

# THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



*'Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements'*



Friday 26th January 2018

## Super Learning Hero Awards

Congratulations goes to the following children for being given awards for the week commencing 15th January. These awards were recognised in assembly on Monday 22nd January.

Positive, Persevering  
Poppy

Co-operative, Caring  
Craig

Curious, Questioning  
Quinn

Reflective, Reviewing  
Ruby

Reuben (Oak)

Emma-Rose (Maple)

Millie/Isabella (Elder)

### Head Teacher's Award

Harrison (Acorn)/Isabella (Elder)

### Governor's Award

Millie (Elder) to be awarded

Congratulations goes to the following children for being given awards for the week commencing 22nd January 2018. These awards will be recognised in assembly on Monday 29th January 2018.

Positive, Persevering  
Poppy

Co-operative, Caring  
Craig

Curious, Questioning  
Quinn

Reflective, Reviewing  
Ruby

Harry R (Elder)

Tilly R (Maple)

Maddie (Oak)

Jack (Elder)/Martha (Maple)

### Head Teacher's Award

Jonatan (Maple)

## Time to Shine

Congratulations to these children for their outstanding achievements outside of school, well done to all of you



Harry R (Elder) Swimming, Stage 6  
Yasmin (Elder) Gymnastics, Bronze



## Message from Mrs Norton

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **The Growing Thakeham Family**

We are pleased to welcome two new children to our wonderful school next week. Ralph will be starting in Acorn class on Monday and Frankie in Oak class. I am sure they will settle in quickly and be warmly welcomed by everyone. We will now have 99 pupils on roll!

### **British Values—Robert Burns Assembly**



Alongside our school values of Care (Respect), Co-operation, Honesty, Responsibility, Perseverance, Curiosity and Reflection, we also ensure opportunities for children to learn about the British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs, and for those without faith. This week in our assemblies we have been learning about responsibility and also about the Scottish poet, Robert Burns. We looked at one of his poems 'Up in the morning early' and we looked at the Scottish words and thought about the Scottish dialect. <http://www.scottishpoetrylibrary.org.uk/poetry/poems/morning-early>

I set the children a challenge to find out one of the Scottish words in the poem 'sairly'. The children were also interested to hear how the poet is celebrated on what would have been his birthday 25th January. They weren't too keen on the idea of haggis though! They should be able to tell you what tatties and neeps are too. I was really pleased to hear that Maddie in Oak class was very resourceful and just like 'Curious, Questioning Quinn' she contacted her Grampa in Glasgow for help who also kindly recorded himself reading the poem. I will share this with the children next week as he does much better justice to the poem than I did!! Well done Maddie for completing the challenge and finding out that 'sairly' means: The drift is driving sairly (sorely).....meaning the snow was really bad!

### **Teaching & Learning**

Teachers have been busy observing TAs teaching our Phonics (Read, Write Inc) groups and have been really pleased with the quality of the sessions. Mrs Hopkins and I have also been observing Maths lessons, focussing on differentiation— ensuring the needs of all groups of learners are being met and have been very pleased with support and challenge in place for pupils. Governors have visited classes to see writing/spelling and Maths in action in classes and also provision for Most Able Pupils in KS2 in a writing workshop led by Mrs Hopkins (Writing Leader). One of our governors visited our Digital Leaders with Mr Penty (Computing Leader) and to find out our achievements with our inclusion school development work. Governors have been part of our quality assurance work joining us to see how we moderate children's work to decide/agree the standard pupils are working at. Our Maths pupil work has also been verified by teachers from locality schools.

Our County Adviser, Mr Laverty visited to find out about the provision for our SEN pupils and those who are 'Pupil Premium' and for pupils for whom English is a 2nd language. His focus was also to look at progress and outcomes. He was impressed by the range of support and provision we offer, the progress these children are making and how well we know our children!

