



# NEWSLETTER

## 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### THAKEHAM PRIMARY SUPER HERO LEARNING AWARDS



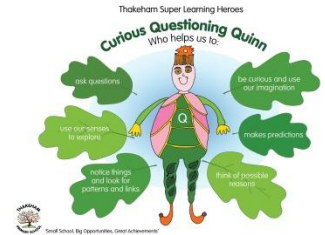
Leighton (Elder)



Joshua (Acorns)  
Zack (Oak)  
Noah S (Elder)  
Jake (Acorns)  
Bertie (Oak)  
Ayla (Elder)  
Jaron (Oak)



Jake (Acorns)  
Eryn (Maple)  
Pollie (Maple)



Daniel (Maple)

HEAD TEACHER AWARD

GOVERNOR AWARD

### Time to Shine! Congratulations to for your outstanding achievements outside of school

Eryn & Robyn for receiving their first gymnastics awards!



Holly for her outstanding achievements in Tag Rugby!



# Message from Mrs Norton

Dear Parents/Carers,  
Apologies our fortnightly newsletter is later than planned – this due to increased workload and staff shortages. This is therefore a bumper edition!

## Covid-19 Update

After a challenging couple of weeks, we are pleased to report that the vast majority of children have now returned to school. It is important however that we all remain vigilant to the virus, especially with the new strain, Omicron, beginning to circulate further.

A huge thank you to families for your support and co-operation through this time. Please continue to keep us updated of any Covid-19 in your household and if this is the new variant (Omicron), it is a requirement that everyone in your household and contacts self-isolate in line with the latest guidance. This does not apply for the Delta variant however. I would like to emphasise that these are the government rules that we must follow and not ours as a school [When to self-isolate and what to do - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do-coronavirus-covid-19/)

**What a busy few weeks we have had.....**

## Children in Need Appeal 19<sup>th</sup> November

Thank you to children and families for supporting this event. The classes joined in a live Joe Wicks workout, dressed up and had fun!



## Anti Bullying Week 8-12<sup>th</sup> November

In **Acorns** we looked at the differences between unkind behaviour and bullying behaviour. We talked about how our behaviour and words can have a big impact on other people and how important it is to be kind. Together we looked at different scenarios and talked about how we could be kind and look after our friends for each one and made a class list of kind words we could use.

In **Oak** we explored how a person being bullied may feel and also how to be kind to someone who is being bullied. We acted out some different scenarios and discussed whether or not we felt it was bullying and why. We then came up with some positive actions we could do if we saw someone being bullied. As a class we also had some circle times throughout the week to give children the opportunity to talk about how they are feeling currently and discuss any times we felt sad on the playground and how best to help in the future.

**Maple** Class have taken their time identifying what it means to be a bully and why someone might bully another. We have also looked at the role a bystander plays in a range of situations and have created posters that will support children to understand what they need to do if they feel like they are being bullied. Alongside the theme of 'one kind word' for anti-bullying week, the children had to identify 5 times they showed someone kindness and how they felt in those moments. We discussed the importance of being kind towards others and the reasons why someone might not show kindness to another.

## Growth Mindset Day 26<sup>th</sup> November

Linking with our Super Learning Hero 'Positive, Persevering Poppy (soon to be Perry!) we have been refreshing our work on the importance of growth mindset, what it feels like when we are 'stuck' with our learning, why this is good to a certain extent and what we can do to help ourselves and each other. Originally created by James Nottingham in 2007, the learning pit is part of what he calls a learning challenge. It is a place that a child will be once they have a series of unresolved questions due to thinking deeply about a certain topic. Each class engaged in a range of learning opportunities throughout the day to develop their understanding of these concepts.

**Acorns** really enjoyed learning about how our brains can grow in different ways as we learn. We talked about how everyone is always learning and that no baby is born able to read, write or ride a bike! Together we came up with some ideas of things we are good at and things we are still learning to do. We then went off and made some individual posters to show what learning and growth mindset means to us.

In **Oak** class we really enjoyed learning about the 'Learning pit' and gained a good understanding of why learning can often be difficult. We learned that the rewards of persevering with a growth mindset make the effort worthwhile. In the afternoon, we were able to apply this learning in our DT lesson. We made models of freestanding playground equipment for Stickman's children to play on. Often our models would fall down and the whole class were amazing at having a positive mindset and kept going to try and be successful in their model making.

**Maple** children took part in an initial challenge that involved balancing a counter on one knee for 3 minutes. Only 2 children completed the task at first however after we had discussed what it means to have a growth mindset vs a fixed mindset they were all ready for the challenge again. This time 5 children managed to balance the counter for the full 3 minutes and all others beat their previous times. The children also had a go at a range of activities that tested their mindsets and by the end of the afternoon they were able to support each other and identify how they could improve.



