

# THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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

10th June 2019



## Super Learning Hero Awards

Congratulations go to the following children for their awards week commencing 20th May 2019, awarded in Celebration assembly on 3rd June 2019:

Positive, Persevering

Poppy

Evelyn (Acorn)  
Sam (Elder)

Co-operative, Caring

Craig

Callum (Maple)  
Drew (Elder)

Curious, Questioning

Quinn

Reflective, Reviewing

Ruby

George (Oak)  
Archie (Oak)

Hall of Fame

Sophia Rose (Maple)

Headteacher award

Congratulations go to the following children for their awards week commencing 3rd June 2019, awarded in Celebration assembly on 10th June 2019:

Positive, Persevering

Poppy

Velvett (Acorn)  
Clem (Elder)

Co-operative, Caring

Craig

Harry (Elder)

Curious, Questioning

Quinn

Reflective, Reviewing

Ruby

Flo (Oak)  
Janneke (Oak)  
Sophia Rose (Maple)

Hall of Fame

Jaime (Elder)

Headteacher award

## Time to Shine!



Congratulations to Maddie for being spotted with her singing talent and who will soon be taking an exam, Leighton for his success in a football tournament, George & Archie for their football skills and Leonie for her talents with horse showing!

## Message from Mrs Norton

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Thakeham's School Vision and Values

I am sure most of you are familiar with our school vision and values as they form part of our logo and are represented by our Super Learning Heroes. Our vision was updated in 2017 as part of becoming a Primary School following consultation with children, staff, parents and governors. Our vision is more than just words but guides the strategic direction of the school, all our actions, and shapes the ethos of our school. As a reminder, our vision is outlined below:

"**High quality learning and teaching** are at the heart of our school. We nurture and celebrate each child's **individual talents and skills** to enable them to be **happy, confident** and **resilient** individuals with a **passion for learning, inspired to achieve** their very best. Through encouraging a strong sense of **respect** and **responsibility**, both within our local **community** and the wider world, we support our children to be **co-operative, caring** citizens for the future."

Our values of **care, co-operation, honesty and responsibility** link to our Super Learning Hero 'Co-operative, Caring Craig', **Positive, Persevering Poppy** is linked to our school value of 'perseverance', 'Curious, Questioning Quinn' is linked to our school value of **curiosity** and 'Reflective, Reviewing Ruby' is linked to 'reflection'.

Our school rules (Super Learning Rules) also link to our values and vision (see blue box below).

## What makes Thakeham Super?



**Care (Respect)  
Co-operation  
Honesty  
Responsibility**

**Perseverance**



We are kind, caring and co-operative.  
We try our very best.  
We listen.  
We are honest.  
We look after our school and community.



**Curiosity**



**Reflection**



Our 'house' system also links to our school values:

**Frank (Anne Frank – diarist): Blue House (Reflective Reviewing Ruby)**

**Grylls (Bear Grylls – adventurer): Green House (Curious, Questioning Quinn)**

**Malala (Malala Yousafzai) - Pakistani activist for female education and the youngest-ever Nobel Prize laureate): Yellow House (Co-operative Caring Craig)**

**Edison (Thomas Edison – Scientist): Red House (Positive Persevering Poppy)**

### Adviser Visit

We receive a termly visit for our County Link Adviser who examines evidence to assess whether we continue to be a 'Good' school for school performance data, teaching and learning and leadership and governance. Last week our adviser visited to assess the quality of our leadership and governance, focussing on our vision, values and strategic planning for continued improvement. We are delighted that the grading and comments reflect our own school grading (and Ofsted grading) that we continue to remain a 'Good' school. I have included some key comments from the report below for your information.

- 'The school has a clear vision that is underpinned by their values. The vision and values are embedded across the school and are very much part of the day to day activity of the school.'
- 'Children were confident and keen to talk about the Super Learning Heroes.'
- The 'Link Adviser is confident that leadership is effective. Leaders have an accurate and comprehensive understanding of the quality of education at the school and use this to help them plan, monitor and refine actions to improve key aspects of the school's work.'
- 'Governors are fully involved with steering the strategic direction of the school. The governors were able to evidence that they are effective in the way they hold leaders to account.'
- 'Governors can articulate a clear vision and strategy.'
- Middle leaders confirmed that Governors play an active role in leading the strategic direction of the school and they find the linked governor visits very useful. They feel that governors carry out the role of their role of holding leaders to account effectively. They have valued the opportunity to attend governing body meetings to share the impact of their actions.
- 'From the visit it was clear that staff also live by the values in the way they are part of this cohesive school community.'

