



Thorpe Lea Primary School & Nursery

The Swan's Bill

Friday 16th October 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear families,

I'd like to start this week's message by congratulating all of the children that took part in the schools **Cross Country** Relay event yesterday at Bedfont Lakes. Pupils from years 4,5,&6 competed against 12 other schools in what was an amazing but challenging event. Each child raced the 1.4km course, traversing gravel, grass, woodland and hills. They encouraged each other throughout and demonstrated such incredible team work. The staff and parent spectators were all incredibly proud and I was exhausted just watching. Well done!

I'd like to reflect at this point in the year, on the importance of prioritising attendance to support our pupils' learning. **Every day in school matters.** Regular attendance helps children keep up with new learning, build securely on what they already know and take a full part in school life. Even short or repeated absences can make it harder for children to maintain continuity in their learning. Unfortunately, our percentage of persistent absence is higher than we'd like and we'd value your support to improve this. Please get in touch with the team if we can offer any support or assistance and help us reach our goal of significantly improving our school attendance this year.

Finally, thank you to all our children, families and staff for their hard work and support throughout the half term. I hope everyone has a happy, relaxing and well-deserved half term break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for the next half term.

See you all back here on the 2nd November!

Mr Collin



Star of the Week



Nursery	Amy - Lou
Reception	Shaan
Year 1	Murtaza
Year 2	Ashley
Year 3	Robyn
Year 4	Ella
Year 5	Evie
Year 6	Poppy

Value of the Week



Nursery	Connie, Octavia & Flossie
Reception	Louie
Year 1	Charles-Henry
Year 2	Emmi & Rosie
Year 3	Olivia
Year 4	Evie
Year 5	All of Year 5
Year 6	Delilah

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 - 461 points

2nd - Langton - 457 points

3rd - King John - 443 points

4th - Pope - 384 points

Attendance

Tip of the Week

Every Day Counts: Missing just 2 days a month means a student misses 10% of the entire school year.

93.9%

WHOLE-SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
Our weekly attendance

Every day counts!

Thank you to our families for supporting excellent attendance.

Being in school every day helps children learn, grow and enjoy time with their friends.

THIS WEEK'S CLASS ATTENDANCE

Reception
95.4%

Year 1
93.3%

Year 2
90.3%

Year 3
94.1%

Year 4
90.7%

Year 5
95.9%

Year 6
98.3%

ATTENDANCE
CHAMPIONS

YEAR 6
98.3%

Well done! 🏆

Let's keep it going! 🌟



Classroom Learning

Nursery

This week we have been reading the story 'Funnybones'. The children enjoyed learning dancing along to 'the skeleton dance' and learning about the different bones in our bodies. Our nursery role play area was transformed into a spooky Halloween home and the children enjoyed dressing up in costumes and making different potions! We have also been building on our knowledge of number this week, practising how to count to 10 orally, on their fingers and learning how to recognise numerals.

Reception

In Reception this week we have learnt the sounds k, u and b. The children also attempted to write labels for the animals from the story Funnybones, using their growing phonics knowledge to hear and record sounds in words.

In maths, we have been comparing different sizes and exploring the language of size. For example, the children matched objects by giving the big teddy the big cup and the small teddy the small cup, helping them to understand size relationships.

In RE, we have been learning about special people in our community and discussing the important roles they play. The children enjoyed painting pictures of these special people.

We have also been working hard on our personal, social and emotional development by encouraging the children to use their words to express their needs and feelings, use kind hands and feet, and practise taking turns with their friends. We are very proud of the progress they are making in becoming kind, confident members of our class community.

Year 1

This week we planned and wrote a first draft of our narrative for our new character, Fluffy, based on Beegu. We looked at storymaps and time conjunctions to sequence our writing.

In Maths we began looking at the part whole model in addition and subtraction and how 2 parts make a whole.

In Geography we looked at how we can improve our playground and in Art we used lines and shapes in pictures for portrait drawings. Well done on your first half term Year 1! Have a wonderful break.

Year 2

This week we looked at features of fact files and wrote our own about bears. In Maths we looked at shortcuts for subtracting by making 10.

Year 3

This week, the children have been learning about fact files. They were able to choose their own country and gather interesting facts by using the Chromebooks. In maths, the children have been exploring different ways to add and subtract numbers.

Year 4

This week, Year 4 have been busy embedding their SPaG skills, including using conjunctions and speech marks accurately. In Maths, they have been revising column addition, with a particular focus on exchanging. We have now finished our book, 'Zombierella', which the children have absolutely loved. The children also enjoyed taking part in our Harvest Festival on Wednesday with Reverend Sue, celebrating this special time of year together.

