

THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



'Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements'

4th November 2019



Super Learning Hero Awards

Congratulations go to the following children for their awards week commencing 14th October 2019, awarded in Celebration assembly on 22nd October 2019:

Positive, Persevering
Poppy

Co-operative, Caring
Craig
Matthew (Maple)

Curious, Questioning
Quinn

Reflective, Reviewing
Ruby
Isla H (Oak)
Janneke (Oak)
(From W/C 07/10)

Congratulations go to the following children for their awards week commencing 21st October 2019, awarded in Celebration assembly on 04th November 2019:

Positive, Persevering
Poppy
Harrison (Oak)

Co-operative, Caring
Craig

Curious, Questioning
Quinn
Leonie (Maple)

Reflective, Reviewing
Ruby

Time to Shine!

Congratulations this week to Archie for developing his amazing Computing skills during the holidays, including building a Raspberry pi; Zane for settling up an online channel and his 1st subscriber;

George for his bowling award; Emma Rose for her acting success in Annie and being awarded a place in the British Theatre Academy; Luke, Lucy, Janneke, Isla and Erin for their drama skills during the holidays—Harry Potter style!



Message from Mrs Norton

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back I hope you enjoyed some quality time with your family over the half-term break.

New Additions to the Thakeham Family

This week we welcomed Daisy into Oak class and sibling Rowan into Elder Class. We are very impressed with how they have settled in and are being ably looked after by the staff and buddies in their classes. We will also be welcoming 2 further new pupils into the school shortly which will take the total number of pupils on roll to 105 (technically our capacity, though there are still 2 places available in Year 2). I am sure families will warmly welcome the new additions to our growing family.

Our Rich and Varied Curriculum

In addition to their class learning, children have had some wonderful experiences to enrich their

learning. As you will see throughout the newsletter two classes have enjoyed dance/drama opportunities with an outside visiting dance company to bring their RE learning to life; we have enjoyed a netball taster session to further extend the pupils' netball skills; SPLASH through their highly interactive assembly have made us aware of the importance of making time to relax and reflect; Elder class have been fully immersed in a range of activities during their residential trip at the PGL centre, particularly focussing on what it is to be 'resilient.'

This week the choir took part in a fantastic singing experience with locality schools to make a choir of around 300 children to sing and record a song for Royal Baby Archie, telling him about all the brilliant things our County has to offer. This workshop was led by West Sussex Music Service and Ken Burton, singer, choir director, composer, BBC Songs of Praise Choir of The Year and The Choir judge. It was a fabulous opportunity which the children thoroughly enjoyed! Thank you to parents who were able to support with transport and help on this event.



Whilst the official Anti-bullying week is next week we have made an early start on this with children learning about what bullying is, the different forms it takes and what to do if they or others are being bullied. The national theme this year is 'Change starts with us.'

Maple and Elder class will participate in 'Parliament Week' this Friday learning about democracy, the role and work of the UK Parliament participating a variety of activities including debates and the skills involved in this.



Staffing Update

Oak class were informed earlier this week that Miss Makuch has decided, for personal reasons, not to continue her contract with us, with immediate effect. This decision, received during the half-term break, is unexpected and not what we would have hoped for the children and school. Plans were made during the break for cover for the class, which have begun this week. Mrs Stender (who has worked in the class both last year and on an ongoing basis) will be teaching the class for the rest of the academic year alongside Mrs Page, also an experienced KS1 teacher on a supply contract until Christmas until which plans will be made for the longer term.

Staff have worked incredibly hard behind the scenes to ensure the care and quality of learning are their top priorities with all teachers playing a part in the success of the arrangements. I would also like to thank parents for their kind words and support in appreciation of the swift arrangements that have been put into place and how well the children have settled to these.

FOTS Fundraising—new purchases

We are delighted that installation of our new canopy will take place from 19th November. This will provide the children with shade from the sun (and rain!) on the playground. For 3 days from 19th November the entrance into the school at the top of the steps by the 100 square will be out of use. Children in Oak will enter/exit the school via Acorn Class and Maple will enter/exit around the side of the hall at the top of the corridor. Acorn and Elder will continue with their usual arrangements. We will be discussing this with the children nearer the time.

Our next purchase is a bike/scooter rack!

Morning Arrangements

A polite reminder that we are looking for our children in Oak/Maple/Elder classes to come into school independently in the mornings. Once the bell has been rung, please say goodbye to your child and allow them to line up independently. Your support in this is greatly appreciated. Please do still pass on any messages to the teacher as needed.