This is very positive feedback indeed of our strong foundation on which we continue to build the school. Moving forwards we will be focussing on continuing to develop children's understanding of how the Super Learning Heroes can support them as effective learners and continuing to embed the language of the values within the classroom. Strategic planning will continue to be closely linked to our values and vision and refined to ensure a clear focused pathway for further school improvement and development.

### Transition

It's that time of year again when we're preparing our Year 6 children for their next steps in their learning journey, the year seems to have flown by! Visits for these children to their secondary schools and for staff to visit us are underway this week. The vast majority of the children will be transitioning to Steyning Grammar School but effective transition is also in place for children moving to other providers. Those needing additional

support with their next steps will be supported by Mrs Hopkins and Mrs Mullineux, our Inclusion Leader. We have many exciting activities and events planned for the next few months to enjoy with the children before they fly the 'Thakeham nest!'

Meanwhile we welcomed our new children joining us in Acorn class twice last week and enjoyed getting to know their individual characters, skills and abilities with further transition opportunities planned in the weeks to come. We were very impressed with their level of independence and inquisitiveness already.

Once again we were overwhelmed with applications for places in Reception with for the 2nd year in a row, 24 1st choice applications for our 15 places! County are operating waiting lists for places in other groups too!

#### **Staffing Update**

Just as we say goodbye to our Year 6 children at the end of July, we'll be saying goodbye also to Mrs Mills, our School Business Manager who has been with us for 4 1/2 years! Mrs Mills has been an integral part of our school ensuring a positive budget, which in times of continued cuts is no mean feat! She has been instrumental in our transition to becoming a Primary School and helped the school in so many important ways. We shall miss her incredibly!

We are pleased to announce that we have appointed Mrs Pearson to the role, a very experienced School Business Manager, re-locating to the area. She will start with us in September.

Mrs Gander our Clerk to the Governors will also be leaving this term, focussing on her new addition to the family in the next few months. We pass on our congratulations to her and her family and wish them all well for the future. She has also played an important part in our school over the past 2 years, facilitating the work of the Governing Body. Mrs Ritchie, who brings with her a very impressive set of skills, experience and qualifications will take over the role this term.  
With very best wishes

Mrs Sam Norton (Headteacher)

### **Sporting Updates**

#### **Cross Country Y3-6**

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> May a selection of children visited St Mary's School for a cross country tournament. On what was a very hot day, each and every child not only showed their Positive Persevering Poppy attitude by not giving up, but also how caring they could be, like 'Co-operative, Caring Craig', making sure that each and every person was cheered on and motivated to the finish line.

"Our children really did shine, if one was down another would be running alongside to help. They even compromised their positions in the race to help others." Mrs Younger



#### **Rounders Taster Year 5/6**

On 21<sup>st</sup> May, 10 children from Elder took part in a taster session at Rock Road. They took part in lots of activities which aimed to progress their throwing, catching and hitting skills. They then got the chance to put what they had learnt into practice through a range of rounders games where they mixed teams with other STARS schools.

#### **Maple RESPECT Workshop**

Linking to our PSHE, Maple class enjoyed a circus themed workshop, showing them the consequences of not working together and only thinking about you. The children were captivated by the theme of the session and worked really well together to help the circus ring leader get her circus back together and stop them from all arguing. After the session, the children reflected and were able to suggest some teamwork rules which they will use in school.



### Mayan Workshop

On Wednesday 5th June, Elder class were transported back to the peak of the Mayan civilization. Through a range of movement, sounds and freeze frames, the children worked in groups to recreate the sounds of the rainforest, the formidable size of the Mayan sculptures, pyramids and stone structures and role-played the types of activities the Mayans would have carried out throughout their development in Mesoamerica.



The Eco team have asked our school to be part of the West Sussex Primary Schools Plastic Challenge 2019.

