us starting our new comprehension book The Firemakers Daughter where we will start with retrieval, The Lion and The Unicorn in English where we will start to plan our narrative, in Maths we move into length and perimeter. We will be looking at AI in ICT, animals in Science, and Vikings in History!

Year 5

After half term, we are going to be learning about Tudor England in History, Economics in PSHE, life cycles in Science, building bridges in Design and technology and perfecting the Ukulele in Music.

Year 6

After half term, Year 6 will begin our new maths unit on shape. In English, we will be exploring the story of Erika, which links closely to our history learning about World War II, as the narrative includes events from the Holocaust. In comprehension, we will be starting a new text: The Boy in the Tower. Today, the children will be bringing home their SATs mock papers. They have worked incredibly hard on these assessments, and we are very proud of their effort and resilience. We will use the results to help shape and tailor our learning during Spring 2.

Read Write Inc.
Phonics

links to help your child practice:

Reception – Fred talk Set 1



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 313 points

2nd - Fitzwalter with 238 points

3rd - King John with 152 points

4th - Langton with 97 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 on a regular basis. If your child's attendance is below the expected levels you will be receiving either a letter, or an invitation to a meeting. These meetings are vital so that we can understand challenges and support where possible.

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 - 91.8%

Year 1 - 90.2%

Year 2 - 92.7%

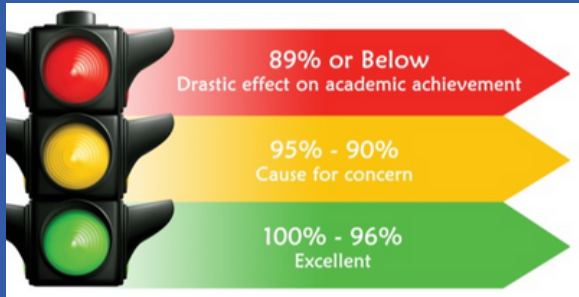
Year 3 - 93.9% - This week's winners!

Year 4 - 93.4%

Year 5 - 93.3%

Year 6 - 92.8%

Overall - 92.5%



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. [Term dates are now available on our school website](#)



Upcoming Events

Monday 16th – Friday 20th
February

Half Term

Monday 23rd February

Year 4 Level 1 Bikeability – Group 1

Tuesday 24th February

Year 6 Bikeability Try it out

Tuesday 24th February

Year 4 Swimming

Thursday 26th February

SEND Coffee Morning – Details below

Friday 27th February

Year 4 Level 1 Bikeability – Group 2

Friday 27th February

Police visiting Reception Class



We are pleased to invite you to our next SEND Coffee Morning, taking place on Thursday 26th February at 9:00am.

We are delighted to welcome Tracy Playfoot and Rob Over, Neurodiversity Advisors for Surrey, who will be joining us on the day. They will share practical, supportive strategies that can be used at home to help children who are neurodiverse or who may be showing traits of neurodiversity. Tracy and Rob will also be providing free resource packs for families to take home.

We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday 26th February.



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



Want this document translated? Click the link below:
<https://translate.google.co.uk/?sl=auto&tl=en&op=docs>

FACE February Timetable

Please see attached the February 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 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.

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 programmes for parents of children aged 5 years and under**
 - Understanding autism
 - Communication
 - Understanding autistic experiences
 - Supporting safe living
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Connections
- Cygnets programmes for parents of children aged 5-18 years old**
 - Introductory session
 - Overview of autism with parent and carer experience
 - Thinking & 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
 - Identity
 - Education and transitioning into adulthood

Can I ask some questions? (Email on info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)
 How do I join a course? (Email on info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)
 Please scan the QR code to register your interest & be part of our mailing list. We will email you each time a new set of courses are available for booking.

FACE FEBRUARY 2026 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)	
Autism - Improving Communication	2 Feb 10am
Improving Family Communication	2 Feb 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	3 Feb 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	3 Feb 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	9 Feb 10am
Anxiety Explained	16 Feb 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	16 Feb 7pm
What is ACT?	17 Feb 10am
Introduction to OCD	17 Feb 7pm
FREE - Reducing the Harm from Screens	19 Feb 7-8pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	23 Feb 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	23 Feb 7pm
Decreasing Depression	24 Feb 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	24 Feb 7pm
Understanding Anger	9 Mar 7pm
Facing Defiance	10 Mar 7pm

online talk by Jane Keyworth

Supporting a Child with ADHD

Challenging the stereotypes, offering practical support and explaining more about this condition