Staff have also been busy with training. Mrs Baxter has visited a local Worthing school who achieved 'Primary Regional Champion 2017' award for their work with Pupil Premium (disadvantaged) children. We are undertaking a research project alongside some of our locality schools to support and extend our work with these pupils to improve progress and outcomes for these pupils. Mrs Turner has successfully passed her First Aid certificate and Mr Gilligan has successfully renewed his. Mrs Byatt has attended a course on improving boys' writing in Reception and Mrs Hoare has been brushing up on Ofsted requirements for Reception class. Miss Brown has been extending her understanding of providing opportunities and supporting pupils to achieve 'greater depth' in Year 2. Mrs Hopkins attended a training to support a project 'Voices Around the World' led by Emily Barton and the Choral Director of the Chichester Choristers. Our choir will be taking part in an event which will see them singing in English, Nepalese, Spanish, French and German!! Further details to follow.

### **Parent Involvement**

Thank you to Reception class parents who joined Mrs Hoare today to find out more about our approach to phonics and supporting reading/writing at home, the turn out was fantastic! We hope you had fun and found this useful, thank you for your support. We hope parents will join us on **Friday 2nd February for our 'NSPCC Numbers Day'**. Throughout the day children will be involved in practical activities with money to deepen their understanding of the value of money, practical use of money and saving. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like to offer your help. Everyone is welcome to attend an assembly at **2:45pm** to see what they children have learnt. This is also an opportunity to raise funds for NSPCC (see letter). Maths governors will also be joining us for part of the day. A reminder that we are holding a **workshop for parents on e-safety on Tuesday 6th February at 3.30pm** (letter to follow) which we hope will be useful and will be well attended.

## **Community Links & SMSC (Spiritual, Moral and Social Education)**

I was delighted to welcome Rev'd Dawn Carn from Trinity Methodist Church to our school this week. She will be leading an assembly after we return from the February break to celebrate Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. We are delighted to be invited to attend Trinity Church for a special Easter service (details to follow). Dawn will also visit us to lead an assembly in the summer term and we are looking forward to extending our community links.

SPLASH led our assembly today, helping the children to learn about reflecting on obstacles in our lives and how we can persevere when we face a challenge. As always this was delivered in an engaging and entertaining manner!

Church Warden, Allison Goodfellow from St. Mary's Church, Thakeham will be visiting us next week to lead an assembly on perseverance, one of our school values. We look forward to welcoming her back to our school.

Today WSCC Music Service are leading an assembly to inspire and inform children about playing the guitar and lessons in school. Please see letter for details about signing up if your child is interested.

### **The Hive**

The last day for The Hive operating at our school site will be Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. From Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February they will run a shuttle service to Washington Village Hall - see details attached. Low pupil numbers and uptake of the service have resulted in The Hive making this decision, despite further support from us as a school, which we fully understand and appreciate. We will continue to review the need and options for wrap around child care on site for your children, subject to demand. Please do let us know if this is something you are interested in. A review of parent interest will also take place in the summer term."

### **Building Update**

Children have been enjoying the new playground markings which are both educational and fun! We are looking forward to our new keyboard for our new hall and hall display boards are due to be installed next week. A reminder as per the 8th December and 12th January newsletters that our school is having a new roof and replacement/removal of the sky lights. This is progressing well working around the inclement weather. The roof for the temporary hall area and excess areas is almost complete and from Wednesday to Friday next week roof work will be carried out on the Library and the offices off this. This area for these 3 days will be sealed off and out of bounds to everyone at school to allow work to be carried out. As usual all necessary steps will be taken to ensure the school and contractors meet health and safety requirements. If you are in school during this time with your children, please ensure you accompany them when walking past this area. Work on classrooms will be undertaken during the February half-term holiday to minimise disruption to classes. Of course, as I am sure you will understand the schedule is weather dependant and for that reason beyond our control! We will continue to update you if there are changes to the schedule.

I am pleased that parents are being more vigilant before and after school when with their children in the playground/car park area. Please do not allow them to swing on scaffolding poles, jump/play leapfrog over the bollards in the car park or play near the temporary fencing. We value your support in supervising your child at these times to ensure your children remain safe.

### **Packed lunches and snacks**

**A reminder that children should not bring any food products into school that contain nuts. We have several pupils and staff members who have allergies. Such products can cause severe allergic reactions or more serious issues.** A reminder too that chocolate and sweets are not helpful in children's lunchboxes because not only are they unhealthy snacks but because the after affects in class can be unwelcome too! We thank you for your support in this.