No Such Thing As A Free Lunch.....?

Well actually there is!! Our school is the winner of the National School Meals Week 2019 Competition! This means we have won the children's Christmas 2019 lunch for free, (Friday 20th December). To claim the free Christmas lunch you need to complete an order form and return it to the office with your child's meal choice, also informing us of any dietary requirements. This is open to all children in the school.

Re-scheduled Traffic Works

WSCC Highways, Transport & Planning have informed us that there will be a delay to the start of the traffic signal work at Water Lane. Commencement at Rock Road is now 18 November (with works at Water Lane to follow as planned). The end date has been left unchanged (28 February).

Best Wishes, Mrs S. Norton (Headteacher)

Netball Taster

On the 15th October, ten children from Elder class had the opportunity to participate in a netball taster session at Rock Road. The netball skills learnt in their PE lessons were developed and the children worked hard on footwork and passing drills.



PGL Residential Marchants Hill

This year's residential was a fantastic success. With our focus on resilience, all the children faced the different challenges across the week with tremendous enthusiasm. A huge favourite this year was the new climbing wall with its various challenges. Children swung from the trapeze, supported their peers to climb Jacob's ladder and flew down the newly extended zip wire. They also completed a buggy building challenge where two children could sit on a buggy and be driven around and survived the sensory trail through the woods. The children had all been looking forward to the challenge course and relished the opportunity to roll around in the mud.

In the evenings, our Group Leader Huw set up wacky races for us to compete in, a competitive 'capture the flag' game and the children still had the energy for a fantastic disco and campfire full of silly songs and scary stories!

I was really proud of how the children co-operated and supported each other throughout the week with some groups laying on a full range of quiet time activities to others saving the day when it came to removing big hairy spiders from some of the bedrooms. It was also lovely to see a boy's bedroom win the 'Tidiest Room' prize this year! Well done to Archie, Charlie and Sam.

A huge thank you to Carrie Nicholls for accompanying us again this year and also to Jodi Bowbrick and Gill Ramsell for their amazing team work.

Mrs Hopkins



The Green Force team need your help!

When Carrie Cort came to visit our school at the start of October to talk to us about her environmental work in West Sussex, she informed us that there is more we could do as a school to recycle. We would like you to help us in this by collecting and bringing in the following items:

- bottle top lids
- crisp packets (flat, not folded or knotted)
- used pens
- toothpaste tubes and brushes

There are collection boxes in the school entrance which will be labelled to show you what items go where. Please bring the above items at your convenience and place them in the correct box. The bottle top lids will be used to create an art project to go in our school mindfulness garden, the crisp packets will be given to Isla Rose in Oak class (who is collecting these for the West Sussex Air Ambulance service as part of her Rainbows badge) and the used pens and toothpaste tubes/ brushes will be sent to the new additional recycling bins outside Thakeham Village hall.



Thank you very much for your support. Let's start recycling!

Diwali Dance Workshop

As the festival of Diwali is celebrated at the end of October, West End in Schools visited to deliver a whole school assembly and dance workshops to Acorn and Maple classes to complement their learning.

Acorn Class have been learning all about Diwali and Maple Class have been learning about Hinduism in their R.E. lessons.

In the assembly, we learnt about West End performances, different dance traditions and Bollywood dancing. We were then taught Bollywood dance moves and how to represent the characters in the Ramayana (the story of Rama and Sita).

Acorn Class learnt how to move appropriately to tell the story of Rama and Sita. They particularly enjoyed taking on the role of Ravana, the demon!

Maple Class also recited the story through dance, becoming different characters and working on facial and body expressions to effectively tell the story independently.



Hi Vis Jackets



As part of the 'Walk to School' initiative, Barratt Homes are kindly donating 30 Hi-Vis jackets to us. If you and your child/children walk to school and would like a jacket, please contact the office.