3rd February 10-11:30am
3rd March 7-8:30pm

Book online facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 £24 or Free with a school membership code

Online FREE talk by Jane Keyworth

Anxiety Based School Avoidance

March 26th 7-8pm

Book online www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 go to PARENTS - Live Talks page

All 16 parent talks **FREE** with our School Membership

Runnymede Family Centre

Every Wednesday 10 - 12

Family Support at the Revive Cafe
 99 Guildford Street, Chertsey, England, KT16 9AS
www.revivecafeuk.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

Stronger Relationships

For parents and carers of children with autism, learning together or apart. For Parents of Year 5-6 children only, group starting Wednesday 4 April at 6pm

Do you want to get some new ideas to help you be an even better parent?
 Would you like to enhance your relationship with your child/children, or improve communication with you or the other people helping to raise your children?
 How about learning at a time that suits you?

What to expect...

- Interactive sessions
- Practical advice
- Real life scenarios
- Interactive activities
- Handouts
- Refreshments
- Free parking
- Childcare available
- Free Wi-Fi
- Free refreshments

Topics covered...

- Healthy adult relationships
- Supporting and managing emotions
- Understanding how conflict affects your children
- Understanding your child's communication
- Managing stress, anger and conflict
- Strategies to create conflict and manage parenting agreement

Group discussion...

- Share a recent event or situation to one of the questions on the right
- Take about how the strategies in the list apply to you
- Address other questions relating to the topic
- Have a chance to share your own experiences

Find out more or register for this course by scanning the QR code or visiting www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Stronger Relationships

For parents and carers of children with autism, learning together or apart. For Parents of Year 5-6 children only, group starting Monday 8 March at 6pm

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

For parents and carers of children with autism, learning together or apart. For Parents of Year 5-6 children only, group starting on Thursday 10 March at 6pm

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?

What to expect...

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Workshops for parents / carers (and practitioners) Spring term 2025

All things about strategies
 Supporting autistic children with communication and play skills. Practical strategies - why and how, which relate to our children with autism.
Friday 13th February 2026
 10.30 - 12.30pm
 Online via Zoom
 £15 plus £65 per person

Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)
 Understanding PDA and practical strategies.
Wednesday 18th March 2026
 10.30 - 12.30pm
 Online via Zoom
 £15 plus £65 per person

All things communication and play
 Supporting autistic children with communication and play skills. Teaching and strategies and ideas to support them.
Thursday 26th March 2026
 10.30 - 12.30pm
 Online via Zoom
 £15 plus £65 per person

Autism and Girls
 Supporting differences and diagnosis, understanding how autism impacts on girls, and strategies and ideas to support them.
Thursday 27th February 2026
 10.30 - 12.30pm
 Online via Zoom
 £15 plus £65 per person

All things sensory processing - a workshop exploring the sensory needs of autistic children and practical strategies to support them.
Thursday 27th February 2026
 10.30 - 12.30pm
 Online via Zoom
 £15 plus £65 per person

Multi-Use Games Area Installation (MUGA)

Over the past year, the school has invested in some significant projects to support our children and develop a learning environment they can be proud of. These include:

- The new library: this has been a huge success and children love utilising this space and exploring new texts and stories.
- We have purchased over 60 new Chromebooks for children's use across the curriculum and upgraded our internet service and staff laptops to ensure efficiency.
- The canopy outside of Year 1 and Reception class has allowed children to utilise that outside space more regularly and continue their immersive learning and play through all weathers!
- SUDS planters across the school playground have improved our bio-diversity and support the water system in our area.

As ever, we are always looking forward and we're excited to tell you what's next!

Over the Easter break we will begin installing a brand-new Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), an investment that will significantly enhance our school's outdoor provision. This dynamic new space will offer pupils a safe, all-weather environment for a wide range of sports and activities, helping to promote physical fitness, teamwork and healthy competition throughout the year. The MUGA will not only enrich PE lessons but will also expand opportunities for extracurricular clubs, lunchtime play, and community engagement. We can't wait to see our students enjoying this vibrant new addition to our school!

The work is expected to take around two weeks, and should be ready for use shortly after we come back to school in mid-April. We will keep you posted nearer the time with updates.

Below are some digital representations of the planned works. I'm sure you'll agree they look fantastic and we can't wait to see them come to life!