Best Wishes

Mrs S. Norton

## Elder Class Real Life Maths

Last week in maths, Elder Class baked scones and created smoothies while all the time thinking of the ratio between the ingredients and what they were scaling the amounts up by as they adapted their recipes.



## DEAR—Oak Class

Oak Class were once again visited by a class of SGS children from Rock Road. They spent the morning telling the children all about the writing they had done in school and how they had made books to share with them. The children rotated around the group and read over 22 stories! It was a wonderful morning, which Oak class always look forward to.



## KS2 Writer's Workshop

Last Friday I had the pleasure to work with a very talented group of writers in our first KS2 Writer's Workshop.' We developed our use of vocabulary and imagery and developed a writing idea from a range of different genres. One of our governors, Judith James, even popped in to see the budding authors in action! I hope to soon be able to share some of their magical writing with you soon.

Mrs Hopkins

## Elder—Stunning Start Rainbow Theatre Company - Introduction to Shakespeare

"The Rainbow Theatre Company came to Thakeham Primary School on the 25/1/18 to teach our class about William Shakespeare's plays."  
(Milo)

"We started off the morning with some warm-ups. We started with the spatial awareness test then we went to the stages of life - we had to go from being born to dying, only saying: "Banana Custard!"  
(Juliette)

"We interacted with many scenes from Shakespeare's play. My favourite one was the scene where they were acting and the boy's head turned into a donkey!"  
(Isabella)

"The actors did the best they could because they were always ready for our next challenge and they would overcome it. I loved the day; it was definitely the best day of the week!"  
(Ollie)



## Photo of the Fortnight



## Acorn Class visit Pizza Express

Acorn class had a fantastic time on Wednesday morning at Pizza Express. We all got stuck in kneading and shaping our dough to make our very own pizzas. The children got to taste, sniff and touch all of the ingredients before putting the finishing touches to the pizzas. After a soggy walk back to the mini bus the children sampled their pizzas back in the classroom before taking the rest home to share with their families. Well done Acorns for an excellent first trip out of school!



## FOTS Movie Night

FOTS will be hosting a Movie night on Friday 9th February here at school. The movie is CARS 3 and admission, which includes popcorn and a drink will be £2.50 per child. Further details to follow.



## Maple—Stunning Start

Maple class this term are learning about the life in Britain in the Victorian period. Our stunning start involved a day of coding using Scratch to create Victorian themed animations. Here is a screenshot of Archie and Emilia's joint project:



The children did extremely well developing their understanding of algorithms and sequencing and had a very enjoyable day. Maple class will be inventing more detailed animations as the term progresses!

## Acorn—Stunning Start

We found eggs in the classroom, the children have been talking about how to look after the eggs and what they might grow in to. They have all made nests and named their eggs, hoping for them to crack soon!!



WE ARE NOT GOING ... Just  
buzzing to and fro!



# THE HIVE

## SHUTTLE SERVICE

Breakfast Club - Opens at Washington Village Hall at 7.30am, we then shuttle children to Thakeham school for school start.

After School Club - We will be waiting at Thakeham Primary to collect the children and shuttle to our hive of activity at Washington Village Hall ready for you to collect anytime before 6pm!

No up front fees! Book as and when you want, cancel as little as 24 hrs before, We pride ourselves in being flexible!

Fully qualified, fully insured and Ofsted registered.

£5 per child per hour

Just as a childminder would do except we operate from a hall instead of our home.

Email: [hiveafterschool@hotmail.com](mailto:hiveafterschool@hotmail.com)  
Telephone: 07880 935545





## RECRUITMENT FAIR

THERE ARE 284 SCHOOLS IN WEST SUSSEX  
LOOKING FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU

**Saturday 3 February 2018 » 10am-2pm**

Premier Lounge at Fontwell Park Racecourse, BN18 0SY

**Saturday 24 February 2018 » 10am-2pm**

Ifield Community College, Crawley, RH11 0DB

**[WWW.WESTSUSSEX.GOV.UK/JOBSINSCHOOLS](http://WWW.WESTSUSSEX.GOV.UK/JOBSINSCHOOLS)**



Whether you are new to teaching, want to train to teach or looking for a new career, your local school may be the answer