Year 5

This week, we have been recapping key maths skills, including addition and subtraction, using the inverse operation to check our answers, and rounding numbers. We applied these skills to a range of fun spooky-themed word problems, helping us to develop our reasoning and problem-solving abilities.

In English, we have been writing detailed setting descriptions based on New York City. We focused on the important skill of zooming into a single part of an image and describing it in depth, rather than trying to describe everything we could see. This helped us to create richer and more engaging descriptions for our readers.

In PE, we practised our bunny hops using apparatus set at different heights and levels. We worked on developing our balance, coordination and confidence when moving between equipment safely.

In RE, we learned about people who stand up for their beliefs and discussed why it is important that everyone has the freedom to choose and express their beliefs respectfully.

In Science, we investigated how temperature affects dissolving. Through our experiment, we discovered that sugar dissolves more quickly in hot water than in cold water, helping us to understand how temperature can change the rate at which substances dissolve.

Year 6

Year 6 have worked incredibly hard during their first mock SATs week. The tests have been marked and we have begun to go through them as a class. In writing, we have started a new learning journey based on non-chronological reports, using a short video prompt entitled, 'The Dreamgiver'. On Wednesday afternoon, the Year 6 pupils played an important part in the Harvest assembly. Every child had a part to play in the 'Harvest News Live' performance to the rest of the school. There will be homework that will need to be completed over the half-term holiday. Whilst it is important to rest and enjoy some time off school, we would like the children to tick along with their learning as we lead up to the SATs in May.



Harvest Festival

On Wednesday, the school came together to celebrate Harvest Festival. We were delighted to welcome Reverend Sue from St Paul's Church, who spoke to the children about the importance of harvest and sharing with others.

Reverend Sue brought along an apple, which she divided into three equal parts. She invited children to the front to help demonstrate how one-third of the world's population receives two-thirds of the world's food, highlighting the inequalities that exist around the world.

Some children proudly read aloud poems they had written in class about harvest, while Year 6 performed a short drama piece, offering a creative perspective on the meaning of harvest and the importance of helping others.

Together, we reflected on the values of kindness, generosity and gratitude, and how we can show these through our actions. It encouraged us all to appreciate what we have and to consider how we can support those in need.

Thank you so much for your generous donations of food. Your kindness and support will make a real difference to those in our local community. All the donated items will be given to the Runnymede Foodbank, who will ensure they reach the individuals and families who need them most.

We are incredibly grateful for your generosity and support. Thank you once again.



Thorpe Lea Family (TLF) News

🌟 Join the Thorpe Lea Family Team! 🌟

We're looking for volunteers to help keep our fantastic TLF community thriving.

After years of dedication, some of our wonderful committee members are stepping down due to other commitments. We're now looking for enthusiastic parents, carers and supporters to help continue the fantastic work of TLF.

Could you be our next:

- 🎤 Chair
- 📝 Secretary
- 💰 Treasurer

No experience needed, and roles can be shared.

✨ Make a difference for our children

✨ Meet new people

✨ Help organise events and fundraising

 TLF AGM

Wednesday 4th November, 5:00pm

To find out more, please contact:

✉ tlf@thorpe-lea.surrey.sch.uk

💙 New Faces • New Ideas • Same Amazing Community 💙

NEW

Hydration Stations

During the half-term break, we will be upgrading our external drinking fountains and installing two brand-new 'hydration stations' (see photo). These new stations will make it much easier for children to refill their water bottles during break and lunchtime, helping them to stay hydrated throughout the day.

To support learning and minimise disruption to lessons, children will be encouraged to top up their water bottles at break and lunchtime rather than during lesson time. We will also continue to provide a drinking fountain for any children who do not bring a water bottle to school.

We look forward to unveiling these new facilities after half term and encouraging healthy hydration habits across the school!



To complement our new water refill stations, we are pleased to offer 500ml flip-straw sports bottles for families who would like to purchase one for their child.

The bottles are available in four colours and can be purchased through your child's Tucasi account under 'Products'. Each bottle costs £2.00 and will be available from after half-term.

To help prevent bottles from being misplaced, we will write your child's name on the bottom of the bottle before it is distributed.

We hope these reusable bottles will encourage children to stay hydrated throughout the school day while supporting our efforts to reduce single-use plastics.