### **Year 5/6 Football Tournament 10<sup>th</sup> November**

This was a close one! A last-minute goal to the opposition in the final seconds of the game meant that Thakeham (Yellow) took second place and Thakeham (Blue) took third.

Everyone who took part was fantastic, whether that was through their dribbling, passing, shooting or just general teamwork, it was an excellent display of all the skills they have learnt in their PE last half term.

### **Year 3 /4 Football Taster 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

This taster was highly anticipated by the children in Maple Class. They had the opportunity to develop their football skills and to play small matches against children from other local primary schools. All involved came back really excited to share their knowledge and tell us about all they had learnt.



### **Maple Storrington Trip**

To support our Geography this term, Maple Class enjoyed a walk around the local area. We headed towards Storrington High Street and the children took their time spotting different types of buildings and furniture they could see on route. The children spent some time creating wonderful maps of the High Street, demonstrating their understanding of keys and compass directions. We will be using all of the information that has been collected about our local area to create our own tourist information booklets in class





## Mindfulness Garden Development



A big thank you to Mr Meacher, our Premises Manager for painting our new 'beach hut' storage shed. This will be used to store our colourful outdoor beanbags for outdoor mindfulness reading and for some of our PE equipment. We are soon to add a rowing boat for planting to this area of our Mindfulness Garden.

We are looking for further (physical) help with developing the final two sections of our Mindfulness Garden – if you or someone you know can help, please contact Mrs Stender via the School Office.

## Daily Mile Track

After five months of negotiations, we were finally able to have our Daily Mile Track installed. The finishing touches (blue surfacing) will have in the spring term. In the meantime this has not stopped our classes enjoying the track and exercise!

This has been part funded through our PE budget and part through FOTS which we are very grateful for.



## Christmas Has Begun!

Despite the challenges of Covid-19, Christmas is in full swing already! Last Friday the children enjoyed their decoration making and their classrooms certainly look festive!

I was delighted to work with children in Oak/Maple/Elder and especially the School Council, to create the decorations on the theme of 'joy' for our Christmas tree as part of the Warminghurst

Christmas Tree Festival last week. Hopefully some of you managed to visit the festival last weekend which was very special as always. Children across the school considered what made them feel 'joy' which featured on their beautifully decorated hand painted baubles. They everything from PE to reading, family and friends through to chocolate and shopping!

Thank you to Rachel for her wonderful generosity and hospitality over the years of the school participating in this event and creating special memories for all of us.



## A School Council Interview Karen Bridle – Parent Governor

We recently welcomed our new Parent Governor into school to be interviewed by the School Council. They devised a number of questions to find out more about our new addition to our Governing Body before meeting Karen and interviewing her. Here's what they found out:

### 1. Why did you want to be a Parent Governor?

I am passionate about the wellbeing of children and would like to be able to help others.

**2. What do you enjoy about being Parent Governor?**

I like meeting children they are good fun. I enjoy teamwork, like helping others and being able to improve aspects of school.

**3. How did you get this job?**

Another parent encouraged me, I asked Mrs Norton about this and then I applied.

**4. What do you really like about our school?**

Children are kind, respectful and well mannered. They help and encourage each other; staff are caring and committed to helping children. I love that we are a small community school.

**5. What are you hoping to achieve for our school?**

I am hoping to help the school and teachers keep everyone safe and well looked after. I hope all children will have the opportunities to achieve their very best and be best they can be.

**6. When you are not working as a Parent Governor, what job do you do?**

My most important job is being a Mum. My paid job is a Therapist and Mental Health Practitioner. I help young people look after their health and wellbeing

**7. What are your hobbies?**

Netball, singing, badminton, crafts, cross stitch, knitting and I am teaching myself piano.

**Last week of term – Christmas Events**

**Nativity/Carol Service**

Separately, Acorn and Oak class have begun to rehearse and film their nativity as children have returned to school following self-isolation this week. Work on this will continue to try to include all children as far as possible. The recording will be made available free of charge to parents/carers before the Christmas break.

Rehearsals for the carol service have stepped up in Elder and Maple class with most children back at

school. Filming will take place next week when Mrs Hopkins returns to school.

**Raffle**

Although the Jingle Mingle will not be going ahead, we will still continue to draw the raffle for the Class Christmas Hampers on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December. You still have time to return your ticket stubs and money to the school office or request further tickets. Deadline is 9am Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

**Christmas Movie Afternoon**

FOTS are kindly providing the children with popcorn and a drink to enjoy with their Christmas movie on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December during the afternoon. They also have a couple of other treats in store too!