All West Sussex Primary schools are being challenged to teach children about plastic waste and set a homework activity (video and online interactive quiz) to help children understand how they can recycle more easily at home and to invite families to watch the video and pledge to recycle, to help children feel empowered to activate positive change.

The children watched the challenge be presented by Busta and Pong (from the online Wastebuster team) during assembly on Friday. The children will shortly be receiving from their teachers their login details to enable them to go online and complete the plastic challenge.

**Help our school win the Challenge!** If we get the highest percentage of pupils completing the quiz, or receiving family pledges, our school has a chance of winning the West Sussex Plastic Challenge and an exciting assembly with the Wastebuster characters - Captain Busta and Pong.

Mrs Stender

**CHELSEA SOCCER SCHOOL COURSES IN SUSSEX**  
Monday 29 July - Friday 30 August 2019  
**BOYS & GIRLS**  
Ages from 5-12  
**FIND & BOOK YOUR NEAREST COURSE NOW**  
chelseasoccerschools.co.uk @cfcfoundation

**STORRINGTON VILLAGE DAY SCARECROW BUILDING CONTEST**  
A great free family fun day!  
**BUILD A SCARECROW WHICH MUST HAVE STRAW SOMEWHERE ABOUT ITS BODY.**  
Scarecrows will be judged on their creativity and originality, the innovative use of materials, recycled or reclaimed materials and artistic merit.  
The competition is free to enter and is open to school children attending local primary schools.  
Judging will take place during Storrington Village Day at Hornare Recreation Ground on 29th June and prize winners will be announced at the end of the day at 4.45pm.  
**Sponsored by**  
**ANDERSON ROWNTREE**  
SOLICITORS  
To enter the competition please send your name and address to Brian Parfitt at BmPrft@aol.com or telephone him on 01798 815374  
**Storrington & Pulborough District Rotary Club**



Suggested donation

50p

In memory of Ellie Thornton  
**We're supporting our local children's hospice by holding a Teddy Bears Picnic during Children's Hospice Week. Please join us!**

**Date:** 19 June 2019

**Location:** Thakeham Village Hall

**Time:** 4:30pm - 7:00pm

- \* Bring your teddy
- \* Bring your own picnic and rug
- \* Games and prizes
- \* Small gift for anyone who brings a Gruffalo
- \* Children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult
- \* Some refreshments on sale

Create special memories.  
Moments that Matter. For today.  
For tomorrow. For the Now.

[chestnut-tree-house.org.uk/teddybearspicnic](http://chestnut-tree-house.org.uk/teddybearspicnic)



For the  
**Now**

**C**  
Chestnut  
Tree House  
{Children's  
Hospice Care}

Registered charity no 256789



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

10th -14th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Tuesday 11th June	Auditions for Thakeham's Got Talent @12pm
Tuesday 11th June	Maths Mastery Parent Workshop @ 3.30pm
Friday 14th June	Non-uniform day: donations for Children's raffle and Hampers
Wednesday 19th June	Y1&2 Athletics @ Amberley
Friday 21st June	Non-uniform day: donations for bottle tombola
Friday 21st June	Oak Class Trip to Littlehampton Beach
Wednesday 3rd July	Whole school transition afternoon
Saturday 6th July	Thakeham Village Day
Monday 8th July	INSET—SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 12th July	Maple Class Trip to Weald and Downland Centre
Friday 19th July	Sports Day
Friday 19th July	School discos
Tuesday 23rd July	Last Day of Term

*Summer Holidays—Wednesday 24th July— Monday 2nd September (INSET on 2.9.19 & 3.9.19)*

**PLEASE NOTE THE ADDITIONAL INSET ON 3.9.19 (3 further INSET dates to be provided shortly)**

**THAKEHAM  
VILLAGE DAY**  
**Saturday**  
**6<sup>th</sup> July 12-4pm**  
**@ Abingworth  
Football fields**  
**We need your donations / help:**

- Bottles for the Tombola (non-uniform day)
- Children's raffle prizes or vouchers
- Hamper raffle donations – 'Arts & Crafts' or 'Summer games'
- Sign-up to the stall rotas to help on the day

THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Friends of Thakeham School  
Thakeham Pre-School  
Thakeham Parish Council