Jackets will be allocated on a first come first serve basis

Dates for your Diaries - Please check the website for up-to-date events

PLEASE NOTE: WE HAVE BOOKED THE FOLLOWING INSET DAYS

*Friday 26th June 2020
Monday 20th July 2020*

Monday 4th Nov	NO Box2bFit
Monday 4th Nov	Parent/Teacher Consultations 3.30-6.00pm
Monday 4th Nov	Choir—'Song for Archie' workshop at SGS Shooting Fields 1.15-3.15pm
Tuesday 5th Nov	Selected Yr 6 to Thakeham Village Hall for Community Award 9.00am
Wednesday 6th Nov	Parent/Teacher Consultations 5.00-7.30pm
Wednesday 6th Nov	Flu Nasal Spray Vaccinations – All years (afternoon)
Friday 8th Nov	KS2 Parliament Day
Monday 11th Nov	FoTS Meeting in school 7.30-8.30pm
Tuesday 12th Nov	Selected Y5/6 Football Taster (afternoon)
Wednesday 13th Nov	Prospective Parent's (Yr R Sept 2020) Open Event 9.30am-10.15am
Wednesday 13th Nov	Selected Y1/2 Multisports Taster (afternoon)
Friday 15th Nov	Children in Need Day (suggested donation £1)
Tuesday 19th Nov	Selected Yr 6 to Thakeham Village Hall for Community Award 9.00am
Friday 29th Nov	Oak Class Fabulous Finish 2.30pm
Thursday 5th Dec	Choir to Age UK Horsham 9.00am
Friday 6th Dec	Maple Class Fabulous Finish 2.30pm
Tuesday 10th Dec	Selected Y3/4 Football Taster (afternoon)
Wednesday 11th Dec	Acorn & Oak Nativity 2.00-3.00pm
Thursday 12th Dec	Acorn & Oak Nativity 2.00-3.00pm
Thursday 12th Dec	KS2 Church Service—St Mary's Thakeham 6.15-7.00pm TBC
Wednesday 18th Dec	Elder Class Fabulous Finish 2.30pm
Friday 20th Dec	Christmas lunch (whole school) 12.00-1.00pm
Friday 20th Dec	Christmas Parties (afternoon – all classes)

Open Events at Thakeham Primary School

FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS SEPTEMBER 2020

If you are looking for a Reception place for your child next September, please book a visit our open event to find out more about our small, caring, successful school. Our final open event

13th November @ 9.30-10.15am

To make an appointment please call 01903 740176 or email office@thakehamps.co.uk



Was your child born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016?

If so they are eligible to start
school in September 2020.

Apply online!

It's simple, convenient
and timesaving. If your
application is received after
the deadline of Wednesday
15 January 2020 your chance
of securing a place at one of
your preference schools could
be seriously affected.

You can apply online from Monday
7 October 2019. If you would like
further advice or information contact:

03330 142 903

Free internet access to apply
online is available at all:

- West Sussex libraries
- Children and Family Centres



Apply online at:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions

Deadline: Wednesday 15 January 2020



West Sussex SEND IAS Service

Is your child starting primary or
transferring to junior or secondary
school in September 2020?

Do you think, for whatever reason,
you may struggle with the
Admissions process?

If you feel that you may find it difficult to
understand or complete the primary and
secondary admissions processes, the
West Sussex SEND IAS Service can:

- explain the admissions process to you
- help you to make an informed decision
about your child's schools of preference
- help you to fill in the online application
form.

If your child is starting primary school or transferring to junior or secondary
school in 2020 and you feel you would need support in considering your
options, or perhaps will need help with the forms, please contact the West
Sussex SEND IAS Service:

Helpline: 0330 222 8555

Email: send.ias@westsussex.gov.uk



Secondary School

Online applications open:

Monday 9th September 2019

Deadline for applying for a
secondary school place for your
child is:

Thursday 31st October 2019.

Primary School (inc. infant/junior)

Online applications open:

Monday 7th October 2019

Deadline for applying for a school
place for your child is:

Wednesday 15th January 2020

For more information on the admissions
process: www.westsussex.gov.uk/



Festive Menu

Choose a main meal...

Roast Turkey
with Stuffing, Cocktail Sausage & Gravy
or
Quorn Fillet
with Stuffing Ball & Gravy

on the side...

Roast Potatoes
Peas and Carrots

for dessert...

Chocolate Dipped Shortbread
or

Fruit Salad

for a drink...

Fruit Squash
Milk
Water



20th December 2019

National School
Meals Week 2019
WINNERS



To enjoy our festive-inspired day, please
order your choice of meal at the school,
no later than Friday 6th December 2019



MXT SWIM SCHOOL

...seize the opportunity
and learn to swim!

One-to-One Lessons

Available throughout the week for children of all ages
and abilities at our Storrington and Steyning venues.

NEW! Group Classes

Our weekly classes held at Rydon Community College
are 45 minutes long and are separated into different
grades to allow your child to learn effectively and safely.

Intensive Courses

Our popular five day courses of intensive lessons are
available again during all upcoming school holidays.



Teaching Sussex to swim since 1980.

Call us now on:

T: 01903 202700

M: 07903 731370



Swim England
Swim School Member

www.mxtswimschool.com