**Christmas Lunch & Party**

We can't wait for Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December! Children are welcome to wear their Christmas jumpers/tops to school with their school trousers/skirt on the bottom. If KS2 children haven't booked a Chartwells lunch they will need a packed lunch please. They will not need to bring anything in for the afternoon as this will be organised by the teachers. Elder and Maple will have their parties on Friday afternoon.

**Oak Class Trip to the Theatre –Stick Man**

This will go ahead as planned on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November subject to our risk assessments.

**Housepoint Winners – Wear your House colour Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

We will be announcing this term's winning house team on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December. These children will be able to wear anything in their house colour on this day. If you are unsure which house your child is in, please contact the school office.

**Horsham Matters & Storrington Rotary Club**

We were very grateful to Horsham Matters working with us to provide food boxes to a number of families earlier this week. Next week Storrington Rotary Club also have some great surprises for some of our families too!

**Teaching Assistant Appointment**

We are delighted to have appointed an additional part time Teaching Assistant in Acorn class to support individual SEND pupil needs. Mrs McIntyre will be joining Thakeham from January where I am sure her holistic background will be put to very good use indeed.

We hope to bring you further news of an Acorn TA (SEND) next week.



## Christmas Cards

Next week children can bring Christmas cards in for each other which will be delivered to them in class. If their card is for a child in another class, please ensure the class name is on the envelope.

## Gifts

Last year we introduced the concept of replacing gifts (if you wish) for staff with a book for our school library from our school Amazon wish list. Details can be found here:

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1FFV8VCYLRT0Y?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1FFV8VCYLRT0Y?ref=wl_share)

## Our Revamped Super Learning Heroes

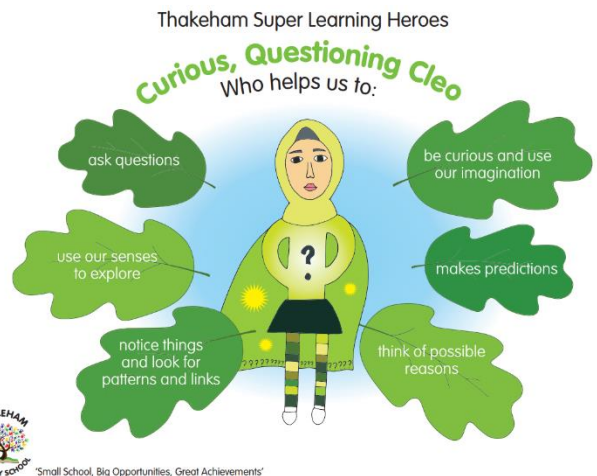
In line with our School Development work on Equalities the children were tasked with revising our characters as part of a competition. The winning designs were chosen by the School Council and these were then digitally transferred into our Super Learning Hero posters. We will be introducing these further this term and into the new year.



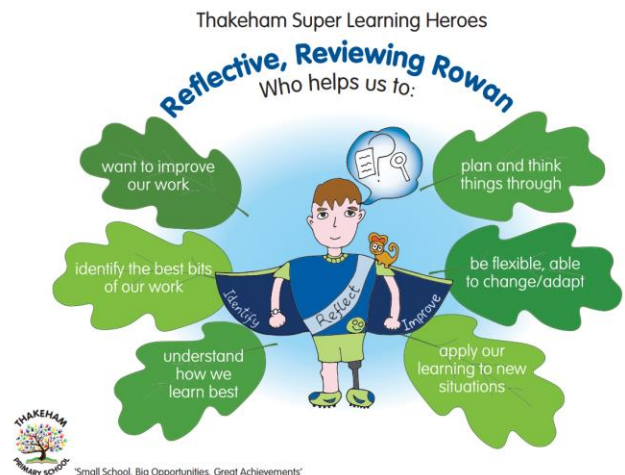
**Congratulations to Ede (who was in Acorn class) for her winning design!**



**Congratulations to Elliott (who was in Oak class) for his winning design!**



**Congratulations to Evelyn and Lily (who were in Maple class) for their winning design!**



**Congratulations to Emma-Rose, Toby (now at SGS) and Timmy (Elder class) for their winning design!**

## Last Week at Thakeham

Next week will be my last week at Thakeham before I move to my new Advisory position with WSCC Virtual School, supporting schools, families and children looked after/care experiences in primary schools in West Sussex. I will be enjoying every last minute with our wonderful children and staff before I leave.

There will be a final (brief) newsletter from me next week!

Best Wishes

Mrs Sam Norton  
Headteacher



**2 DAY EVENT!** NEXT THING EDUCATION CAMPS PRESENTS

# XMAS TECH & CRAFTS CAMP

**What's on?**  
We have brought the Christmas cheer to our holiday camps, with fun education and festive activities focusing on STEM subjects, your child will be building thinking skills and having a wonderful Christmas time!