Upcoming Events

From Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October

Half Term

From Monday 2nd November – Friday 6th November

SEN Meetings

Thursday 5th November

Year 2 & 5 Fire Safety Visit

Thursday 5th November

Choir Workshop at The Magna Carta School



SURREY ARTS

BRASS ROUTES EGHAM

An ensemble perfect for complete beginners to explore a range of brass instruments, try something new and discover the fun of making music together.

Saturdays 10am to 11am

School years 4, 5 and 6
Strodes College, Egham
£21.38 per month
Free instrument hire

For further info and to join:
T: 01483 519303
E: surreyartsmusic@surreycc.gov.uk

surreycc.gov.uk/music

QR code



October Holiday Activities

Bat Attack!
Tuesday 27th Oct
11am-12pm or 2-3pm
Ages 5-12, £4.00
Get ready for Halloween by making this 3-D floppy bat to hang up!

Frankenstein Heads
Thursday 29th Oct
11am-12pm or 2-3pm
Ages 5-12, £4.00
Turn a small box into a monster Frankenstein head to decorate your house!

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL
<https://www.suffy.com/en-GB/organizations/friends-of-chertsey-museum>
Or phone: 01932 565 764
All 5 year olds must be accompanied.

www.chertseymuseum.org/events
Call 01932 565764 to book your place

Chertsey Museum logo



CHERTSEY MUSEUM 60th ANNIVERSARY

For All The Family

1st Saturday of the month 1.30pm-3.30pm

Museum Makes

Join us for a fun family craft activity where imagination meets history in a hands-on experience for all ages!

FREE DROP IN SESSION

QR code

Chertsey Museum, 33 Windsor Street, Chertsey KT16 BAT
chertseymuseum.org

Runnymede logo

FACE October Timetable

Runnymede Family Centre

 FACE	October Timetable
All regular 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	
Raising Self-Esteem	5 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	5 Oct 7pm
Decreasing Depression	6 Oct 10am
Introduction to OCD	6 Oct 7pm
Improving Family Communication	12 Oct 10am
What is ACT?	12 Oct 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	13 Oct 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	13 Oct 7pm
Understanding Anger	19 Oct 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 Oct 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	20 Oct 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	20 Oct 7pm
FREE - ADHD and Homework	22 Oct 7-8pm
Facing Defiance	26 Oct 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	26 Oct 7pm
School Anxiety	27 Oct 10am
Anxiety Explained	27 Oct 7pm



Runnymede Family Centre Drop-in

Parenting advice and support available from the Runnymede Family Centre team. Just drop in and ask for a confidential chat with one of our family support workers.

- Mondays 10:00 - 12:00** at the Revive Coffee Shop 99, Guildford Street Chertsey, KT16 9AS
- 2nd Tuesday of the month 10:00 - 12:00** at The Village Centre Cafe, Victoria Street, Englefield Green, Egham TW20 0OX
- Fridays 9:00 - 10:00** at Runnymede Family Centre, The Poplars, Queen Mary Drive, New Haw, Addlestone, KT15 3TT

Please scan the QR code or visit our website to register your interest.
www.barnardosfamilycentressurrey.org.uk



Changing childhoods. Changing lives.





Runnymede Family Centre

Half Term
SENSORY ART EXPLORERS

Join us for a fun sensory art session for families with children age 3-10 years

Thursday 22nd October
10:30-11:30am

AT TESCO COMMUNITY ROOM
ADDLESTONE KT15 2AS

For more information and to book please email:
runnymedefamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk
or call 01932 901488



Changing childhoods. Changing lives.



Runnymede Family Centre

Half Term
SENSORY PLAY SESSION

Join us for a fun sensory play session for families with children age 3-10 years

Tuesday 27th October
10:30-11:30am

Runnymede Family Centre
The Poplars, Queen Mary's Drive
New Haw, KT15 3TT

For more information and to book please email:
runnymedefamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk
or call 01932 901488



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Runnymede Family Centre

Keeping Your Child in Mind

A course for parents to find new ways to work together to support growing families.

Do you want to:

- Understand your child's behaviour?
- Find new ways to deal with challenges?
- Learn how relationships impact children?
- Have a calmer and happier life?

4 week face to face course
Thursdays 7:00pm - 9:00pm
12th Nov - 3rd Dec 2026

Please register your interest by email or telephone:
runnymedefamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk
01932901488



Runnymede Family Centre

The Poplars, Queen Mary's Drive, New Haw KT15 3TT



Changing childhoods. Changing lives.

