

Thorney Tribune

Thorney Island Community Primary School

Newsletter No 4

December 2023

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Dear Parents, Governors & Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and looking forward to Christmas. This has been an extremely busy half term with the flooding at the main gate adding an unwelcome dimension, however with your support we have managed to do all that we wanted to. The children have been a delight and a pleasure to be with over this festive period. They have shown extreme kindness and generosity of spirit which should make you all extremely proud parents.

STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS

30 November		8 December	
Owl Class	- Henrietta Mansfield	Owl Class	- Delilah Willis-Alderton
Osprey Class	- Elsie-Belle Edmonds	Osprey Class	- Brielle Asare
Falcon Class	- Amelia-Rose Savage	Falcon Class	- Daisie Dallimore
Kestrel Class	- Lottie Bigby-Sutton	Kestrel Class	- Maikeli Kepa
Raven Class	- Layla Reith-Van Beers	Raven Class	- Kerysa Matthews
Merlin Class	- Max Hatton	Merlin Class	- Makelesi Naulumatua
Hawk Class	- Daniela Wood	Hawk Class	- Alex Edwards
Eagle Class	- Ruby Ashton	Eagle Class	- Tulisa Morley

Platinum Reading Awards - 100 Reads

Congratulations to the following children for reaching their Platinum Reading Certificate:

Falcon Class: Alfie Lawes

Hawk Class: Eli Clark and Emily McFarlane

Merlin Class: Oliver Bent

Kestrel Class: Jaeger Hughes, Heidi Baldwin, Lottie Bigby-Sutton and Darcie Edwards

Attendance - 96.8%

The childrens attendance has been amazing so far this academic year. Most schools aspire to 95% and in most schools each of our classes attendance would probably put them at the top of the school. However at Thorney the expectations are high and the children strive to attend school whenever possible. This is much appreciated and a major initiative of the government, as since the pandemic much fewer children are attending school regularly.

Class	Attendance	Rank	Class	Attendance	Rank
Owl	97%	2 nd	Raven	96%	5 th
Osprey	96%	5 th	Merlin	97%	2 nd
Falcon	97%	2 nd	Hawk	96.8%	3 rd
Kestrel	97.1%	1 st	Eagle	96.6%	4 th

Nationally to date the official attendance rate for all schools is 93.6%

Christmas Performances



I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas Performances. The feedback from everyone was extremely positive and much appreciated. I felt that the children sang beautifully and that the narrators were extremely confident and articulate.

Road Safety Poster Competition

Road safety is always a major concern at school. We have had a couple of near misses recently, hence why the road calming measures were installed by the garages near school. To reinforce this message Mr Smith is running a Road Safety Poster Campaign with prizes for the best posters. We will be working on this at school but if children want to design a poster at home and bring it in to school that would be great. We are hoping that some of the posters will be professionally reproduced and displayed around camp.

Rainbow Theatre

The children had a great time watching Snow White at school. The feedback from everyone was very positive. Watching live theatre is always an experience the children enjoy and being able to participate, which many of them did, is just the icing on the cake!



Clarinet Assembly

I was very impressed with Merlin and Raven Classes who performed so beautifully in front of the school and parents. They have only had nine lessons and yet the progress that they have made has been tremendous. It was also good to see the children who have chosen to continue to have lessons and branch out to learn new instruments perform so confidently.



Applying for Free School Meals

Is your household income below £16,190 per year and/or are you in receipt of Universal Credit (with no element of Working Tax Credit)? If the answer is yes, your child(ren) may be entitled to receive Free School Meals?

Registering for FSM could also raise an extra **£1,455** for our school.

This applies to all children, including children in Years R - 2 who automatically receive Universal Infant Free School Meals.

Applying for FSMs is now done electronically via <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/#is-my-child-eligible>

If you would like more information or help applying for Free School Meals, please contact Mrs McCrossan in the school office. All enquires will be dealt with confidentially.

Administation of Non-prescribed Medication ie Paracetamol/Calpol

As stated in the Administration of Medicines Policy, the school holds a small amount of paracetamol/Calpol for administering to children who develop symptoms eg: headache, temperature, earache, during the school day.

Only under exceptional circumstances where it is deemed that their administration is required to allow the child to remain in school, will the school administer a single dose of paracetamol/Calpol.

The school will not administer paracetamol/Calpol:

- as a preventative, i.e. in case the child develops symptoms during the school day
- if parents have not administered medication that is required before school

The Administration of Medicines Policy is available on our school website for you to view in full.

DIARY DATES 2024

02 January	Back to school - start of the Spring Term
10 January	Jake's Circus visiting Osprey & Falcon Classes
15 January	After school clubs start this week
26 January	Hawk Class to SeaCity, Southampton
29 January	Merlin & Raven Classes to Harry Potter Studio Tour
31 January	School Photographs
01 February	Falcon Class to Gilbert White's House
5 February	NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK
07 February	Parents Evening - more information to follow
08 February	Parents Evening - more information to follow
29 Febraury	Dance Club performing at Dance House 2024 - more information to follow
01 March	Kestrel Class to RHS Gardens, Wisley
07 March	World Book Day - more information to follow
15 March	Comic Relief - non-school uniform
18-20 March	Eagle Class residential visit to Runways End

Term Date 2023/2024

01 September 2023	Start of Autumn Term
23-27 October 2023	Half Term
15 December 2023	End of Autumn Term - Break up for Christmas Holiday
02 January 2024	Start of Spring Term
12-16 February 2024	Half Term
28 March 2024	End of Spring Term - Break up for Easter Holiday
15 April 2024	Start of Summer Term
27-31 May 2024	Half Term
23 July 2024	End of Summer Term - Break up for Summer Holiday

INSET Days 2023/2024 - children do not attend school on these days

~~Friday 20 October 2023~~
~~Monday 30 October 2023~~
Monday 19 February 2024
Friday 24 May 2024
Monday 24 June 2024