Day 1	Day 2
9 am Drop Off	9 am Drop Off
LED Card Making	Save Dates
Building Robot Creations	Christmas Animations
Lunch	Lunch
Guest Character Making	Festive Paperwork
Christmas Mince Pies	Green Screen Animation
4 pm Collection	4 pm Collection

**What to bring to camp?**

- Packed Lunch and Snacks**: Please ensure that your child has a packed lunch and snacks, the school canteen is not open at the time of the camp.
- Water Bottle**: We cannot guarantee that we will have access to drinking water, so please provide a drink for the day.
- Weather Appropriate Clothing**: We cannot guarantee that we will have access to a changing room, so please ensure your child has weather appropriate clothing.
- Old Clothing**: We will be using green screens and costumes, so please ensure your child has old clothes that they can wear.

**How to book**

**STEP 1**: Scan QR code

**STEP 2**: Find your nearest camp

**STEP 3**: Click if you have booked to 4th December with code below

**www.nextthing.education**  
T: 01442 873150 E: info@nextthing.education

**20TH - 21ST DECEMBER - 2 DAYS - £94 LIMITED SPACES**  
**22ND - 23RD DECEMBER - 2 DAYS - £94 LIMITED SPACES**  
**4TH - 5TH JANUARY - 2 DAYS - £94 SPACES STILL AVAILABLE**

FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP ON OUR WEBSITE  
[www.nextthing.education](http://www.nextthing.education)

**Family Support Work**  
The Sussex Charity for Children Since 1890

## Homework Club for Children aged 9-16

**Storrington Village Hub**  
7 The Square  
Storrington RH20 4DJ

**3 - 5pm Every Tuesday in Term Time**

**Free drinks and snacks provided**

**HOME WORK**

For more information contact: Sara on 07541 2070555 or [sara@familysupportwork.org.uk](mailto:sara@familysupportwork.org.uk)

CHICHESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION FOR FAMILY SUPPORT WORK  
CHARITY NO 285337 A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE REGISTERED NO 1648903 REGISTERED OFFICE: CARTON HOUSE 22 STANFORD AVENUE, BRIGHTON, BN1 6AA

## Storrington Christmas Family Fun Day

**on Tuesday 21st December 9.15 - 12pm**

**Storrington Village Hall**  
59 West Street, Storrington RH20 4DZ

**Join us for Christmas activities including:**

- Fir cone bird feeders
- Messy play
- Edible playdoh Christmas creating
- Art and craft table

**Drinks, Snacks, Tea & Coffee**

**Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.**

For more information contact: Sara on 07541 2070555 or [sara@familysupportwork.org.uk](mailto:sara@familysupportwork.org.uk)

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## 30-Minute 1:1 Music Lessons

Guitar | Drums | Piano | Vocals

**ONLINE**

**Price:**

- FREE no-commitment taster lesson!**
- 1:1 lesson = £16.50
- We accept childcare vouchers

- Weekly online lessons
- After school & weekends
- Half-termly bookings
- Inspirational tutors!
- Easy access to lesson recordings & reports

**SAMs**

**Enquire today!**  
[www.sammusicservice.com](http://www.sammusicservice.com)  
[lessons@sammusicservice.com](mailto:lessons@sammusicservice.com)  
0800 756 9411

[f](#) [i](#) [t](#)





## CHRISTMAS FOOTBALL FUN DAYS

### WHEN

9:30am-3pm the first Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the Christmas holidays, W/C 20th December

### AGE GROUPS

School years 1-6

### WHERE

Durrington Infant and Junior School, BN13 2JD

### PRICE

1 day- £20, 2 days- £35, 3 days- £50, 4 days- £60



info@nextstepcoachinggroup.co.uk



@nextstepcoachingsussex



@nextstepcoachinggroup



www.nextstepcoachinggroup.co.uk



## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY TIMETABLE

mon 20. Football Fun Day 9:30am-3pm

tue 21. Football Fun Day 9:30am-3pm

wed 22. Football Fun Day 9:30am-3pm

thurs 23. Football Fun Day 9:30am-3pm



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The Sussex Charity for Children  
Since 1890

**Drop in Play & Stay**  
**09.15 - 11.30**  
**Every Tuesday**  
**from**  
**21st September**

**No need to book.**  
**Just turn up at**  
**Storrington Village Hall**  
**59 West Street**  
**Storrington**  
**RH20 4DZ**



A community focused group for parents/carers. Offering a safe environment for little ones to play, whilst parents/carers can have a drink and chat/catch up. Table top activities available during half terms, siblings welcome.

**Children must be**  
**accompanied by**  
**an adult**  
**at all times.**



**Free Fair Share Table & Jumble.**  
**Social Prescriber available for**  
**one to one advice.**

**For more information contact: Sara on 07541 2070555**  
**or sara@familysupportwork.org.uk**

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