The Pantry

As the weather begins to get colder, a hot school meal can be a warm and comforting part of your child's day. Our catering provider, The Pantry, offers a variety of delicious, freshly prepared meals to help keep children warm, nourished and ready to learn.

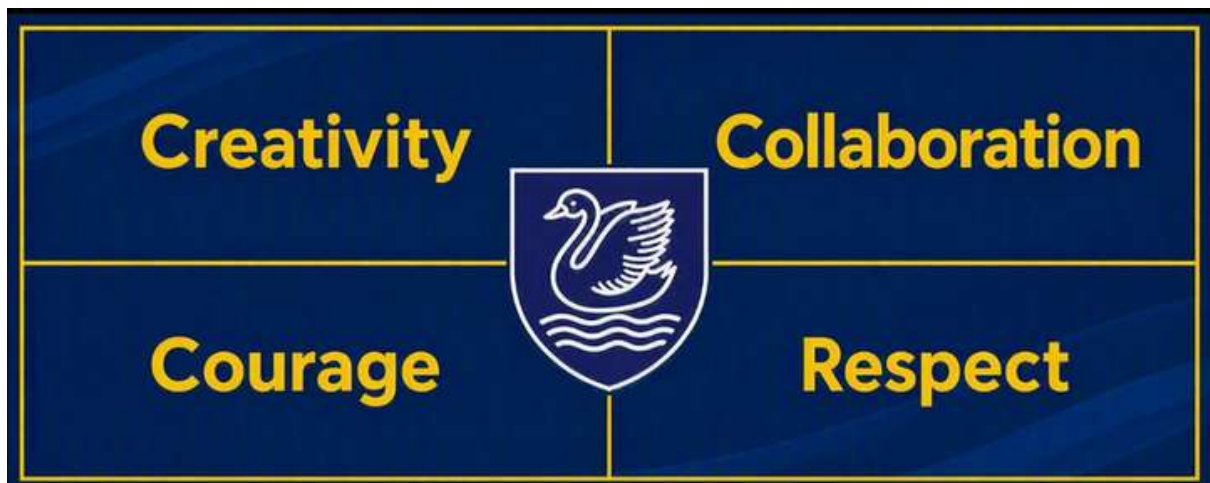
Please see the menu below for the tasty options available each day.

Thorpe Lea	Date 31 st Aug, 21 st Sep, 12 th Oct, 2 nd Nov, 23 rd Nov, 14 th Dec, 4 th Jan, 25 th Jan, 15 th Feb WEEK 1	Date 7 th Sep, 28 th Sep, 19 th Oct, 9 th Nov, 30 th Nov, 21 st Dec, 11 th Jan, 1 st Feb, 22 nd Feb WEEK 2	Date 14 th Sep, 5 th Oct, 26 th Oct, 16 th Nov, 7 th Dec, 28 th Dec, 18 th Jan, 8 th Feb WEEK 3
MONDAY	Handmade Margherita Pizza with Wedges (GL,M) BBQ Quorn Fillet with Wedges (GL) Jacket Potatoes - Cheese (M), Beans or Tuna (F) Ice Cream (M) or Fresh Fruit	Mac n Cheese (GL,M) Sticky BBQ Vegetable Noodles (GL,SO) Wrap - Cheese (GL,M), Ham, Tuna (F) Apple & Raisin Biscuit (GL) or Fresh Fruit	Handmade Margherita Pizza with Wedges (GL,M) Veggie Pasta Bake (GL,M) Jacket Potatoes - Cheese (M), Beans or Tuna (F) Caramel Whip (M) or Fresh Fruit
TUESDAY	Chicken Meatballs with Tomato & Basil Sauce & Rice Vegan Meatballs with Tomato & Basil Sauce & Rice (SO) Wrap - Cheese (GL,M), Ham, Tuna (F) Lemon Drizzle Cake (GL,SU) or Fresh Fruit	Mild Beef Chilli with Rice (GL) Mild Veggie Chilli with Rice (SO) Jacket Potatoes - Cheese (M), Beans or Tuna (F) Apple Crumble Cake with Custard (GL,M) or Fresh Fruit	Chicken Korma with Steamed Rice Cheesy Baked Bean Quesadilla with Rice (GL,M) Wrap - Cheese (GL,M), Ham, Tuna (F) Marble Cake with Custard (GL,M) or Fresh Fruit
WEDNESDAY	Roast Gammon with Potatoes & Gravy Vegan Gammon Sausage with Potatoes & Gravy (GL) Jacket Potatoes - Cheese (M), Beans or Tuna (F) Fruity Shortbread (GL) or Fresh Fruit	Roast Chicken Breast with Potatoes & Gravy Quorn roast with Potatoes & Gravy (EG,M,SU) Wrap - Cheese (GL,M), Ham, Tuna (F) Strawberry Mousse Pots (M) or Fresh Fruit	Pork Sausage Roast with Potatoes & Gravy (GL,SO,SU) Veggie Sausage Roast with Potatoes & Gravy (SO) Jacket Potatoes - Cheese (M), Beans or Tuna (F) Oaty Biscuit (GL) or Fresh Fruit
THURSDAY	Pastry Topped Chicken Pie with Sauté Potatoes (GL,M) Partrty Tomato sauce & Cheese, Pinwheel, Sauté Potatoes (GL,M) Wrap - Cheese (GL,M), Ham, Tuna (F) Vegan Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit	BBQ Chicken breast with Tater Tots Handmade Margherita Pizza with Tater Tots (GL,M) Jacket Potatoes - Cheese (M), Beans or Tuna (F) Vanilla Cookie (GL) or Fresh Fruit	Beef Pasta Bolognese (GL) Cheesy Pasta (GL,M) Wrap - Cheese (GL,M), Ham, Tuna (F) Vegan Mandarin Jelly or Fresh Fruit
FRIDAY	Breaded Fish Fingers with Chips & Beans (GL,F) Veggie Fingers with Chips & Beans (GL) Jacket Potatoes - Cheese (M), Beans or Tuna (F) Chocolate Cookie (GL) or Fresh Fruit	Crispy Chicken Bites with Chips & Beans (GL) Crispy Vegan Nuggets with Chips & Beans (GL) Wrap - Cheese (GL,M), Ham, Tuna (F) Super Oaty Flapjack (GL) or Fresh Fruit	Oven Baked Battered Fish with Chips & Beans (GL,F) Handmade Cheese & Onion Pasty with Chips & Beans (GL,M) Jacket Potatoes - Cheese (M), Beans or Tuna (F) Iced Sprinkle Sponge (GL) or Fresh Fruit
VEGETABLES, SALAD, BREAD, AVAILABLE DAILY			
BREAD CONTAINS - GL - M - EG - SO ALLERGY KEY GLUTEN - GL / GLUTEN - GL / CRUSTACEANS - CR / EGGS - EG / FISH - FI / LUPIN - LU / PEANUT - PE MILK - MI / MUSTARD - MU / NUTS - NU / PEARLITS - PE / PISCINE DEGREE - DE / SOYA - SO / SULPHUR - SU The Pantry are committed to improving the standards of children's meals across every one of our Schools, and fresh, ethically sourced ingredients are used every day across our kitchens.			

Thorpe Lea Primary School Autumn Term

2026 Enrichment Calendar

Friday 25 th September	PTA Cake Sale – After School
Wednesday 7 th October	Year 5 & 6 to visit Magna Carta School for The British Army's Engagement Ensemble – Details to follow
Tuesday 13 th October	Reception 2027 Open afternoon at 2pm
Wednesday 14 th October	Individual and Sibling Photos – Children are to wear full school uniform
Wednesday 14 th October	Harvest Festival – Children only
Friday 16 th October	PTA Halloween Disco Reception – Year 6 – Details to follow
Monday 19 th October – Friday 30 th October	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November – Friday 6 th November	SEN Meetings – Details to follow
Thursday 5 th November	Year 2 & Year 5 Fire Safety Visit
Thursday 5 th November	Choir Workshop at The Magna Carta School
Wednesday 11 th November	Remembrance Day
Wednesday 11 th November	Parents Evening 3.40 – 6pm Details to follow
Thursday 12 th November	Parents Evening 3.40 – 6pm Details to follow
Monday 16 th November	Nursing team to give flu vaccine – Reception – Year 6
Thursday 19 th November	Reception 2027 Open afternoon at 2pm
Wednesday 2 nd December	Christmas Tree Festival – Choir
Monday 7 th December	Panto to all children in school
Tuesday 8 th December	Nursery Nativity Session A & 30 hours Nursery – Details to follow
Wednesday 9 th December	PTA – Elfridges – Details to follow
Thursday 10 th December	Nursery Nativity Session B & 30 hours Nursery – Details to follow
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Concert at St Paul's Church – Details to follow
Friday 18 th December	End of Term – School will finish at 2.15pm
Monday 4 th January	Whole School Inset Day - School closed
Tuesday 5 th January – Thursday 7 th January	Nursery Inset Days – Nursery Closed



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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